

# To bury or not to bury, the £300 million question

01 December 2017



**Scottish & Southern**  
Electricity Networks

# Valuing nature programme

## Business Impact School Aims:

- To improve understanding of the value of nature – economic and non-economic
- To improve the use of these valuations in decision making
- To build links between researchers and people who make decisions that affect nature in business, policy making and practice

# What I would like your help with today

Whether:

- We are adequately considering the impact of our engineering decisions on the natural capital of the sea bed as we ensure a secure and reliable supply of electricity to island communities.

# Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution

## What we do

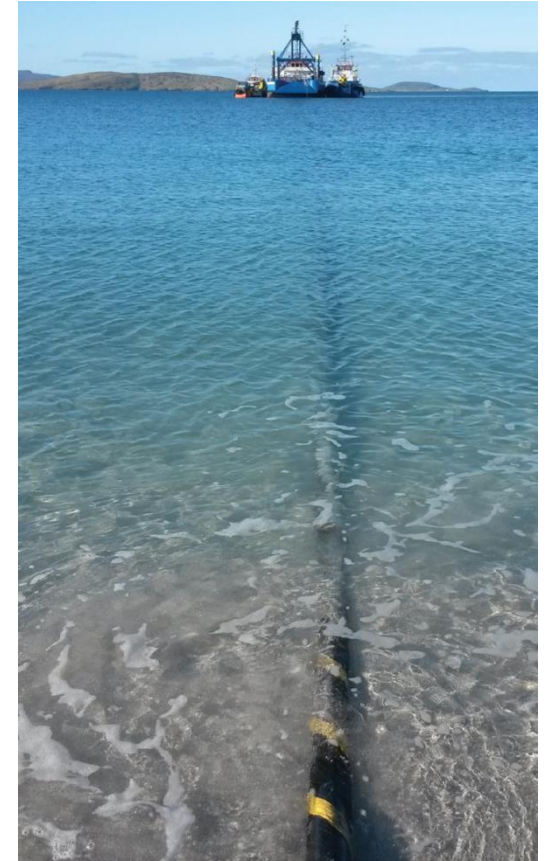
- Distribute electricity to homes and business across the north of Scotland
- Ofgem regulate the amount of money we charge customers
- The costs of our service are socialised across all customers in our network area
- Our business plan is to keep the electricity distribution element of bills low whilst providing a value for money service



# Submarine electricity cables

## Why we are consulting you

- The cost of replacing submarine electricity cables is borne by customers across the whole of the distribution network area
- Changes to marine planning policy mean we have to consider installation practices which are more expensive than our traditional practices of laying them directly on the seabed
- We had planned to spend £44 million on securing safe and reliable supply of electricity to Scottish islands, but these changes if applied to every submarine electricity cable we replace could push the cost up to £300 million



# Modelling the impact engineering decisions have on natural capital

## The environmental impact – Impact 12

- Working with stakeholders and our regulators, we have already quantified the impact that changes to our engineering practices would have on wider environment.
- Today the focus is on how our engineering decisions will impact on natural capital
- We want your help to value the environmental impacts that disruption to ecosystems has on wider society



# How to get involved

Email: [submarrinecables@sse.com](mailto:submarrinecables@sse.com)

Website: <http://news.ssen.co.uk/submarinecables/>

Consultation closes: **12 February 2018**

Consultation paper can be downloaded at:

<http://news.ssen.co.uk/media/226820/CBA-Report-A4-32pp-hres.pdf>

***We would really like to hear your views, Thank you.***