

Ms Gillian Martin MSP  
Minister for Energy and the Environment  
The Scottish Government  
St. Andrew's House  
Regent Road  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3DG

SSEN Transmission  
Grampian House  
200 Dunkeld Road  
Perth  
PH1 3GH

Date: 06 October 2023

Dear Minister

### **Invitation to open new SSEN Transmission office at Prime Four Business Park, Aberdeen**

As you are aware, Scotland's electricity transmission networks are the key enabler to deliver the Scottish Government's ambitious renewable energy and economic ambitions. In SSEN Transmission, we have plans to invest over £10bn this decade alone, decarbonising Scotland's energy sector, supporting the development of key technologies and industries, and strengthening home-grown energy security.

This investment will also deliver significant and lasting economic benefits across Scotland. To put this into context, socio-economic analysis of our "Pathway to 2030" projects estimate around 9,000 indirect jobs will be supported in Scotland, with these projects also contributing £2.6bn to Scottish GVA.

To help deliver our ambitions investment plans, we are ramping up our direct workforce across the north of Scotland. In April 2020 our headcount was around 500, as of October 2023, this has more than tripled to over 1,500 employees, with many of these new recruits transitioning from the oil and gas sector. Of the 500 roles set to be recruited this year, at least 100 of these are in early careers.

To accommodate increasing staff numbers, particularly in the north east, we have recently moved to a new office at Prime Four Business Park in Aberdeen. This state of the art, modern office facility, will almost double our office capacity in the local area from just over 100 to around 200. To mark this significant occasion, we would be delighted if you could join us to officially "cut the ribbon" at a small private event.

Separately, I would also like to extend an invite to visit our Perth Head Office to discuss our ambitious investment plans in more detail and visit to our Control Room, where our teams manage the network across the north of Scotland, helping to keep the lights on 24/7, 365 days a year. We are happy to work around your diary and to coordinate dates, please contact **[redacted reg 11(2)]**.

We look forward to hearing from your office with some potential dates in due course. Yours sincerely



**Rob McDonald**  
Managing Director, SSEN Transmission

Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair  
Work and Energy  
Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Eaconamaidh do Mhath  
Dhaoine, Obair Chothromach is Cumhachd  
Neil Gray MSP/BPA

abcd

T : 0300 2444000  
E : scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Rob McDonald  
[redacted reg 11(2)]

Our Reference: 202300380378

30 October 2023

Dear Mr McDonald,

Thank you for your correspondence of 6 October 2023, inviting Gillian Martin MSP, Minister for Energy and the Environment, to open SSEN's new Transmission office in Aberdeen and visit SSE's head office in Perth.

Unfortunately due to significant diary pressures, Ms Martin is not able to attend. However, Neil Gray MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy, would be delighted to accept the invitation to attend the opening of your new office in Aberdeen. I would be grateful if you could please contact us at CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot to make the necessary further arrangements.

Yours sincerely

[redacted reg 11(2)]  
Private  
Secretary

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Tha Ministearanna h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)

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Dhaoine, Obair Chothromach is Cumhachd  
Neil Gray MSP/BPA

abcd

T : 0300 2444000  
E : scottish.ministers@gov.scot

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**  
**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

Our Reference: 202300372803

Your Reference: Invitation to the Green Energy Awards from Paul Cooley (Director of Offshore Wind, SSE Renewables)

29 September 2023

Dear Mr Maxton,

Thank you for your email of 21 August 2023 inviting Neil Gray MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy, to attend the Scottish Green Energy Awards as your guest. Please accept our apologies for the delay in replying to your invite.

Unfortunately, due to prior commitments, Mr Gray is unable to accept your kind invitation on this occasion. He passes on his apologies and best wishes for a successful event.

Yours sincerely

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

**Secretary**

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Tha Ministearanna h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)

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Neil Gray MSP/BPA

abcd

T : 0300 2444000  
E : scottish.ministers@gov.scot

[redacted reg 11(2)]  
[redacted reg 11(2)]

Our Reference: 202300352138

3 May 2023

[redacted reg 11(2)]

Thank you for your letter of 31 March 2023 inviting Neil Gray MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy to meet with your Chief Executive, Alistair Phillips-Davies at SSE headquarters in Perth.

Mr Gray would be delighted to accept your invitation and is available to attend a virtual meeting on 30 May 2023 at 14:45 - 15:30, subject to parliamentary business. I would be grateful if you could email [CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot) to make the necessary arrangements.

Yours sincerely

[redacted reg 11(2)]  
Private Secretary

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Tha Ministearanna h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)

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Neil Gray MSP  
Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy  
The Scottish Government  
St. Andrew's House  
Regent Road  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3DG

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

Warmest congratulations from SSE on your appointment to cabinet. As the country's leading low-carbon energy infrastructure business – investing £15bn in Scotland this decade alone – I would like to affirm our strongest commitment to working in close partnership with you to achieve a fair and prosperous net zero future.

#### **About SSE**

Headquartered in Perth, SSE is a FTSE100 company and proud to be Scotland's largest listed company. We currently employ more than 12,000 people and are creating a further 1,000 green jobs every year under our 5-year, 1.5°C pathway-aligned Net Zero Acceleration Programme.

Our priority as a business is to build a cheaper, cleaner and more secure energy system, with a core focus on renewables and regulated electricity networks. This includes the transmission and distribution networks in the north of Scotland which will play a key role in unleashing Scotland's vast renewable energy potential.

At the same time, our renewables business is building more offshore wind than anyone else in the world, including Seagreen, Scotland's largest offshore wind farm, and we plan to go even further by bringing the world's largest offshore wind opportunity, Berwick Bank, to Scottish shores. We are also exporting Scottish renewable capability around the world, with development portfolios across Southern Europe and Japan.

#### **Investing in Scotland**

We are investing more than £3,000 per head of Scottish population in low-carbon projects this decade, with development and construction already out of the blocks on major investments – supporting communities, creating jobs and supply chain opportunities, while cutting carbon emissions:

- Coire Glas pumped storage hydro, the biggest engineering project in the Highlands for decades
- Viking Onshore Wind Farm, the UK's largest onshore wind farm by output
- The Shetland link that will connect the islands to the mainland grid for the first time ever
- £10bn investment in Europe's fastest growing transmission network to meet 2030 targets & unlock ScotWind
- Transforming the distribution network to enable the scale-up of EVs and low carbon heating systems
- Scotland's first power CCS project at Peterhead, creating £660m GVA and 240 jobs

#### **Going beyond ambition to deliver a Just Transition**

SSE believes bold action by governments, businesses and society is needed now more than ever in the battle to tackle the simultaneous energy crises of affordability, security, and climate change. And we stand ready to invest record amounts in homegrown wind, hydro, solar, battery, CCS and hydrogen – bolstering the economy while growing our international reputation as a leader in climate action.

I would be delighted to meet with you to discuss the opportunities to further accelerate our investment and look forward to working with you in the important months and years to come to deliver a better future of energy for the communities, environment, and people of Scotland.

