

Dumgal Against Pylons



Newsletter

December 2015 - January 2016

The campaign against Scottish Power Energy Networks' plans for pylons and substations continues...

First-Hand Experience

What is it like to live with pylons and substations? We received a letter from someone who knows. Lyndsey Ward who lives in Beauly, Inverness-shire sent a letter including the following about the noise from lines and the substation: "It is so appalling that a noise abatement notice was served on SSE by Highland Council. Glasses of water in bedrooms ripple. People living under the lines say it is like having a microwave on in your bedroom at night. The peace and tranquillity has gone – forever."

You can read Lyndsey's letter by clicking this [link](#). Also, it is well worth reading the newspaper article mentioned in her letter.

The Year Ahead

We don't know for sure when the next major stages of the process will take place but it will be something like:

Event	When
SPEN publish response to first consultation	Late January
SPEN publish their "Needs Case"* to OFGEM	March
SPEN's second consultation	By June 2016

Around the time of the second consultation, we will, once again, be asking you to write to organisations that should be concerned. We will also arrange meetings in towns and villages and we will be walking the route to raise awareness.

*The Needs Case is not a public document but we will ask for access through a Freedom of Information request.

Please Join Us

The number of DGAP members continues to grow but, compared to our many supporters, it remains low.

For a one-off fee of just £5 (for the life of the campaign) you can join and this entitles you to attend and vote at all General Meetings.

To join, please send £5:00 per person to Penny Coles, East Manse, Auldgirth, Dumfries, DG2 0RY. Make cheques payable to "Dumgal Against Pylons".

Spread the Word! Why not forward this newsletter to a friend? Please ask them to like our [Facebook page](#), follow us on Twitter @Dgagainstpylons and visit www.dumgalagainstpylons.org. Encourage your friends to be added to the email list by writing to: no2pylons@gmail.com. Ask them to sign the Kirkmahoe [Petition](#)

News Just In Glencairn Community Council is the 51st CC to join our [objection](#) to SPEN's plans.

New Logo

In the last edition of this newsletter we ran a competition for a DGAP logo. We are delighted to announce that the competition was won by Zabby Allen with her logo shown above. Well done also to our runner up – Alice Howdle. Thanks for taking part.

DGAP President

You may have heard that we have a President. Dame Barbara Kelly agreed to accept this role at a recent meeting. We are delighted to welcome her to DGAP.

Barbara brings much experience, knowledge and wisdom to our group. She has a great interest in local matters and is a main board member of Scottish Natural Heritage, founding member of Rural Forum and the Southern Uplands Partnership and is currently chairman of Dumfries and Galloway Arts Festival, The Robertson Trust, the Peter Pan Moat Brae Trust and Convenor of the Crichton Foundation.

She commented: "I am deeply concerned that this is not just about the impact of a new transmission line, major intrusion though it will be. What is at stake is the whole future of the region. We urgently need a debate about the underlying issues

and the options to which they give rise." You can see the press release about Dame Barbara becoming our President [here](#).



Alan Jones (DGAP Chair) welcomes Dame Barbara

Recent Activities

It has not been a relaxing festive period. Members of the committee have met with [Aileen McLeod MSP](#) and representatives of both [D&G Chamber of Commerce](#) and [Wigtownshire Chamber of Commerce](#). There have been articles in the press including one in the [Herald](#) and [Sunday Express](#). We have been working up a detailed alternative to SPEN's plans and planning research into the effect that SPEN's plans would have on the region.

Write to the Press

Writing to the papers, whether local or national, is a great way to ensure that people are aware of the issues and that the problem has not gone away. In her letter published in The Scotsman recently, Alice Howdle pointed out that the pylons "will be detrimental to wildlife, the visual and historical environment and significantly damaging to the tourist industry" You can read her full letter [here](#).

Calendar Clear Out

800 DGAP calendars were sold! They are now hanging on walls around the region and sharing information about the campaign. Well done to the calendar team.