

Scottish Hydro Electric
Transmission Limited
Inveralmond House
200 Dunkeld Road
Perth
PH1 3AQ

30 October 2009

Dear Sir/Madam

**Western Isles Electrical Connection
Isle of Lewis Infrastructure**

Thank you for participating in Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission Limited's (SHETL) consultations relating to the proposed electrical connection on the Isle of Lewis.

Extensive comments were received on various aspects of the Lewis infrastructure. Most notably, a strong preference was stated for a subsea connection between Grabhair and Stornoway as far as possible.

We are required under the Electricity Act 1989 and our transmission licence to balance the environmental, economic and technical parameters in designing new transmission infrastructure.

Following extensive environmental and technical studies and this consultation work, SHETL believe that the best balance in this case is achieved by selecting a subsea route. This has fewer environmental impacts than a land-based option and has some technical advantages and as such, applications for consent to construct a new 132,000 Volt circuit on this route will be made to the appropriate authorities. We now intend to progress our discussions with the industry regulator, Ofgem, over the funding arrangements for the Lewis infrastructure on the basis of the subsea option..

We have provided further information on this project, including a map of the proposed route for this circuit, on our website at www.scottish-southern.co.uk, on the Media Centre > Project Portfolio > Western Isles pages.

Yours sincerely

Ross Easton
Major Projects Liaison Manager