Yours Sincerely,

**Alistair Phillips-Davies**, Chief Executive, SSE plc

SSE plc

Registered Office: Inveralmond House 200 Dunkeld Road Perth PH1 3AQ Registered in Scotland No. SC117119.

[sse.com](http://sse.com)

18th October 2023

Dear Minister Martin,

I write in response to your letter dated 20th September in which you set our concerns relating to network connection timescales. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to you.

We would firstly like to reiterate our commitment to delivering an electricity network to accelerate both local and national Scottish Government net zero ambitions, and wish to continue work closely with you, interested stakeholders and local authorities to understand and respond to both immediate net zero priorities and wider long-term development plans.

As the Distribution Network Operator (DNO) responsible for providing safe and secure supplies of electricity and connections to the grid, we can report that we've recently seen a significant rise in connections requests to our network. This level of demand has exceeded the forecasts that were predicted by our annual Distribution Future Energy Scenarios<sup>1</sup> which we use as the basis for our distribution network modelling. These are based on National Grid's Future Energy Scenarios with additional local and regional input.

### **Interaction between the distribution and transmission system**

For connections to the distribution network, we have an obligation to consider whether a new connection may have an impact on the transmission system. Specifically, under Section 6.5.5.1 of the Connections and Use of System Code (CUSC), we are required to request a Transmission Impact Assessment (TIA) where it is believed that the connection of a generator may have a significant system effect on the transmission system.

With substantial increases in renewable generation in recent years, together with the growth and complexity of the contracted pipeline in the north of Scotland, the materiality of cumulative small changes in the contracted capacity is becoming more pronounced. As a result of this, SSEN Transmission has advised that smaller generation projects including those with a net impact of >50kW will have an effect on the transmission system and in some cases, this will be significant. This is why projects of installed generation at 50kW and above, where they are to connect to a GSP that is currently constrained are now included when considering whether a project may require a Transmission Assessment.

1. [SSEN DFES 2022 North of Scotland report](#)

To assist customers who wish to connect, we can offer curtailable connections offers, where the situation allows, to get as many customers connected as possible. A Curtailable Connection may enable a customer to connect quicker by agreeing that the use of some or all of that connection may be restricted by the DNO/IDNO at certain times. We also allow customers to generate against all new demand that they can connect to keep the net impact down to 50kW.

## Connections reform

SSEN Distribution and SSEN Transmission fully understand the challenge that this is causing for customers in the north of Scotland and are actively participating in industry reform to drive improvements in the connections process, while strongly advocating for greater overall investment in grid infrastructure. We are actively involved in the following workstreams which we believe will have a material positive impact on projects going forward;

- **T-D interface technical limits** – this will enable the distribution network to manage capacity independently and offer non-firm connection to customers, meaning many will not have to undertake a TIA. We are currently in phase 1b of this project, with Phase 2 being completed in early 2024.
- **Queue management** – through proactive management of those in the queue, we will be removing those from the queue that are not ready to connect. This work is already underway and should enable customers to connect more quickly.
- **Battery modelling** – this workstream is exploring how batteries are modelled so that they enable capacity rather than constrain capacity. We are working closely with industry and ESO to understand how this can be applied for new connections in the first instance (also referenced in the National Grid ESO 5 point plan), with consideration given to how this could be retrospectively applied and changes managed in the future.
- **GSP review** - we are also actively reviewing all of our Grid Supply Points (GSPs) on a case-by-case basis to understand the capacity that is available with a view to allocating that where possible.

There are other workstreams ongoing involving the Transmission network and the Energy System Operator including how planning assessments are undertaken, with regards to which we suggest you engage with Transmission and the ESO directly. We have advised our colleagues in SSEN Transmission of your interest in this area.

Beyond these actions, together with the wider industry, we are calling on UK Government and the regulator Ofgem to evolve the regulatory framework to greater incentivise long term strategic investment in electricity networks, to help unlock access to infrastructure that is necessary for the successful delivery of net zero locally and nationally.



With regards to your mention of the challenges faced by **[redacted reg 10(5)(f)]**, we are in regular dialogue with them and have recently met with **[redacted reg 10(5)(f)]**, who represent many customers with solar and battery technology interests, to discuss the wider industry challenges that **[redacted reg 10(5)(f)]** are being impacted by. We have escalated some of our own concerns to National Grid ESO and are providing a brief to the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero.

I hope this letter serves to reassure you of our long-term focus on ensuring our network is an enabler to net zero and that whilst most requests to connect to our network are able to proceed without restriction, every effort is being made to remove or mitigate restrictions and limitations where they do exist.

We welcome the opportunity for continued engagement and dialogue with you and your Scottish Government officials, and so to that end would like to offer a meeting during which we can discuss these issues in more detail and answer any further questions that you might have. Please do let me know what dates work for you and I shall ask my teams to arrange that.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Burchell





Gillian Martin MSP  
Minister for Energy  
The Scottish Government  
St. Andrew's House  
Regent Road  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3DG

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Dear Minister,

Warmest congratulations from SSE on your appointment as Minister for Energy. As the country's leading low-carbon energy infrastructure business – investing £15bn in Scotland this decade alone – I would like to affirm our strongest commitment to working in close partnership with you to achieve a fair and prosperous net zero future.

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I would be delighted to meet with you to discuss the opportunities to further accelerate our investment and look forward to working with you in the important months and years to come to deliver a better future of energy for the communities, environment, and people of Scotland.

Yours Sincerely,

**Alistair Phillips-Davies**, Chief Executive, SSE plc

SSE plc

Registered Office: Inveralmond House 200 Dunkeld Road Perth PH1 3AQ Registered in Scotland No. SC117119.

[sse.com](http://sse.com)

EIR 202400396791

**Document 1A**

**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Energy and the Environment

**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2024 4:29 PM

**To:** Central Correspondence Unit <CentralCorrespondenceUnit@gov.scot>

**Subject:** FW: Proposal of Application Notice - SSEN Transmission Netherton of Inverveddie, Longside

Good Afternoon,

For MiCase, diary please.

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

Assistant Private Secretary to Minister for Energy and the Environment – Gillian Martin MSP

MinisterEE@gov.scot

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, EDINBURGH EH1 3DG

**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@parliament.scot> **On Behalf Of** Martin G (Gillian), MSP

**Sent:** Friday, January 26, 2024 2:37 PM

**To:** Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>

**Subject:** FW: Proposal of Application Notice - SSEN Transmission Netherton of Inverveddie, Longside

Hi,

Flagging this as it's been sent to Gillian as constituency MSP, but she'd like some guidance as to whether it's appropriate for her to respond/meet/etc/

Ta,

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>

**Sent:** 23 January 2024 18:44

**To:** Martin G (Gillian), MSP <Gillian.Martin.msp@parliament.scot>

**Cc:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>

**Subject:** FW: Proposal of Application Notice - SSEN Transmission Netherton of Inverveddie, Longside

Hi Gillian, hope you're well.

