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Appendix P

Energy Australia Community Newsletter – Replacement Scone Substation (March 2008)

Replacement Scone substation

Community newsletter 2 - March 2008

Your future electricity supply

Since our last newsletter in July 2007, EnergyAustralia has been carrying out detailed planning and design for the proposed new electricity substation on our land off the New England Highway near the southern entrance to town.

As outlined previously the new substation is needed to replace the existing Scone substation in Barton Street, which is approaching time for retirement. The Barton Street facility is required to remain in operation while the new Scone substation is developed.

Based on our detailed plans the substation is expected to cost \$19 million. EnergyAustralia will also be investing a further \$9 million in associated connections in and out of the substation. This will include a new 66,000 Volt overhead line from Kayuga via Aberdeen to power the substation.

The project is due to be completed by early 2010.



EnergyAustralia's planning process has included receiving comments from the community on our concept plans at our information display last year and in meetings with individuals and groups. Thank you to everyone who has provided input into the design process.

A detailed environmental review has been undertaken to ensure any potential issues are addressed in our designs.

This review has included investigations of ground conditions and a salinity assessment and ground water modelling study.

As a result of these investigations we have enhanced the design to minimise impact on overland water flows and improve the site's drainage to address existing accumulation of water on site. This accumulation of water is thought to have contributed to the site's salinity.

The substation buildings have been designed to complement Scone's local heritage architecture (see right).

The designs also allow portions of EnergyAustralia's land not required for the substation to be available for use in the future by Scone High School.

3,000 new trees included in landscape plan

The substation plans include a substantial landscape plan utilising local native species (see overleaf).

EnergyAustralia recognises the work done by Landcare to plant trees on the substation site and as many of the existing trees will be retained as possible.

The landscape plan provides for planting of five trees for every one removed during the construction process. It is estimated 600 trees will removed, meaning 3000 will be planted at the end of construction. The new plantings will be carefully positioned on the site to help provide an attractive screen around the substation.



IMPRESSION OF THE SCONE SUBSTATION DESIGN

Electric and magnetic fields (EMF)

Electric and magnetic fields are present wherever electricity is in use, from the electricity network to household appliances.

EnergyAustralia designs its new electricity infrastructure, to minimise EMF and comply with relevant EMF health guidelines.

As the substation site is large and relatively remote the levels of EMF resulting from the substation development will be indiscernible above the existing day to day levels experienced at surrounding properties from everyday electrical use.

Further information about EMF is available by contacting EnergyAustralia, or on the web at www.energy.com.au/emf.

Approval of the project

Recent changes in the State's planning laws include the introduction of the Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP). Under this policy EnergyAustralia is the determining authority under Part 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 for developments such as the substation building, instead of local councils.

In addition to EnergyAustralia's consultation to date, the SEPP requires EnergyAustralia to conduct final consultation with our adjoining neighbours at the substation site and Upper Hunter Shire Council. Following consideration of any comments the project assessment process will be finalised.

Subject to final assessment, EnergyAustralia aims to begin construction in May 2008.

Contacting us

You are welcome to contact our major projects team direct with any inquiries about the project:



1 800 152 048



majorprojects@energy.com.au



Replacement Scone substation site

Proposed site plan



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Appendix P(i)

Energy Australia Community Newsletter – Kayuga-Aberdeen-Scone Powerline (March 2008)

Kayuga-Aberdeen-Scone power line

Community newsletter - March 2008

Investing in the future

EnergyAustralia is investing more than \$4 billion in our electricity network over the five years to 2012, including \$142 million on the Upper Hunter electricity network.

This includes a new Kayuga-Aberdeen-Scone power line, costing an estimated \$7 million, which will be a key element of EnergyAustralia's plans to improve the quality and reliability of the electricity supply our customers.

What does the project involve?

EnergyAustralia is planning to build a new 66,000 Volt overhead power line from Dartbrook Coal Access Road, Kayuga, via Aberdeen substation to the proposed new Scone electricity substation off the New England Highway on the southern entrance to Scone. Substations convert electricity to lower voltages as part of the process of supplying power to you. A detailed map of the proposed route is shown overleaf.

Route selection

As part of EnergyAustralia's normal planning process we have considered a number of route options.

