

ANDREW BOWIE MP

Member of Parliament for West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Cllr
Aberdeenshire Council
Woodhill House
Westburn Road
Aberdeen
AB16 5GB

5 July 2023

Dear Cllr,

I am writing to you today regarding Scottish and Southern Electricity Network's (SSEN) East Coast 400kV Overhead line consultation.

You will of course be fully aware of the proposals to construct new overhead powerlines between Fiddes and Kintore, including a new substation at Fiddes.

I firmly believe that new energy infrastructure is required to meet our net zero ambitions and ensure our energy security. However, these infrastructure projects must be completed with the consent of local residents and that those responsible must engage with communities and consider their feedback.

Many residents have already contacted me to share their thoughts on the proposals, I am sure you have been contacted as well. With this in mind I am urging you to encourage affected residents in your ward to participate in SSEN's consultation.

As a councillor it is of course extremely important that you avoid prejudicing yourself ahead of any possible planning application. Yet it is crucial that SSEN hear from as many residents as possible so that they can ensure their plans consider the wishes of our constituents.

I am grateful that SSEN have so far listened to the concerns about how they have conducted the consultation and have extended the consultation period until the 28th of July. It is only appropriate that we ensure that this extension is utilised.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Bowie'.

Andrew Bowie MP
Member of Parliament for West Aberdeenshire & Kincardine