You will hopefully have received the below and attached direct from **[redacted reg 11(2)]**, this relates to the requirement under the Town and Country Act to provide suitable notice to key stakeholders in advance of the two Pre-Application

Consultation events we are required to undertake prior to submitting planning applications to the relevant Local Authority, in this case Aberdeenshire Council.

The development of the substation site continues and we will present the detailed substation design and potential mitigation measures as part of these consultations. We intend to publish and issue all consultation material at least two weeks ahead of the events to allow stakeholders and the local community the opportunity to review this detail in advance of the consultation events. And both consultation events proposed are expected to last for eight weeks from the publication and issue of all relevant consultation material.

In advance of the next round of consultation on this and the associated overhead line proposals in your constituency, we would welcome the opportunity for a further meeting. Can you please let me know when may be convenient, happy to come to your constituency office again or alternatively, meet in Parliament, host at one of our offices or sites or via Microsoft Teams.

In the meantime, if you have any questions at all or if there is anything we can help you with please let me know.

Best wishes

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

**[redacted reg 11(2)]** [Head of Corporate Affairs Transmission](#)

Customers and Stakeholders

Grampian House, 200 Dunkeld Road, Perth, PH1 3GH

**M: [redacted reg 11(2)]**

**[www.ssen-transmission.co.uk](http://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk)**



**From:** **[redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com**>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 23, 2024 4:11 PM

**Cc:** <**[redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com**>; **[redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com**>; <**[redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com**>; <**[redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com**>; Netherton Engagement <[NethertonEngagement@sse.com](mailto:NethertonEngagement@sse.com)>

**Subject:** Proposal of Application Notice - SSEN Transmission Netherton of Inverveddie, Longside

Good afternoon,

Please find attached a Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) and accompanying plan outlining a proposed development site that has been submitted to Aberdeenshire Council. The PAN relates to a proposed development that would entail the Construction and Operation of a Strategic Electricity Transmission Hub Consisting of a 400kV AC Substation, a 132kV AC Substation, 2 x HVDC Converter Stations, an

HVDC Switching Station, a Spares Warehouse, an Operations Base, and the Associated Undertaking of Earthworks, the Formation of Platforms, Landscaping, Means of Access, Means of Enclosure, Site Drainage, Temporary Construction Compounds and Other Associated Operations (National Development) on Land at, and in the vicinity of Netherton of Inverveddie, Longside, AB42 0LX

Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission Plc operating and known as Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks Transmission (SSEN Transmission), is proposing that the identified land which is mainly located to the south of the A950 Road in the vicinity of the settlement of Flushing is developed as described above.

The Proposal of Application Notice outlines the statutory pre-application consultation with the public and other interested stakeholders that is required to be undertaken under the current provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended), and you have been notified as you are either a community or elected representative of the area within which the strategic development is proposed to take place; or you are a community or elected representative of the area neighbouring the area within which the strategic development is proposed to take place.

As part of the proposal a consultation event will be held on the following date:

**Wednesday 28 February at Longside Parish Church Hall, Inn Brae, Longside, AB42 4XN between 2-7pm**

A second event at which feedback will be given on comments received at the first event will be held on the following date:

**Wednesday 22 May at Longside Parish Church Hall, Inn Brae, Longside, AB42 4XN between 2-7pm**

The events will provide detail of the proposed development and allow feedback from members of the public and other interested parties before submission of a planning application.

The events will be advertised in local press before the consultations take place and via our website at Netherton Hub - SSEN Transmission ([ssen-transmission.co.uk](http://ssen-transmission.co.uk)). We will also undertake a targeted mail drop locally.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

**| Community Liaison Manager**

SSEN Transmission

E: **[redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com**

M: **[redacted reg 11(2)]**

Grampian House, 200 Dunkeld Road, Perth, PH1 3GH

[www.ssen-transmission.co.uk](http://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk)

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<http://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/privacy>. If you do not have access to our website or would like a hard copy sent, please contact us.

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## Document 2b

**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Energy and the Environment  
**Sent:** Monday, October 9, 2023 9:10 AM  
**To:** Public Engagement Unit <CorrespondenceUnit@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** FW: Invitation to open new SSEN Transmission office at Prime Four Business Park, Aberdeen

Diary please.

### [redacted reg 11(2)]

Assistant Private Secretary to Minister for Energy and the Environment – Gillian Martin MSP  
MinisterEE@gov.scot  
The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, EDINBURGH EH1 3DG

**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2023 3:12 PM  
**To:** zzzMinister for Energy 2023 <MinisterEnergy@gov.scot>; [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>  
**Cc:** Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>  
**Subject:** Invitation to open new SSEN Transmission office at Prime Four Business Park, Aberdeen

Please find attached letter from our Managing Director, Rob McDonald, inviting the Minister to formally open our new office space in Aberdeen and to visit our Perth Head Office, including a tour of our Transmission Network Control Room.

To progress this invite or if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch with myself and [redacted reg 11(2)].

Many thanks

[redacted reg 11(2)]

### [redacted reg 11(2)] Head of Corporate Affairs Transmission

Customers and Stakeholders  
Grampian House, 200 Dunkeld Road, Perth, PH1 3GH

**M:** [redacted reg 11(2)]  
**www.ssen-transmission.co.uk**



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## Document 3A

**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy  
**Sent:** Monday, August 21, 2023 2:14 PM  
**To:** Public Engagement Unit <CorrespondenceUnit@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** FW: Invitation to the Green Energy Awards from Paul Cooley (Director of Offshore Wind, SSE Renewables)

For diary please.

Many thanks.

Kind regards,

### **[redacted reg 11(2)]**

Assistant Private Secretary | Office of the Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy – Neil Gray MSP  
Scottish Government | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG |  
Email: CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot

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**From:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 21, 2023 1:33 PM  
**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** Invitation to the Green Energy Awards from Paul Cooley (Director of Offshore Wind, SSE Renewables)

Dear Cabinet Secretary

### **Invite to Scottish Green Energy Awards**

I am writing on behalf of Paul Cooley (Director Offshore Wind, SSE Renewables) to invite you to be our guest at this year's Scottish Green Energy Awards.

The Green Energy Awards 2023 will be held on the evening of Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 in Edinburgh at the EICC (timings to be confirmed).

The event is undoubtedly one of the highlights of the Scottish renewable industries calendar. After yet another momentous year for the industry in Scotland, the awards will be a great opportunity to celebrate successes and look forward to the opportunities and challenges which lie ahead.

Paul is delighted to be hosting one of the SSE Renewables tables this year and would be delighted if you were able to attend as his guest.

If you could reply to me I would be very grateful and hopefully look forward to welcoming you on what I'm sure will be a tremendous evening.