The proposed route goes around Aberdeen's town centre and is one of the shortest and most direct routes between Kayuga, Aberdeen and Scone.

Other longer routes such as via Blairmore Lane were considered. However, due to the longer distances involved (an extra 2.5 km), the quality of electricity supply using this route may be reduced to an unsatisfactory level.

Constructing the new power line

The new power line will be constructed using wires installed on concrete poles. It will look similar to what is shown right. In some sections of the route, the new power line will have lower voltage wires below.

The line will be designed to minimise the impact on existing vegetation, but it will be necessary to remove or trim some trees along the route.

Electric and magnetic fields (EMF)

Electric and magnetic fields, known as EMF, are produced wherever electricity or electrical equipment is in use. This includes all home electrical appliances such as televisions, hair dryers or electric blankets, or equipment on the electricity network such as substations, underground cables and overhead power lines.

EnergyAustralia constructs its new electrical infrastructure to meet relevant health guidelines for EMF, including a proposed new Australian standard.

More information on EMF is available on EnergyAustralia's website at www.energy.com.au/emf.

Next steps

EnergyAustralia will review comments from the community as it continues with the design process.

Once the designs have been completed an environmental review of the plans will be conducted before the project is assessed against all planning requirements.

Subject to approval of the project, construction of the proposed power line is expected to start in mid 2008 and be completed by the end of 2009.

Community involvement

EnergyAustralia welcomes questions or comments on the proposed new power line during the planning stage of the project. We will continue to keep you informed as our plans are further developed and once construction gets under way.

Please direct any inquiries to the contact details listed overleaf.

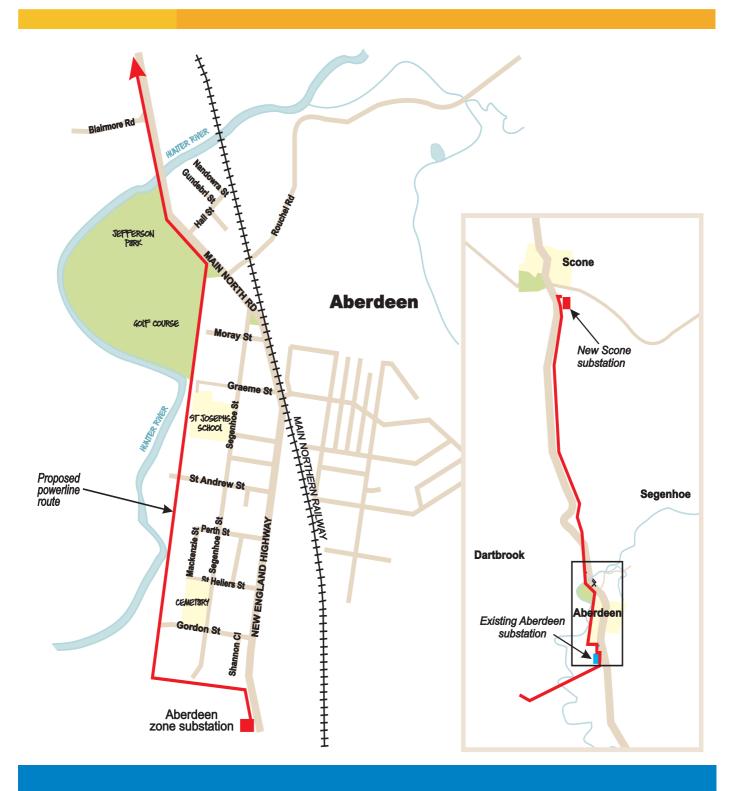
Key project facts

- New power lines and poles are proposed from Kayuga to Scone via Aberdeen.
- EnergyAustralia has investigated a number of possible route for the line.
- The project is part of EnergyAustralia's plans to improve the quality and reliability of your power supply.



EXAMPLE OF A 33,000 VOLT LINES WITH LOWER VOLTAGE WIRES INSTALLED BELOW





Indicative construction timeline

2008

January - June June - December Design preparation

Construction

2009

January - December

Construction

Contacting us

If you have any inquiries about the Kayuga-Aberdeen-Scone power line project, you are welcome to contact our major projects team direct:



1 800 152 048



majorprojects@energy.com.au

