

Welcome

Public Information Event

Thank you for attending our information event.

Representatives from Scottish Water's commercial subsidiary, Scottish Water Horizons, are here today to talk about proposals for a new raw water pipe ahead of a formal planning application being submitted to The Highland Council.

The proposed new raw water pipe will support an electrolyser plant near Edderton which is currently in planning under a separate application.

Development of the plant, which will be powered by renewables to produce green hydrogen, is being led by ScottishPower with its partner Storegga.

20.5km

Proposed new raw water pipe on behalf of ScottishPower and Storegga

The objectives of today's event are to:



Present a summary of the proposed new raw water supply route



Answer questions and discuss any concerns



Seek feedback before we apply for planning consent

We want to keep in touch as plans progress and will post updates on our webpage:

www.scottishwater.co.uk/cromartyhydrogen

Net Zero

by 2040 and beyond

Scottish Water is responsible for providing water and waste water services that are essential to everyday life for households and businesses across Scotland.

The changing climate however will increasingly threaten its ability to deliver these services.

To deal with the climate challenges, and secure the future sustainability of the country's water and waste water services, Scottish Water is adapting its services and has pledged to reach net zero emissions by 2040 - five years ahead of Scotland's national target.

Scottish Water has pledged to reach net zero emissions by 2040 and beyond.

Driven by this ambition, Scottish Water has tasked its commercial subsidiary, Scottish Water Horizons, to harness its knowledge, expertise, and assets to identify and accelerate opportunities for low carbon energy generation.

Scottish Water Horizons is tapping into its extensive skills and experience in water and waste water infrastructure to support Scotland's emerging hydrogen economy.

The Scottish Government's ambition is for Scotland to become a leading Hydrogen Nation. 5GW of installed hydrogen production capacity has been pledged by 2030 and 25GW by 2045.

Scottish Water Horizons is working with hydrogen developers such as ScottishPower and Storegga to make this ambition a reality.

Water

Role in Hydrogen Production

Water has a vital role to play in hydrogen production.

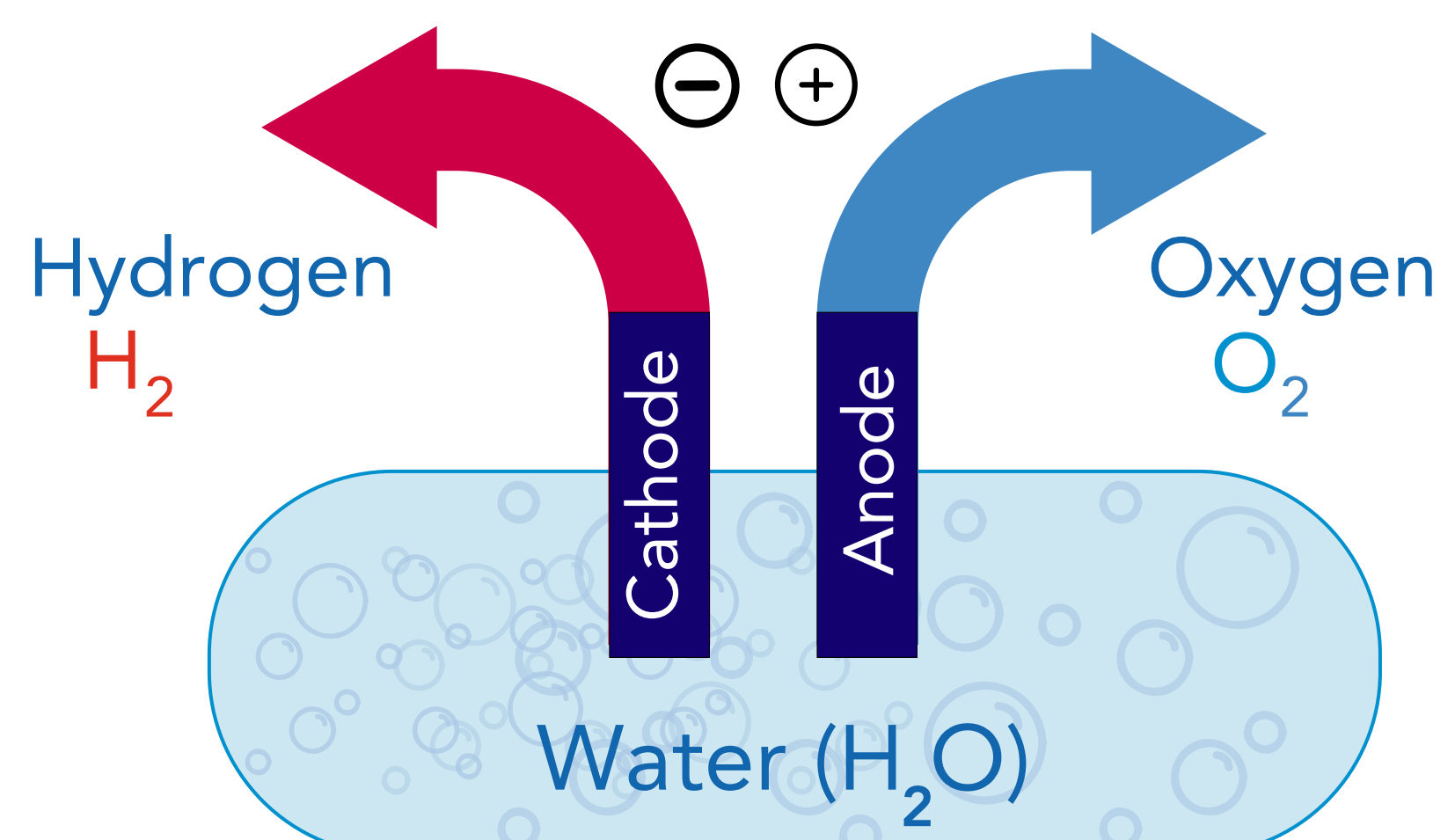
One of the ways to produce hydrogen is via water electrolysis which separates water into oxygen and hydrogen using electricity. If the electricity is derived from renewable sources such as solar or wind power, this is known as green hydrogen.