Kind Regards

Jamie

**Jamie Maxton** || Head of External Relations (GB)

**SSE Renewables**

One Waterloo Street  
Glasgow  
G2 6AY

**M: [redacted reg 11(2)]**

**[sSERenewables.com](http://sSERenewables.com)**



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## Document 4a

**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 6, 2023 10:55 AM  
**To:** Public Engagement Unit <CorrespondenceUnit@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** FW: Letter of congratulations from SSE

AO – [redacted reg 11(2)]

Good morning,

For diary please.

Many thanks.

Kind Regards,

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

Assistant Private Secretary | Office of the Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy – Neil Gray MSP  
Scottish Government | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG |  
Email: CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot

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**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>  
**Sent:** 05 April 2023 16:33  
**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; neil.gray.msp@parliament.scot  
**Subject:** Letter of congratulations from SSE

*Dear Cabinet Secretary,*

*Please find attached a letter of congratulations from SSE.*

*I look forward to working with you and your government in the coming years to achieve a fair and prosperous net zero transition for Scotland. We would be delighted to host you in the near future at one of our many wind, hydro or networks assets across the country.*

*Kind regards,*

*Alistair*

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## Document 5A

**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:58 AM  
**To:** Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: Correspondence from the Minister for Energy and the Environment

Good morning [redacted reg 11(2)]

Further to the letter dated 20<sup>th</sup> September from Minister Martin, please find attached our response.

As per the contents of the letter, if Minister Martin would like a call to discuss this matter in more detail please don't hesitate to contact me direct to arrange.

Thanks

[redacted reg 11(2)]

[redacted reg 11(2)]  
Head of Corporate Affairs  
**Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (Distribution)**

M: [redacted reg 11(2)]  
E: [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com  
www.ssen.co.uk



**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** MinisterEE@gov.scot  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 20, 2023 2:42 PM  
**To:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>; [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>  
**Cc:** MinisterEE@gov.scot  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Correspondence from the Minister for Energy and the Environment

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Good Afternoon,

Please see attached correspondence from the Minister for Energy and the Environment.

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

**Private Secretary to Minister for Energy and the Environment – Gillian Martin**

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | **[redacted reg 11(2)]**

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## Document 6A

**From:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2024 5:00 PM  
**To:** Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: Follow Up and Minister Gillian Martin

Hi **[redacted reg 11(2)]**

Sorry, yes, should have been clear, this was an additional request that the Minister was interested in doing if you could find a way to make work in the diary.

I'm trying to remember who from Private Office was on the call (might have been someone from Mr Gray's office and they were going to link in with you rather than the other way around – sorry pre-Christmas memory is letting me down).

Kind Regards

Jamie

**From:** **[redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot On Behalf Of** MinisterEE@gov.scot  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2024 4:42 PM  
**To:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>; MinisterEE@gov.scot  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Follow Up and Minister Gillian Martin

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Good Afternoon Jamie,

Thanks for this.

As per the bottom of this email chain I explained Ms Martin was keen to visit a project in Shetland.

I asked if you could get back in touch with us in February as we may be closer to establishing a date we will visit Shetland.

Is this new request something on top of that?

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

**Private Secretary to Minister for Energy and the Environment – Gillian Martin**  
The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | **[redacted reg 11(2)]**

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**From:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2024 1:45 PM  
**To:** Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** FW: Follow Up and Minister Gillian Martin

Hi [redacted reg 11(2)]

Hope you're well. Just to follow up on something else. When we met the Minister along with Mr Gray before Christmas on community benefit, she had expressed a strong interest in visiting one of the community projects we have funded. In particular, we talked about potentially visiting one of the projects we funded in Fort Augustus and linking this to a potential visit we have been discussing with the Cabinet Secretaries private office to some of our assets in that area (which was being looked at for the week of the February recess).

I just wondered if discussions on that had progressed at all?

Kind Regards

Jamie

**From:** Maxton, Jamie  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 10, 2024 5:17 PM  
**To:** MinisterEE@gov.scot  
**Cc:** Mike.Palmer@gov.scot; Allan.Gibb@gov.scot; CabSecRALRI@gov.scot; Kate.Higgins@gov.scot  
**Subject:** RE: Follow Up and Minister Gillian Martin

Hi [redacted reg 11(2)]

Okay, thanks. Understood.

Kind Regards

Jamie

**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot **On Behalf Of** [MinisterEE@gov.scot](mailto:MinisterEE@gov.scot)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 10, 2024 12:35 PM  
**To:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>; MinisterEE@gov.scot  
**Cc:** Mike.Palmer@gov.scot; Allan.Gibb@gov.scot; CabSecRALRI@gov.scot; Kate.Higgins@gov.scot  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Follow Up and Minister Gillian Martin

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Good Afternoon Jamie,

Please accept our apologies, it's not actually Ms Martin that has responsibility for this area of Government. It is Ms Gougeon.

I'm therefore going to cancel the meeting we have in the diary.

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

**Private Secretary to Minister for Energy and the Environment – Gillian Martin**

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | **[redacted reg 11(2)]**

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**From:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 9, 2024 12:40 PM

**To:** Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>

**Cc:** Mike Palmer <Mike.Palmer@gov.scot>; Allan Gibb <Allan.Gibb@gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: Follow Up and Minister Gillian Martin

Thanks **[redacted reg 11(2)]**

It will be myself, **[redacted reg 11(2)]** (Director of Development Offshore) and **[redacted reg 11(2)]** (Head of Consents Strategy).

Kind Regards

Jamie

**From:** **[redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot** **On Behalf Of** MinisterEE@gov.scot

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 9, 2024 12:29 PM

**To:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>; MinisterEE@gov.scot

**Cc:** Mike.Palmer@gov.scot; Allan.Gibb@gov.scot

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Follow Up and Minister Gillian Martin

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Hi Jamie,

That's great, thanks for getting back so quickly. I have now updated this in the Minister's diary.

Grateful if you can let us know attendees as soon as you can.

Kind Regards,

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

Assistant Private Secretary to Minister for Energy and the Environment – Gillian Martin MSP

MinisterEE@gov.scot

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, EDINBURGH EH1 3DG

**From:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 9, 2024 11:55 AM  
**To:** Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** Mike Palmer <Mike.Palmer@gov.scot>; Allan Gibb <Allan.Gibb@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: Follow Up and Minister Gillian Martin

Hi [redacted reg 11(2)]

Yes, that's no problem.

Kind Regards

Jamie

**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** MinisterEE@gov.scot  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 9, 2024 11:32 AM  
**To:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>; MinisterEE@gov.scot  
**Cc:** Mike.Palmer@gov.scot; Allan.Gibb@gov.scot  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Follow Up and Minister Gillian Martin

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Hi Jamie,

Hope you are well.

Please accept our apologies but Ms Martin is no longer able to meet at 11.30 – 12.00 on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January. Would it be possible push this meeting back an hour changing to 12:30 – 01:00?

