

## Who are Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks?

Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) is responsible for maintaining the electricity networks across the north of Scotland. With over 3.7m customers across the UK, including some 740,000 in Scotland, SSEN ensures a safe and reliable supply for homes and businesses through a series of transmission and distribution networks.

In Scotland, Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks is a trading name of Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution (SHEPD) and Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission (SHE Transmission).

Our SHEPD operating region covers a quarter of the UK landmass which attracts unique challenges both in terms of distance and location. As well as the major towns and cities across the north of Scotland, we connect to most Scottish islands with over 100 subsea cable links, including the Inner and Outer Hebrides, Arran and the Orkney Islands. We also serve the Shetland Islands, which runs as a separate electrical system without a connection to the mainland.

SHE Transmission owns and maintains the 132kV, 275kV and 400kV electricity transmission network in the north of Scotland, in some of the UK's most challenging terrain. Furthermore, our operating area contains a vast renewable energy resource and this is being harnessed by wind and marine generation which is all dependent on SHE Transmission for transportation to the load centres across the country.

The transmission network takes electricity from a variety of sources, including hydro and windfarms and transports it at high voltage through overhead lines, underground and subsea cables across the network to areas of demand in towns and cities. The distribution element then connects from the transmission network to other parts of the country using overhead wooden poles and underground cables which operate at lower voltages. These distribution cables include those which connect Scotland's islands to the transmission network by way of submarine electricity cables.

Maintaining and replacing these distribution submarine electricity cables is vital in ensuring that homes and businesses throughout the islands have a safe and reliable supply of electricity. There is also a need to install and maintain higher capacity submarine electricity cables for major transmission projects such as renewable energy.

It is important to monitor the physical condition of our submarine electricity cables and prioritise those cables which require repair or replacement. As the cost of maintaining the electricity network is shared amongst our customers, we must ensure and evidence value for money in the work that we do.

## The impact of our work

Whilst we realise the importance of our work in maintaining the electricity network, we also appreciate the need to interact with other people and businesses who may be impacted by our work, including marine users and fishermen. SSEN has a safety licence – if it's not safe, we don't do it – which covers both our work and the environment we operate in. This includes ensuring the safety of marine users and fishermen. To ensure we carry out our work safely, we must co-exist with marine users and appreciate their work and requirements. We are committed to communication effectively to understand any concerns and where possible plan our work in such a way that we look to minimise it's impact.

We develop a communications plan for each project which details the methods we adopt to co-exist with marine users including:

- issuing Notice to Mariners 20 days in advance for planned works where possible
- consulting on new cable routes and protection methods to ensure legitimate sea users views are considered
- updating UKHO charts with our cable locations and following sea conventions

We want to ensure that everyone who interacts with our work has an opportunity to have their say on how we do things. This will allow us to do things better in the future and ensure a mutual understanding of each other. We also want to be fair and offer to compensate marine users and fishermen when they have, through no fault of their own, been impacted by the work that we do. Whilst we always try to advise of operations well in advance, sometimes we have to carry out work quickly to restore or maintain electricity supplies to our customers.

## How can you help?

Although we have regular dialogue with fishing industry organisations and representatives, we also appreciate that others may choose to represent themselves and their views also need to be considered. This short consultation is designed to ensure we focus on the areas which matter most to you.

Once we have gathered your views, we will develop guidance and a process which will make it easier to understand the work that we do whilst trying to minimise the impacts on marine users and fishermen. It will also help develop an approach to ensure fishermen are compensated, where appropriate, in a timely manner and look at other ways to benefit the wider fishing community.