Water used in electrolysis can come from various sources such as raw water from rivers, lochs or reservoirs; potable water or final effluent from waste water treatment works.

We are working with hydrogen developers to enable access to Scottish Water's assets to help Scotland meet its net zero and Hydrogen Nation ambitions.

In June 2023 we were appointed by ScottishPower and Storegga to identify a water supply, and design a water pipeline for their proposed hydrogen electrolyser plant near Edderton.

Renewable energy from Beinn Tharsuinn Wind Farm would power an electrolyser, separating water into hydrogen and oxygen. The green hydrogen can then be used, distributed or stored.



Hydrogen Project

ScottishPower has submitted a separate planning application for the proposed construction and operation of an electrolyser plant and ancillary infrastructure on land to the east of the existing Beinn Tharsuinn Wind Farm, approx. 12km north of Alness.

ScottishPower is undertaking this project with its development partner Storegga. The electrolyser plant would be powered by 100% renewable energy to produce green hydrogen.

This Proposed Development would form part of the North of Scotland Hydrogen Programme which aims to develop hydrogen production hubs to meet industrial and heavy goods

vehicle (HGV) transport demand in the near term, and then expand to cater to future additional demands.

The Cromarty Hydrogen Project is the first project in this programme. It originated from a collaboration between the Port of Cromarty Firth, ScottishPower, Glenmorangie, Whyte & Mackay and Diageo and the project originator, Storegga.

Cromarty Hydrogen will play a key role in contributing to the decarbonisation of Scotland's whisky industry, enabling it to switch from fossil fuels.

Cromarty Hydrogen will also help to kick-start the hydrogen economy in the North of Scotland, supporting jobs and industry.



Location of the proposed green hydrogen plant that is currently in planning under a separate application.