[redacted reg 11(2)]

Assistant Private Secretary to Minister for Energy and the Environment – Gillian Martin MSP

[MinisterEE@gov.scot](mailto:MinisterEE@gov.scot)

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, EDINBURGH EH1 3DG

**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Energy and the Environment  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 20, 2023 3:13 PM  
**To:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>; Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: Follow Up and Minister Gillian Martin

Hi Jamie,

I can confirm this has been added to the Minister's diary for Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 11.30 – 12.00 at the Scottish Parliament.

Grateful if you can let us know who will be attending.

Thanks,

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

Assistant Private Secretary to Minister for Energy and the Environment – Gillian Martin MSP

MinisterEE@gov.scot

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, EDINBURGH EH1 3DG

**From:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 20, 2023 11:53 AM

**To:** Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: Follow Up and Minister Gillian Martin

Hi **[redacted reg 11(2)]**

Thanks that's great. If we could go for Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> Jan at 11.30 that would be great. Would be great to do in person if possible?

Kind Regards

Jamie

**From:** **[redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot** **On Behalf Of** MinisterEE@gov.scot

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 20, 2023 11:17 AM

**To:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>; MinisterEE@gov.scot

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Follow Up and Minister Gillian Martin

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Hi Jamie,

I have found the following dates and times in the diary for a meeting:

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 11:30 – 12:00.

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 14:45 – 15:15.

Grateful if you can confirm if either date is suitable and whether you would like the meeting to take place in person in the Scottish Parliament or via Microsoft Teams.

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

Assistant Private Secretary to Minister for Energy and the Environment – Gillian Martin MSP

[MinisterEE@gov.scot](mailto:MinisterEE@gov.scot)

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, EDINBURGH EH1 3DG

**From:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2023 4:28 PM

**To:** Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: Follow Up and Minister Gillian Martin

Hi **[redacted reg 11(2)]**

Thanks that would be great. Just on another issue, we'd put in a request for a specific meeting on the current consultation on sandeel closures to Mairi Gougeon's office but I believe that's now been passed on to yourselves as Ms Martin now has responsibility for it. Would it be possible to get a short meeting on this early in the New Year?

Thanks

Jamie

**From:** **[redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot** **On Behalf Of** MinisterEE@gov.scot

**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2023 3:05 PM

**To:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>; MinisterEE@gov.scot

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Follow Up and Minister Gillian Martin

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Good Afternoon Jamie,

Thanks for this.

I've been thinking about this further and as Mr Gray is going to be visiting one of your sites in February we would be keen to take up your offer for Shetland but it would have to be late April/early May.

I would be grateful if you can get back in touch with us February time and we can look at getting some dates sorted.

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

**Private Secretary to Minister for Energy and the Environment – Gillian Martin**

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | **[redacted reg 11(2)]**

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**From:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2023 8:37 AM  
**To:** Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: Follow Up and Minister Gillian Martin

Thanks **[redacted reg 11(2)]**

Appreciate you coming back to me. Please see addresses below. On Viking, happy to come back in the Spring on this one as we'll hopefully headed towards completion at that point and there should be some good opportunities next summer.

Its probably also worth saying that I'm in discussions with Neil Gray's office regarding a possible visit to Foyers and the Coire Glas exploratory works on the week of the February recess (10-18) and assuming they are, happy to tie those two things together.

Foyers – Inverness, IV2 6XT  
Coire Glas – the exploratory works are near Kilfinnan Spean Bridge, PH34 4EB  
Pitlochry - Armoury Rd, Pitlochry PH16 5AP  
Tummel - 3 Riverside, Tummel Bridge, Pitlochry PH16 5SB  
Sloy - Arrochar G83 7DS

The one I didn't mention below is Seagreen offshore windfarm. Offshore visits are out until the spring but we'd be delighted to welcome her to the Operations and Maintenance base which is in Montrose Port. The best time for an onshore visit is a Wednesday as that is when the Eda Brint (the operations vessel is in port) though appreciate that's tricky from a parliamentary perspective.

Hope that helps and look forward to hearing from you.

Kind Regards

Jamie

**From:** **[redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot** **On Behalf Of** MinisterEE@gov.scot  
**Sent:** 12 December 2023 16:08  
**To:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>; **[redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot**;  
**[redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot**  
**Cc:** **[redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot**; MinisterEE@gov.scot  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Follow Up and Minister Gillian Martin

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Good Afternoon Jamie,

Thanks for your email.

It will be my office that arrange this visit.

Unfortunately Ms Martin won't be able to come to Shetland any time in the near future so happy to look at other locations.

If you can send through some addresses then we can have a look at what might be feasible in the diary.

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

**Private Secretary to Minister for Energy and the Environment – Gillian Martin**

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | **[redacted reg 11(2)]**

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**From:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 12, 2023 3:18 PM

**To:** **[redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot**; **[redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot**>

**Cc:** **[redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot**>; Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>

**Subject:** FW: Follow Up and Minister Gillian Martin

Hi All

Hope you're well. I'm conscious that this was some time ago and we didn't manage to get a visit arranged for the Minister. However, when the Minister was on our table at the Green Energy Awards a couple of weeks ago she was very keen to do a visit to one of our sites and suggested that I get back in touch to set something up.

Originally, we'd been talking about a visit to Foyers, but there are a number of other options available, appreciating that it's on Loch Ness so a big time commitment. However, if time did allow, we could also combine this with a visit to the Coire Glas site where the detailed ground investigation works are well underway and the exploratory tunnel is now over half a kilometre and very much worth a visit.

**However, she had also expressed a strong interest in visiting our Viking onshore windfarm on Shetland.** With all the turbines now installed it's a great visit and the scale of the peat restoration programme at Viking would also be of interest given the environment part of her brief. The Minister mentioned that she might be in Orkney in February so perhaps there is an opportunity to combine?

Options which would require a bit less travelling could be Pitlochry or Tummel Bridge (the later is near the end of its £70m refurbishment) or Sloy where we are currently progressing plans to turn it into a pumped storage facility.

Happy to discuss any or all of these.



Kind Regards

Jamie



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## Document 6B

**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 12, 2023 5:15 PM  
**To:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>  
**Cc:** Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: Pmped Storage Hydro Visit for the Cabinet Secretary

Hello,

Apologies for the delay in responding to you. It is proving difficult to schedule this visit during the Parliamentary Term due to the fluid nature of Parliamentary business.

Therefore, would a time during the February recess be suitable? The dates for this are 10<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> February inclusive. Would there be a certain day during this time that would be most suitable?

Then an agenda could be drafted to confirm whether it would be possible to visit both sites.

Best wishes,  
[redacted reg 11(2)]

[redacted reg 11(2)]  
Assistant Private Secretary to the Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy – Neil Gray MSP  
Scottish Government | St Andrews House Edinburgh EH1 3DG |  
CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot

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**From:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 12, 2023 3:18 PM  
**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** FW: Pmped Storage Hydro Visit for the Cabinet Secretary

Hi [redacted reg 11(2)]

Hope you're well. Just following up on this one from a couple of weeks ago.

