

January 2025

Contullich – Emergency Access Statement

The substation access to the north was reviewed during our development proposal. We noted that the vertical alignment on the road to the north where it enters the tree line results in a potentially obstructed view (Figure 2 in submitted Transport Statement), and achieving the required visibility splays would've been challenging for this access point. The existing field access to the west of the substation access had much better visibility, so we opted to use this for both emergency and operational/construction access.

The entrance to the substation access track is also blocked by a gate. Operation of this gate is not something we'd have control of given the ownership of the land, so ensuring adequate access provisions for emergency services is not something we could guarantee. Additionally, during the pre-application meeting with The Highland Council, it was noted that the access track is also used by a number of recreational users (dog walkers, joggers, people looking to fish the River Averon), who regularly use the substation access to enter the green space to the east of the B9176. The additional informal users of the access track presented a safety hazard in terms of emergency access.