Planning ref:
23/05242/FUL

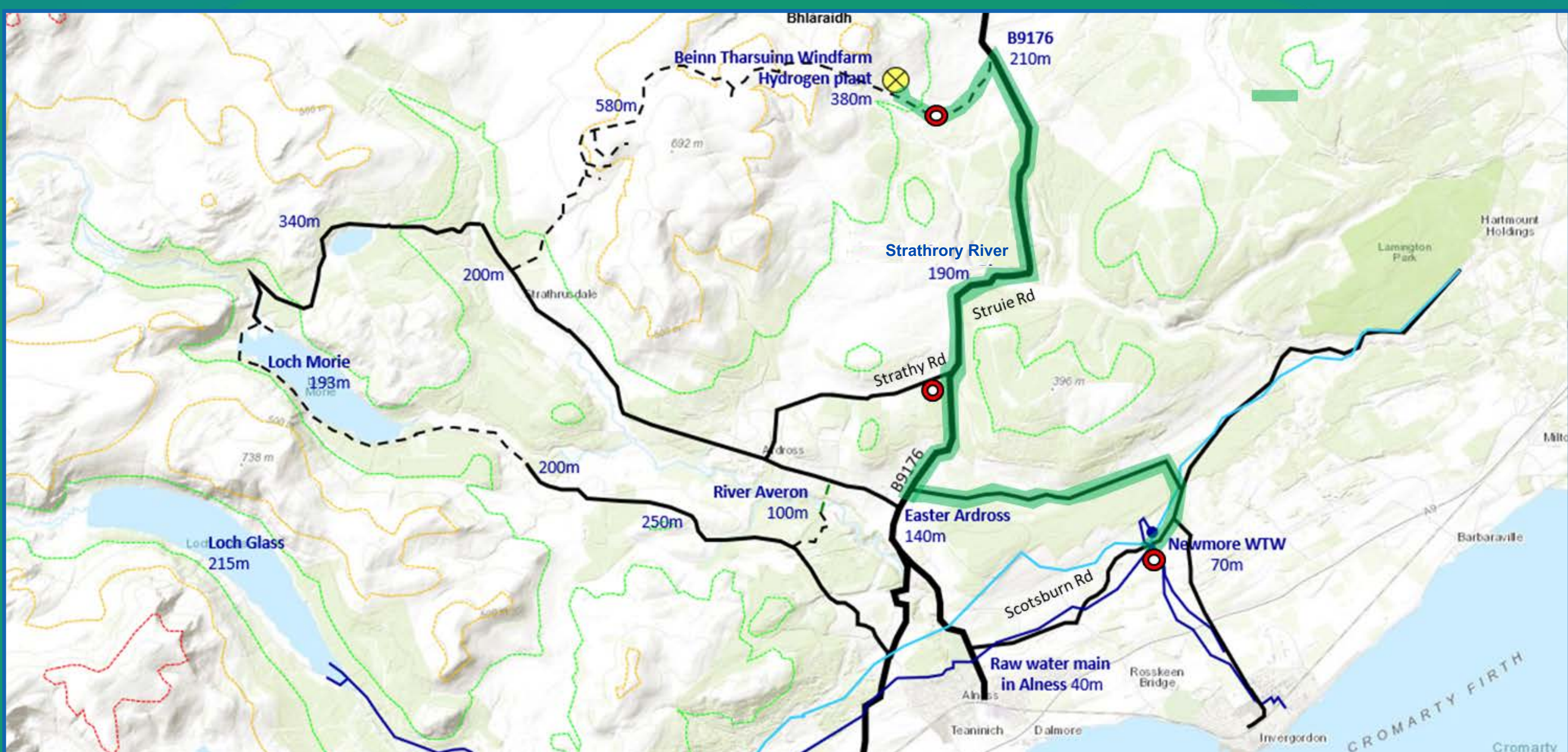
Pipeline

Route for Raw Water Main

This map highlights the proposed route for the new 20.5km raw water main. The pipe would run from an existing raw water storage tank near Newmore Water Treatment Works, north of Invergordon, to the proposed green hydrogen electrolyser plant east of the Beinn

Tharsuinn Wind Farm, joining the B9176 Struie Road at Ardross and following it north to the wind farm access road.

Three pumping stations would also be installed as part of the project, at various stages along the route.