Kind Regards

Jamie

**From:** Maxton, Jamie  
**Sent:** 17 November 2023 14:17  
**To:** cabsecwefwe@gov.scot  
**Cc:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot  
**Subject:** Pmped Storage Hydro Visit for the Cabinet Secretary

Hi [redacted reg 11(2)]

I hope you're well. I understand that when the Cabinet Secretary was at our office's last week for the Living Wage event that he spoke to Kate Wallace Lockhart about a possible visit to a pumped hdyro storage site.

We'd obviously be delighted to facilitate this. The options would be our existing station which is Foyers and on the banks of Loch Ness or to the site of Coire Glas, which is our potential new pumped storage project and on the shores of Loch Lochy. Appreciate that this would be difficult time wise but they are only about an hour apart so we could potentially do a visit to both, but obviously happy to offer either.

Foyers obviously would give him the opportunity to see an operational station and while Coire Glas is at an early stage, we are well progressed with the detailed ground investigation works which would be interesting for him to see.

We'd obviously be very flexible about times so if you can suggest a possible date we'll do our best to accommodate.

Kind Regards

Jamie

**Jamie Maxton** || Head of External Relations (GB)

**SSE Renewables**  
One Waterloo Street  
Glasgow  
G2 6AY

**M:** [redacted reg 11(2)]

[sSERenewables.com](https://sSERenewables.com)



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## Document 7A

**From:** Maxton, Jamie <Jamie.Maxton@sse.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 22, 2023 10:19 AM  
**To:** zzzMinister for Energy 2023 <MinisterEnergy@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** FW: The Scottish Green Energy Awards 2023 - E-TICKET

Dear Minister

Thank you for accepting our invitation to attend the Green Energy Awards next Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

Finlay McCutcheon (Director Onshore Europe) is very much looking forward to welcoming you to his table for what I'm sure will be a great evening.

Please find below, your e-ticket for the event along with the venue, timings and other relevant information.

### **You will be on Table 25**

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards

Jamie

**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@scottishrenewables.com>  
**Sent:** 06 November 2023 09:38  
**To:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>  
**Subject:** The Scottish Green Energy Awards 2023 - E-TICKET



## E-TICKET & GUEST INFORMATION

Scottish Renewables looks forward to welcoming you to The Scottish Green Energy Awards on Thursday 30 November 2023 at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre.

This email is your official e-ticket. All guests of your table must present this official event e-ticket on a mobile device or in print to gain access to the EICC.

Please forward this email on to your table guests.

Guests without an official e-ticket will have to be verified by the table host before being granted entry. Failure to do so may result in no entry for security reasons.

**HOST TABLE SSE Renewables**

**YOUR TABLE NUMBER IS 25**

**DRINKS RECEPTION LOCATION Strathblane Hall**

### VENUE

**Edinburgh International Conference Centre**

The Exchange, 150 Morrison St, Edinburgh, EH3 8EE

### TRAVEL

Directions and travel information can be found **on our website.**

### MENU

Celeriac, tomato and caper tartar

### DRESS CODE

**Black tie**

*Have you considered recycling a previous black tie outfit?  
Help Scottish Renewables reduce the carbon footprint of live events with this small change.*

### EVENT FORMAT

1800 Drinks reception

1845 Guests seated

1915 Welcome & speeches

**Marcus Brigstocke, Comedian and Host**

**Claire Mack, Chief Executive, Scottish Renewables**

Savoury granola and lemon mayo (VG)

~

Miso & sesame glazed chicken

Savoy cabbage, red onion, peppers, rooster fondant, charred spring onion and sweet & sour jus

Vegetarian / Vegan option: Sumac spiced butternut squash Dauphinoise potato, hispi cabbage and chermola sauce (VG)

~

Chocolate espresso pot, cherry gel and shortbread round  
(VG alternative for dietary requirements)

~

Fairtrade Tea and Coffee with Scottish Tablet

Scottish Renewables is committed to sourcing sustainable food from our caterers whenever possible and have worked with the venue to prioritise a seasonal menu using local produce.

## DRINKS

Prosecco and a soft alternative will be served at the arrival drinks reception. Each table comes with 5 bottles of wine (3 white and 2 red) as well as jugs of still water. You can also pre-order additional drinks for your table should you wish to. The pre-order link will be available on the **about page of the event website** from Friday 17 and will be open until Tuesday 28 November.

## BE SOCIAL

We will be live-tweeting on the night! Tweet your pictures and messages using **#SGEA23** and see your message on the screen during dinner. Our social media activity is sponsored by **Coalition for Wind Industry Circularity**.

## The Rt. Hon. The Lord Deben, Chair of the Climate Change Committee 2012-2023

1940 The Scottish Green Energy Awards Part I

2015 Sponsor Welcome

## Matthieu Hue, Chief Executive Officer, EDF Renewables

2020 Dinner & Raffle

2220 The Scottish Green Energy Awards Part II

2300 Closing Remarks

## Adam Morrison, Chair, Scottish Renewables

0115 Last Orders

0200 Carriages

## RAFFLE

The Grand Raffle will be held in support of **Renewable World**. To enter the raffle, guests will be asked to donate a minimum of £20. We hope you will share our ambition of raising £15,000 this year for our chosen charity. Please note, **cash and card donations will be collected during dinner**.

## GUEST NAMES

To enable us to create a guest list and cater for any access or dietary requirements please submit your guest names via our **website** no later than **Thursday 16 November**.

We do not provide place cards for tables however please feel free to bring your own and place them at your table during the drinks reception.

## TABLE PLAN

View your table location on the floorplan **here**.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information including accommodation, attendee list, sponsors and more, please see our **website**.

## CONTACT

If you have any questions regarding the event not already covered above, please contact [redacted reg 11(2)] on [redacted reg 11(2)] or email [redacted reg 11(2)]@scottishrenewables.com.

## WITH THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS



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Outstanding Contribution Award Sponsor

Fred. Otson Renewables

Champion of Renewables Award Sponsor



Outstanding Service Award



Sustainable Development Award Sponsor



Positive Improvement Award Sponsor



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Outstanding Project Award Sponsor



Best Community Project Award Sponsor



Best Innovation Award - Software and Services



Best Engagement Award Sponsor



Contribution to Skills Award Sponsor



Carbon Reduction Award Sponsor



Young & Inspiring Award



Social Media Sponsor



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**GILLIAN MARTIN**

**Document 10a**

**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>  
**Sent:** 05 April 2023 16:34  
**To:** Martin G (Gillian), MSP <Gillian.Martin.msp@parliament.scot>  
**Subject:** Letter of congratulations from SSE

*Dear Minister,*

*Please find attached a letter of congratulations from SSE.*

*I look forward to working with you and your government in the coming years to achieve a fair and prosperous net zero transition for Scotland. We would be delighted to host you in the near future at one of our many wind, hydro or networks assets across the country.*

*Kind regards,*

*Alistair*

---

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## Document 11A

**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>

**Sent:** Monday, November 20, 2023 4:14 PM

**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot>

**Cc:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>; [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>; [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot>; [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot>; [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: Your recent correspondence with Scottish Government and partner agencies - 202300380378

Dear [redacted reg 11(2)]

Further to sharing our briefing note last week, please also find attached a copy of our draft press release for review, which we propose to send out following the visit on Monday next week (once approved). Comments and amends are very welcome. We'd also welcome the opportunity to include a supportive quote from the Cabinet Secretary in the release if this would be possible?

