

# Scotia Archaeology

**REPORT  
TO  
SCOTTISH & SOUTHERN ENERGY**

**RAHOY TO  
KINLOCHTEACUIS  
UPGRADE OF POWER LINE**

**Desk study &  
walk-over survey  
March 2016**

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## INTRODUCTION

This document describes the results of a desk study and walk-over survey on behalf of Scottish & Southern Energy plc (SSE) of archaeological sites and monuments between Rahoy and Kinlochteacuis, near Lochaline, Highland where an overhead power line is to be upgraded. The line runs northwards from approximately NM 6963 4920 to NM 6586 5481 over a distance of some 7.5km. The route is shown as blue lines on the accompanying maps, based on ones supplied by SSE.

The desk study and field survey were undertaken by John Lewis of Scotia Archaeology at the request of Max Bigham, wayleave manager at SSE.

## THE DESK STUDY

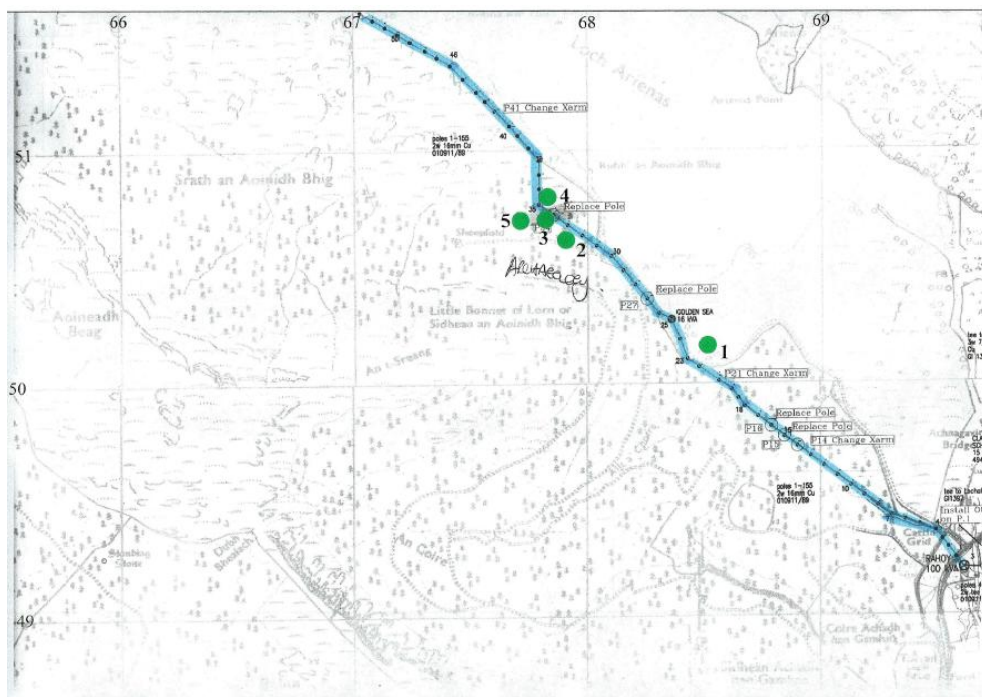
The sources consulted for this work included:

- the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS);
- the Historical Environment Record (HER) maintained by Highland Council; and
- early editions of Ordnance Survey (OS) maps.

## INVENTORY OF SITES AND MONUMENTS

Sites and monuments are listed according to the numbers allocated by RCAHMS (eg NM65SE 23) or, if not listed by RCAHMS, by Highland Council's HER (eg MHG13228).

The sites described below are shown as green dots on accompanying maps supplied by SSE.



*Map showing sites on the southern half of the route*



*Map showing sites on the northern half of the route*

**1 MHG 13228 Enclosure**

An enclosure has been identified at NM 6850 5015. No further description is available.

**2 MHG 13225 Settlement**

A settlement has been recorded at NM 6790 5060. No further description is available.

**3 MHG 29452 Homestead**

Forestry Enterprise identified a ruin at NM 6780 5070, in an area of forestry clear-fell.

**4 MHG 29453 Homestead**

A homestead has been identified at NM 6780 5080. No further description is available.

## **5 NM65SE 19/MHG 28562 Farmstead**

A farmstead comprising one roofed L-shaped building and two unroofed buildings is depicted at NM 6770 5070 on the first edition 6-inch Ordnance Survey (OS) map (Argyllshire 1875, sheet 54). A sheepfold is shown some 300m to its south-west. The sheepfold appears on the 1972 edition of the OS 1:10,000 map although no associated feature do.

## **6 NM65SE 23 Kerb cairn**

A well-preserved Bronze Age cairn is located at NM 66763 51772, on a north-east-facing terrace in woodland. It measures 1.5m in diameter with a distinct ring bank, 0.5m thick and 0.3m high. The cairn has an open, level interior at least 0.1m higher than the surrounding ground. A prominent boulder is located to its immediate west.

## **THE WALK-OVER SURVEY**

The walk-over survey was undertaken on 17 March 2016 during dry, cloudy conditions.

The power line runs close to the local road that links Kinlochteacuis with the A884 Strontian to Lochaline road. Its southern third passes through commercial forestry, along a corridor some 15-20m wide while the remainder cuts across open country covered with coarse grass, moss, heather and occasional patches of bracken, dead and reduced at the time of the survey.

No features of archaeological or historical interest were encountered on any part of the survey. Particular attention was paid to the area around Sites 2-5 where the remains of several structures were identified on the desk study. The grid references given for those sites are somewhat vague, being accurate only to within 100m. In all probability, the structural remains described RCAHMS and HER are located in the dense forestry either side of the power line corridor. As a consequence, they should not be affected when the line is upgraded.

The enclosure of Site 1 and the kerb cairn at Site 6 are sufficiently far from the power line to be unaffected by its refurbishment.