PYLONS PROJECT REPORT DELAYED

Andrew McNab

Electricity company chiefs have missed a second deadline to report public feedback on a controversial pylon scheme.

More than 1,600 people have voiced their opinions on the 109-mile powerline proposed to cut through the heart of the Scottish Highlands.

The volume of correspondence has forced Scottish Power Energy Networks (SPEN) to push back plans for a release of a January report, as its preferred route for the pylons.

A spokesman for the company, which had originally intended to produce the document before Christmas, told The News: "We are currently finalising our report, which we will publish soon.

"The first round of consultation was extended by five weeks to ensure as many people as possible could put forward their views. We were delighted to receive enthusiastic feedback with more than 1,600 responses.

"The latest delay has received some speculation that SPEN are "secretly" rethinking how to proceed with the new high-voltage overhead line from Auchendun to South Ladhorn to Hanover to Darnley.

"Alan Jones, chairman of the campaign group Dunning Against Pylons, said: "SPEN needed to come clean and share their concerns with the residents of Dunning and Galloway. We've had two years of correspondence, but SPEN has not kept its promises.

"We have a right to know and SPEN cannot keep its promises on this.

"Turn to Page 4

PYLONS PROJECT REPORT DELAYED

FROM PAGE 1

Two years ago, we had a vision and a goal: to ensure the region's energy needs were met, but without harming our natural environment.

Now, we face the challenge of delaying the project due to unforeseen circumstances.

"We were determined to produce a comprehensive report that would address the concerns of local residents and the environment. However, recent developments have forced us to delay the report.

"Opponents claim the pylons will have a significant impact on the local landscape. They argue that the proposed route will destroy the natural beauty of the area.

"I understand their concerns, and we are committed to addressing them. However, we must first complete the consultation process to ensure we have considered all possible alternatives.

"Our goal is to create a sustainable energy solution for the region, while preserving the beauty of our natural environment. We will continue to work diligently to achieve this objective.

"We appreciate the patience and understanding of our stakeholders during this process. We are committed to providing a comprehensive report that meets the needs of our region.

"Thank you for your support and understanding.

---

IN OUTTURF over plans for a chain of upgraded electricity pylons spanning the region may have sparked a rethink.

"This is the hour of consultation - after the calmer of opposition is if Scottish Power Energy Networks (SPEN) press ahead with their plan to uprate the pylons.

"Dunning Against Pylons chairman Jim Jones had said: "This is the last of the big opportunities to rethink the design and making sure of the environmental impact on the landscape.

"SPEN has said that the plan is necessary to meet future energy demands. However, many residents in Dunning are concerned about the impact on the area.

"By Rod Edgar

"I have spoken to many residents who are worried about the impact on their communities. They are concerned about the safety and aesthetics of the pylons.

"SPEN has assured me that they are committed to minimizing the impact on the environment. However, residents are still concerned about the proposed route.

"I believe it is crucial that we continue to have open dialogues with SPEN and the local community to ensure that their concerns are heard.

---

Calls for energy group to reveal pylon thoughts

By Rod Edgar

"I had a conversation with Gillian McAlpine, a resident of Dunning, who expressed her concerns about the pylons.

"She said: "I am worried about the impact on the landscape. I feel that we must have open dialogues with SPEN to ensure that our voices are heard.

---

SPEN cannot keep us in the dark forever.

Alan Jones

"We are committed to providing a comprehensive report that meets the needs of our region. We will continue to work diligently to achieve this objective.

---

By Rod Edgar

"I had a conversation with Gillian McAlpine, a resident of Dunning, who expressed her concerns about the pylons.

"She said: "I am worried about the impact on the landscape. I feel that we must have open dialogues with SPEN to ensure that our voices are heard.

"I believe it is crucial that we continue to have open dialogues with SPEN and the local community to ensure that their concerns are heard.

---

By Rod Edgar

"I had a conversation with Gillian McAlpine, a resident of Dunning, who expressed her concerns about the pylons.

"She said: "I am worried about the impact on the landscape. I feel that we must have open dialogues with SPEN to ensure that our voices are heard.

"I believe it is crucial that we continue to have open dialogues with SPEN and the local community to ensure that their concerns are heard.

---

By Rod Edgar

"I had a conversation with Gillian McAlpine, a resident of Dunning, who expressed her concerns about the pylons.

"She said: "I am worried about the impact on the landscape. I feel that we must have open dialogues with SPEN to ensure that our voices are heard.

"I believe it is crucial that we continue to have open dialogues with SPEN and the local community to ensure that their concerns are heard.

---

By Rod Edgar

"I had a conversation with Gillian McAlpine, a resident of Dunning, who expressed her concerns about the pylons.

"She said: "I am worried about the impact on the landscape. I feel that we must have open dialogues with SPEN to ensure that our voices are heard.

"I believe it is crucial that we continue to have open dialogues with SPEN and the local community to ensure that their concerns are heard.

---

By Rod Edgar

"I had a conversation with Gillian McAlpine, a resident of Dunning, who expressed her concerns about the pylons.

"She said: "I am worried about the impact on the landscape. I feel that we must have open dialogues with SPEN to ensure that our voices are heard.

"I believe it is crucial that we continue to have open dialogues with SPEN and the local community to ensure that their concerns are heard.

---

By Rod Edgar

"I had a conversation with Gillian McAlpine, a resident of Dunning, who expressed her concerns about the pylons.

"She said: "I am worried about the impact on the landscape. I feel that we must have open dialogues with SPEN to ensure that our voices are heard.

"I believe it is crucial that we continue to have open dialogues with SPEN and the local community to ensure that their concerns are heard.

---

By Rod Edgar

"I had a conversation with Gillian McAlpine, a resident of Dunning, who expressed her concerns about the pylons.

"She said: "I am worried about the impact on the landscape. I feel that we must have open dialogues with SPEN to ensure that our voices are heard.

"I believe it is crucial that we continue to have open dialogues with SPEN and the local community to ensure that their concerns are heard.

---

By Rod Edgar

"I had a conversation with Gillian McAlpine, a resident of Dunning, who expressed her concerns about the pylons.

"She said: "I am worried about the impact on the landscape. I feel that we must have open dialogues with SPEN to ensure that our voices are heard.

"I believe it is crucial that we continue to have open dialogues with SPEN and the local community to ensure that their concerns are heard.

---

By Rod Edgar

"I had a conversation with Gillian McAlpine, a resident of Dunning, who expressed her concerns about the pylons.

"She said: "I am worried about the impact on the landscape. I feel that we must have open dialogues with SPEN to ensure that our voices are heard.

"I believe it is crucial that we continue to have open dialogues with SPEN and the local community to ensure that their concerns are heard.

---

By Rod Edgar

"I had a conversation with Gillian McAlpine, a resident of Dunning, who expressed her concerns about the pylons.

"She said: "I am worried about the impact on the landscape. I feel that we must have open dialogues with SPEN to ensure that our voices are heard.

"I believe it is crucial that we continue to have open dialogues with SPEN and the local community to ensure that their concerns are heard.

---

By Rod Edgar

"I had a conversation with Gillian McAlpine, a resident of Dunning, who expressed her concerns about the pylons.

"She said: "I am worried about the impact on the landscape. I feel that we must have open dialogues with SPEN to ensure that our voices are heard.

"I believe it is crucial that we continue to have open dialogues with SPEN and the local community to ensure that their concerns are heard.