Thanks in advance for your feedback on the attached. If it would be useful to discuss in more detail please just let me know.

Kind regards,

[redacted reg 11(2)]

[redacted reg 11(2)] | Senior External Relations Manager

Customers and Stakeholders

Inveralmond House, 200 Dunkeld Road, Perth, PH1 3AQ

[www.ssen-transmission.co.uk](http://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk)



**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]

**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2023 12:10 PM

**To:** CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot; [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot

**Cc:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>; [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>; [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot>; [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot>; [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot

**Subject:** RE: Your recent correspondence with Scottish Government and partner agencies - 202300380378

Good morning [redacted reg 11(2)],

Following [redacted reg 11(2)] earlier email, please find attached a briefing for the Cabinet Secretary to outline plans and a proposed schedule for the official opening of our new Aberdeen Office on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November.

If any amendments are needed, or if you'd like to discuss in more detail, please just let me know.

Kind regards,

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

**[redacted reg 11(2)]** | Senior External Relations Manager

Customers and Stakeholders

Inveralmond House, 200 Dunkeld Road, Perth, PH1 3AQ

[www.ssen-transmission.co.uk](http://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk)



**From:** **[redacted reg 11(2)]**@sse.com>

**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2023 5:46 PM

**To:** CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot

**Cc:** **[redacted reg 11(2)]**@sse.com>; **[redacted reg 11(2)]**@sse.com>

**Subject:** RE: Your recent correspondence with Scottish Government and partner agencies - 202300380378

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**, that's great, thanks for confirming and yes, 1400-1430 on Monday 27 November is perfect.

**[redacted reg 11(2)]** (cc'd) will share a short brief later this week to confirm arrangements for the event, including details of who the Cabinet Secretary will meet and joining details (address etc) for the visit.

For now, can you confirm how many car park spaces we will need to reserve on site and who will be accompanying the Cabinet Secretary.

Thanks again.

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

**[redacted reg 11(2)]** | Head of Corporate Affairs Transmission

Customers and Stakeholders

Grampian House, 200 Dunkeld Road, Perth, PH1 3GH

**M:** **[redacted reg 11(2)]**

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**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot  
**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2023 3:13 PM  
**To:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>; CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot  
**Cc:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>; [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Your recent correspondence with Scottish Government and partner agencies - 202300380378

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Hello [redacted reg 11(2)]

Mr Gray's visit to Aberdeen is still going ahead and I have the time held to come to open your office. Is Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November, 14:00 – 14:30 suitable for you?

Thanks,  
[redacted reg 11(2)]

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

Assistant Private Secretary to the Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy –  
Neil Gray MSP  
Scottish Government | St Andrews House Edinburgh EH1 3DG | CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot

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**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2023 1:54 PM  
**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>; [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Your recent correspondence with Scottish Government and partner agencies - 202300380378

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

Can we please confirm this visit to officially open our new Aberdeen Office. Grateful if you can confirm ASAP as we'll need to arrange a plaque etc to mark the occasion.

We'll of course brief the Cabinet Secretary in advance of this.

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

**[redacted reg 11(2)]** Head of Corporate Affairs Transmission

Customers and Stakeholders

Grampian House, 200 Dunkeld Road, Perth, PH1 3GH

**M: [redacted reg 11(2)]**

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**From: [redacted reg 11(2)]**

**Sent:** Thursday, November 9, 2023 9:01 PM

**To:** CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot

**Cc:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>; [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>

**Subject:** RE: Your recent correspondence with Scottish Government and partner agencies - 202300380378

**[redacted reg 11(2)]** thanks for your prompt reply, let me confirm with our senior team and revert back ASAP.

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 8, 2023 9:32 AM

**To:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>; CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot

**Cc:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>; [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Your recent correspondence with Scottish Government and partner agencies - 202300380378

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Hello,

Thank you for your email. Mr Gray will be in Aberdeen on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November. Would 14:00 – 14:30 be suitable?

Thanks,

**[redacted reg 11(2)].**

**[redacted reg 11(2)]**

Assistant Private Secretary to the Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy – Neil Gray MSP

Scottish Government | St Andrews House Edinburgh EH1 3DG | CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot

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**From:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 3, 2023 5:42 PM  
**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>; [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Your recent correspondence with Scottish Government and partner agencies - 202300380378

Further to the attached, I would be grateful if you could propose some dates/times in the coming weeks for this.

Happy to discuss as required.

Thanks in advance.

[redacted reg 11(2)]

[redacted reg 11(2)] | [Head of Corporate Affairs Transmission](#)

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**M:** [redacted reg 11(2)]

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**From:** casehandling.service@gov.scot <casehandling.service@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2023 12:23 PM  
**To:** [redacted reg 11(2)]@sse.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Your recent correspondence with Scottish Government and partner agencies - 202300380378

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Please find attached a response to your correspondence.



\*\*\*\*\*

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## **SSEN Transmission strengthens its commitment to the north of Scotland as it opens new Aberdeen office**

[insert picture of formal office opening]

- **New office in Aberdeen officially opened, doubling capacity for almost 200 green energy workers.**

SSEN Transmission today welcomed the Scottish Government’s Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy, Neil Gray MSP, to officially open their new premises in Aberdeen, strengthening their commitment to invest and support a just transition in the north of Scotland during this exciting period of growth for the business.

As the electricity transmission owner for the north of Scotland, SSEN Transmission has a crucial role to play in delivering energy security and net zero for the UK by developing, building, maintaining and operating a network for net zero – and the brand-new office space accommodates an expanding team in the granite city.

The new office is located at Kingswells, a village in the suburb of Aberdeen, at Prime Four, the award-winning business park and global energy hub in Scotland’s north-east, which was opened in [20XX].

SSEN Transmission is undergoing a period of rapid growth, with the overall headcount at the organisation growing from around 500 in 2018 to nearly 1,600 today. Around 500 new employees are forecasted to join the business in 2023, with at least 100 of these roles in early career pathways. More recruitment is also expected to come as the company gears up to deliver its ambitions ‘Pathway to 2030’ programme of electricity transmission network development projects.

[insert picture of formal office opening]

Today, the new office was officially opened by the Scottish Government’s Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy, Neil Gray MSP, who was welcomed by SSEN Transmission’s Managing Director, Rob McDonald, for a tour of the new space, meeting colleagues who have transitioned from an Oil and Gas background, alongside some of the company’s new Aberdeen based trainees and graduates. To commemorate the official opening, Mr Gray revealed a plaque next to the company’s moss feature-wall, which sits proudly in the foyer outside the new office’s entrance.

