

DumGal Against Pylons (DGAP) Alternative to SPEN's

Proposal

SUMMARY

Dumgal Against Pylons objects to SPEN's proposal for a new 400 kV grid through the region because it will unnecessarily blight Dumfries and Galloway for the next century.

We believe SPEN has over-estimated the need for electricity transmission from renewable generation and furthermore, electricity consumption in Dumfries and Galloway has fallen in recent years and this trend is likely to continue.

Our alternative proposal will achieve the upgrade by:

- A subsea cable between Auchencrosh (South Ayrshire) and a convenient point on the English coast (or, better still, connecting into the [Western HVDC Link](#) – a subsea link under construction between Scotland and England)
- An overhead line rated at 275 kV (Newton Stewart to Auchencrosh) with undergrounding in some sections
- Utilising the existing 132kV overhead line route with some modest deviations and/or undergrounding but uprating the pylons and conductors

Our proposal has the following benefits over SPEN's plans:

- The blight to the region will be minimised
- The impact on the region's economy, particularly tourism will be low
- The upgrade to the east of Newton Stewart can be undertaken in phases thereby creating more long-term, local employment
- Reduced local objection with consequential minimal planning delays and reduced constraint payments

