



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

**Joan McAlpine MSP**  
**South of Scotland Region**

Mr Pearse Murray  
Director of Transmission Programmes  
Scottish Power  
1 Atlantic Quay  
GLASGOW  
G2 8SP

Our ref: JM/LB

22 September 2015

Dear Pearse

I am writing on behalf of concerned constituents affected by the proposed upgrading of the electricity transmission network, known as the "Dumfries and Galloway Strategic Reinforcement".

Last week I met with representatives of "Dumgal Against Pylons", a local protest group which prepared a joint letter signed by forty Community Councils objecting to the plans in their current form. The group recognises the need to upgrade the present transmission system but holds that the proposed solution needs to be sympathetic to the special needs and nature of the region.

During our meeting, the group gave a presentation of an alternative proposal which would incorporate a combined sub-sea and underground system. Given the scale of this project and the enormity of what is at stake for the affected communities, I would like to invite you to meet with my constituents to hear their presentation. I would be happy to facilitate such a meeting.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

**Joan McAlpine MSP**

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