The site contains desk space, meeting rooms and collaboration areas – designed to encourage staff to get together in person to collaborate, innovate and communicate – as they work on the development, maintenance and operation of electricity transmission infrastructure across the country.

SSEN Transmission, the transmission business unit of the SSE Group, has a longstanding presence in Aberdeen and the new office launch underlines the company’s commitment to the city and north of Scotland as a whole.

Today's opening follows on from the company unveiling a brand-new office space, with capacity for 500 employees, at its headquarters in Perth, in 2022 – and as the business continues to grow, further expansion is expected across Scotland in the coming years, with plans announced for new state-of-the-art operations warehouses in Inverness and Dundee.

**Scottish Government's Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy, Neil Gray MSP, said:**

*"[Insert quote]."*

**SSEN Transmission's Managing Director, Rob McDonald, said:**

"We're really excited to announce the official opening of our new Aberdeen office, and it's been great to welcome Cabinet Secretary, Neil Gray, to formally mark the occasion today. It's a big step for the company, as we strengthen our commitment to the north of Scotland and get ready to deliver one of the biggest investment programmes that the country has ever seen - building the electricity infrastructure needed to hit energy security and net zero targets.

"Our 'Pathway to 2030' programme presents Scotland with an enormous economic opportunity – and creating long-term, sustainable careers across the country is just one part of that.

"As a business we are passionate about our purpose – to deliver a network for net zero – and we work hard to ensure that we do this with all of our stakeholders in mind, including our communities, customers, shareholders and, of course, our employees. With the opening of our new Aberdeen office, and the promise of significant recruitment in the months and years ahead, it's an exciting time to be a part of our team."

SSEN Transmission's 'Pathway to 2030' programme of network development will involve a number of new and replacement high-voltage power lines being built across the north of Scotland to support the country's drive to net zero – and to deliver those projects the company is continuing to grow its workforce.

To find out more about some of the exciting new roles on offer at SSEN Transmission, visit SSE's careers page.

## Document 11C

### Event: SSEN Transmission Aberdeen Office – Official Opening

Date: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November

#### Objective:

- Welcoming Neil Gray MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy to visit and officially open SSEN Transmission's new office space in Aberdeen.
- Celebrate SSEN Transmission's growth, job creation and future investment plans as we deliver a network for net zero in the North of Scotland.

#### Time:

2pm – 2.30pm

**Location:** Prime View, Prime Four Business Park, Kingswells, Aberdeen, AB15 8PU

#### SSEN Transmission Contact:

[redacted reg 11(2)], Senior External Relations Manager, [redacted reg 11(2)]

#### Itinerary:

**2.00pm:** Cabinet Secretary arrives and is greeted by Rob McDonald, Managing Director of SSEN Transmission and James McLean, Chief Information Officer, SSEN Transmission. Update from Rob McDonald on investment plans in Balmoral Meeting Room.

**2.10pm – 2.20pm:** Quick tour of office space, brief introduction to new grads / trainees and members of staff who have transitioned from oil and gas, ending up at the plaque.

**2.20pm – 2.25pm: Plaque unveiling:** 1 minute speech from Rob who will then introduce the Cabinet Secretary to say a few words (2 mins) and unveil the plaque.

**2.25pm – 2.30pm:** Picture with Cabinet Secretary, Rob, James, grads / trainees and the plaque (moss wall area).

**2.30pm:** Cabinet Secretary leaves.

#### Further visit information:

- Dress code: Business attire.
- **Parking:** A space will be blocked out at the front of the building for the Ministerial car. Please reverse park on arrival.
- No PPE is required for this visit.
- An SSE photographer will be in attendance to take pictures of the visit for post event communications.
- Media: We will issue a press release and pictures post event with media contacts and on our social media channels – *communications to be approved with Cab Sec's office in advance of issue.*

#### SSEN Transmission hosts:

- **Rob McDonald**, Managing Director, SSEN Transmission.
- **James McLean**, Chief Information Officer, SSEN Transmission
- **[redacted reg 11(2)]** Head of Operations, Development and Support, SSEN Transmission
- **[redacted reg 11(2)]** Lead Land Manager, SSEN Transmission
- **[redacted reg 11(2)]** Senior External Relations Manager, SSEN Transmission.

- [redacted reg 11(2)] External Relations Manager, SSEN Transmission.
- [redacted reg 11(2)] Communications Manager, SSEN Transmission.

Aberdeen based SSEN Transmission staff will also be in attendance.

## Background Information

### Biographies

	<p><b>Rob McDonald, Managing Director of SSEN Transmission</b>  Rob is SSE’s Managing Director of Transmission. Prior to this Rob was SSE’s Managing Director Corporate and Business Services covering Legal, Regulation, Compliance, Safety and Large Capital Projects Services across the Group. Rob joined Southern Electric in 1997 and held various managerial roles within the Regulation Group including SSE’s Director of Regulation and Managing Director, Regulation and Strategy. Prior to that Rob worked as an Economist with the Office of Electricity Regulation (OFFER).</p>
	<p><b>James McLean, Chief Information Officer, SSEN Transmission</b>  James McLean is Chief Information Officer for SSEN Transmission and responsible for the delivery of its ambitious £60m digital transformation programme. As part of the Transmission Executive Committee, James oversees all areas of IT Operations, Digital Delivery, Data Strategy, Governance and Analytics. In his role, he also ensures significant digital investments are made in its Operational Technology space to increase the cyber protection of the Transmission network in the north of Scotland. Prior to joining SSEN Transmission in 2020, he spent 20 years in a broad range of senior management roles in the oil and gas industry.</p>

### SSEN Transmission: Delivering a network for net zero

- SSEN Transmission owns, operates and develops the high voltage electricity transmission system in the north of Scotland and remote islands.
- In the north of Scotland we are investing over £10bn this decade to deliver critical grid upgrades in our network area through our Pathway to 2030 projects (connecting 11GW of Scotwind).
- We are committed to maximising the opportunities that this investment presents through a just transition, unlocking new green jobs across the north of Scotland, working with supply chain partners to enable local contracts and creating benefit in the regional and wider economy.

### Future Growth and Investment Plans

- To accommodate increasing staff numbers, particularly in the north east, we have recently moved to a new office at Prime Four Business Park in Aberdeen. This state of the art, modern office facility, will almost double our office capacity in the local area from just over 100 to around 200.
- In addition to this new office space in Aberdeen, we have also increased our presence in both Perth and Glasgow at SSE’s existing offices, taking over space recently vacated by OVO Energy.

- We are also taking forward plans to develop new operational buildings in Aberdeen and Perth and strategic warehouses in Dundee and Inverness, as well as expansion of our office-based presence in Inverness.
- In the last two years our headcount has tripled to over 1500 staff members, with an additional 500 new jobs committed to be created this year. 100 of these roles will be in early careers.
- These highly skilled roles will support our ongoing operational and development requirements across the north of Scotland as we deliver a network for net zero.