

Objecting To SSEN Skye Reinforcement Power Line.

We need to do two separate emails. One to the Energy Consents Unit, objecting to the proposal (if you have not done this already), and one to Highland Councillors/Officers asking them to look again at their decision not to object to the OHL (overhead line) now that they have the opportunity. If the Highland Council objects, that will trigger a public inquiry. If you have already emailed the Highland Council about this, it would be worth doing again to apply more pressure as the Energy Consents Unit has announced a new period of consultation as they need more information from the consultees...and the Highland Council have been asked to comment as the local planning authority.

Letters to the press a good idea too.

To object to the ECU:

Email address for objections: Representations_Mailbox@gov.scot

Need to quote Ref No. ECU 00003395

Key points:

1. The proposed Skye Reinforcement Power line is not being built to bring electricity to Skye, but instead to take electricity from the island which would be generated by all the new wind farms proposed - wind farms that do not have planning consent.
2. As such, the need for the OHL can not be demonstrated - it is speculative - and granting planning permission would be based on the assumption that the proposed wind farms on Skye will get planning permission. This is not following due process.
3. Skye already produces ten times the electricity it consumes from the existing wind farms.
4. The Highland Council did not have all the consultee comments before them when they decided not to object to the Skye Reinforcement Line plans. The Council need to recall this decision and reconsider based on all the information they now have available.
5. Massive environmental damage caused by installation of huge pylons along the route, through beautiful highland countryside, wild life, birds, pollution, peat etc. The 15 miles of trenches up to 40m wide to be dug to bury the cable as it passes the Cuillins - damage to peat etc.

To The Highland Council/Councillors/Officers

Please email Councillors and officers asking them to call back and reconsider the decision not to object to the Skye Reinforcement OHL. There are a lot of emails here but you can send the same email to everyone..I have heard they are really feeling the pressure.

Key points:

1. The proposed Skye Reinforcement Power line is not being built to bring electricity to Skye, but instead to take electricity from the island which would be generated by all the new wind farms proposed - wind farms that do not have planning consent.
2. As such, the need for the OHL can not be demonstrated - it is speculative - and granting planning permission would be based on the assumption that the proposed wind farms on Skye will get planning permission. This is not following due process.
3. Skye already produces ten times the electricity it consumes from the existing wind farms.
4. The Highland Council did not have all the consultee comments before them when they decided not to object to the Skye Reinforcement Line plans. The Council need to recall this decision and reconsider based on all the information they now have available. Indeed the ECU have asked for further information from the applicant and consultees and have announced a new extended consultation period.

5. Massive environmental damage caused by installation of huge pylons along the route, through beautiful highland countryside, wild life, birds, pollution, peat etc. The 15 miles of trenches up to 40m wide to be dug to bury the cable as it passes the Cuillins - damage to peat etc.
6. The Highland Council needs to develop a clear strategic overview and call for a public inquiry into all the pending planning applications for wind farms, power lines and related infrastructure on Skye. These proposals are being presented piecemeal and so there is currently no overall picture of the impact on Skye informing planning decisions.

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Copies of your emails could also be sent to:

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