For more information visit:

<http://www.ssen.co.uk/>

## Our commitment to co-existence with fishermen

*We'd be grateful if you could take a few minutes to answer our questions which will help us improve how we interact with marine users and fishermen in the future. Our key aim is to co-exist with other legitimate sea users in the marine environment.*

**Are we good neighbours?**

What notice period do you require on our planned operations? \_\_\_\_\_

Is our use of a Fishing Industry Representative to liaise in the local area beneficial? \_\_\_\_\_

Is it clear where our cables are on UKHO charts? \_\_\_\_\_

**Compensation payments will only be considered where there are significant residual impacts that cannot be mitigated. Please see our attached Fishing Claim Form.**

Is there anything missing from our Fishing Claim Form that would make the process easier? \_\_\_\_\_

If YES, please provide details

\_\_\_\_\_

Is a 30 day payment period for valid claims acceptable? \_\_\_\_\_

If NO, what should it be and why? \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you have any other comments about our work and how we communicate with you?**

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**Thank you for taking the time to respond.**

**This completed form can be returned to our fishing industry representative, posted to the address below or emailed to [submarinecables@sse.com](mailto:submarinecables@sse.com)**

# FISHING CLAIM FORM

In line with best practice, we request that claims are submitted within 30 days of the date of occurrence<sup>1</sup>.

DETAILS OF VESSEL AND CLAIMANT	
<b>NAME, LETTERS, TYPE, LENGTH AND DESCRIPTION OF VESSEL</b>	
<b>HOME PORT</b>	
<b>FISHING ASSOCIATION (if applicable)</b>	
<b>NAME OF OWNER/SKIPPER (please specify)</b>	
<b>ADDRESS</b>	
<b>TELEPHONE</b>	
<b>EMAIL</b>	
<b>VAT REGISTRATION NUMBER</b>	
DETAILS OF CLAIM INCIDENT	
<b>DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENT</b>	
<b>LOCATION OF INCIDENT</b> If possible, please provide chart/image	Latitude: Longitude:
<b>WATER DEPTH</b>	
<b>CONDITIONS</b>	Weather: Sea: Visibility:
<b>DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT AND SUPPORTING EVIDENCE</b> Incidents will be investigated on a case by case basis. Claims will be considered only where evidence to support consultation of Cable Awareness Charts on board the vessel concerned, together with evidence that the vessel complied with recommended procedures during the incident. Vessel position data e.g. plotter and AIS should be supplied (where available) with the claim, demonstrating vessel position/track 12 hours prior to and 12 hours after the incident	
<b>HAS FISHING GEAR BEEN DAMAGED OR LOST?</b> Any claims for loss of earnings while waiting for replacement creels to be produced will need to be supported	
<b>WHAT ATTEMPTS WERE MADE TO RECOVER GEAR?</b>	

<sup>1</sup> ESCA Guideline No.13 Fishing Compensation Guideline and Scottish and Southern Energy Power Distribution Working with Grantors.

# FISHING CLAIM FORM

## PARTICULARS OF CLAIM

### A. FISHING GEAR DESCRIPTION

ITEM	TYPE	MANUFACTURER	AGE OF GEAR	QUANTITY	COST (£)

### B. OTHER COSTS RELATED TO CLAIM

<b>ESTIMATED LOSS OF FISHING TIME</b>	
<b>ESTIMATED CATCH LOSS</b> Evidence of loss will be required to be produced (e.g. past catches, regular tows etc.).	
<b>ESTIMATED SAVINGS DURING LOSS OF FISHING TIME (for example fuel, landing fees)</b>	
<b>ANY OTHER LOSSES INCURRED (please specify)</b>	
<b>TOTAL VALUE OF CLAIM A + B (£)</b>	

## DECLARATION

<b>SIGNATURE OF CLAIMANT</b>	
<b>DATE OF CLAIM</b>	

I DECLARE THAT THE ABOVE STATEMENT AND FACTS SUPPLIED ARE TRUE AND UNDERSTAND THAT MAKING THIS CLAIM DOES NOT IMPLY AGREEMENT WITH EITHER THE FISHING OFFICER OR SSEN.

Information provided in this form is used purely for the purposes of processing this claim.

For information on how we collect and process your data, please see our privacy notice, [www.ssen.co.uk/PrivacyNotice/](http://www.ssen.co.uk/PrivacyNotice/)  
If you do not have access to our website or would like a hard copy sent, please contact us at [submarinecables@sse.com](mailto:submarinecables@sse.com)