Contour lines: 300m, 500m, 800m



Hydrogen electrolyser plant



Existing raw water main



Existing water trunk main



New raw water main



Existing road



Existing track



New pumping station

20.5km water pipe

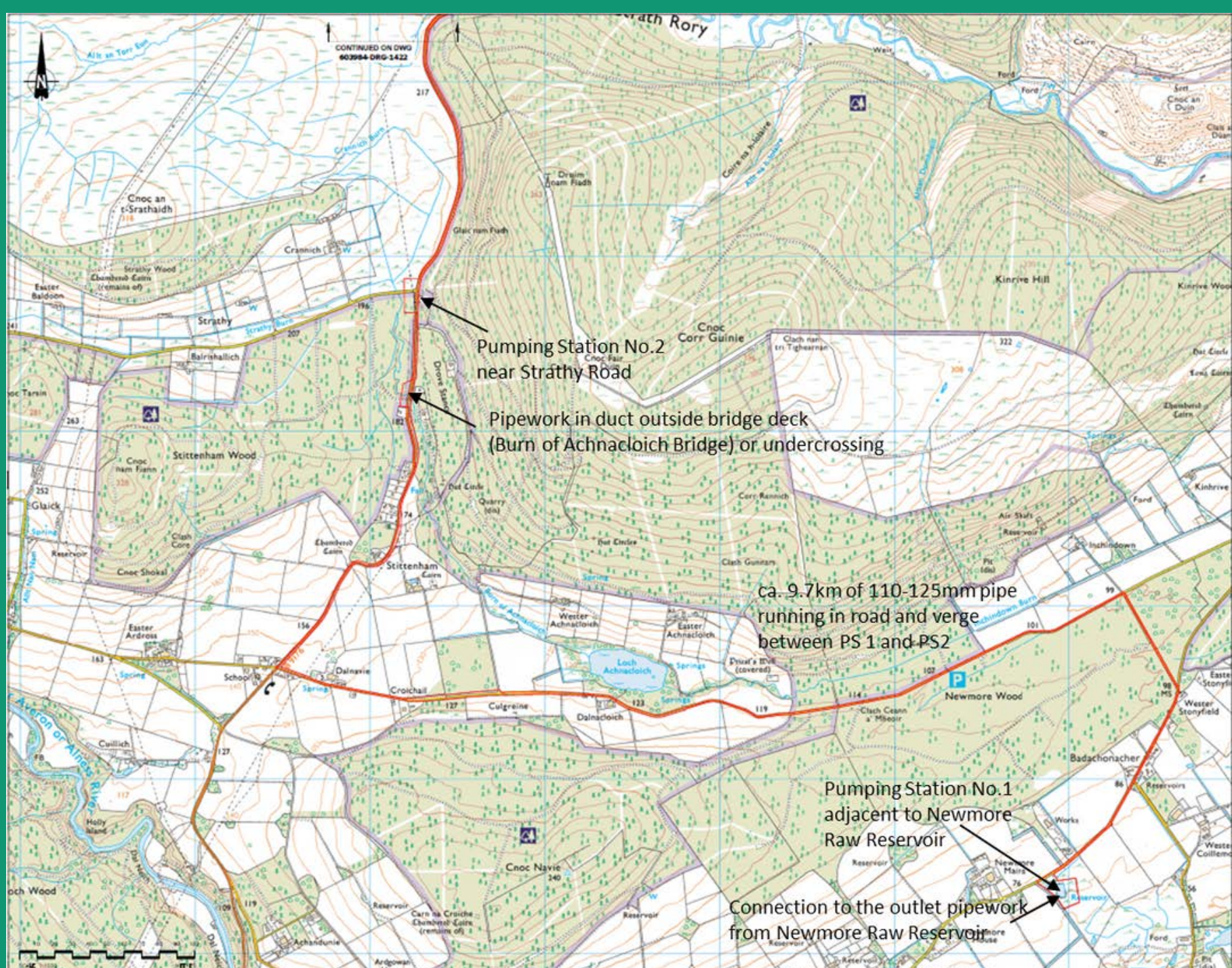
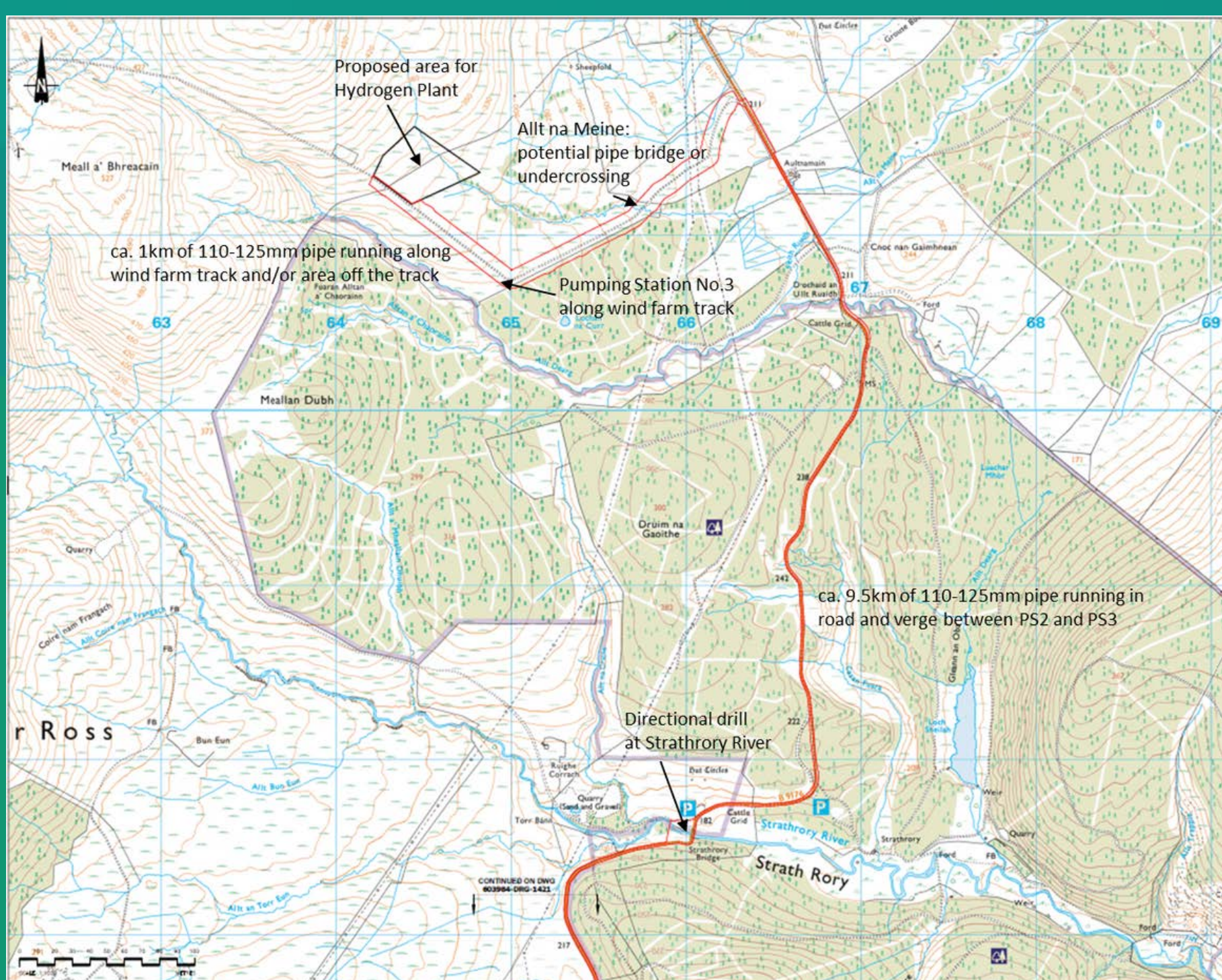
110-125mm diameter

3x new pumping stations

Area of Proposed Works

This visual depicts the intended area of works needed to install the new raw water main over the course of 18 months. Three new pumping stations and specialist areas of work are highlighted along the route.

The pipeline also crosses three watercourses - Burn of Achnacloich, Strathory River and Allt na Meine (watercourse along the wind farm track).



18 months of work

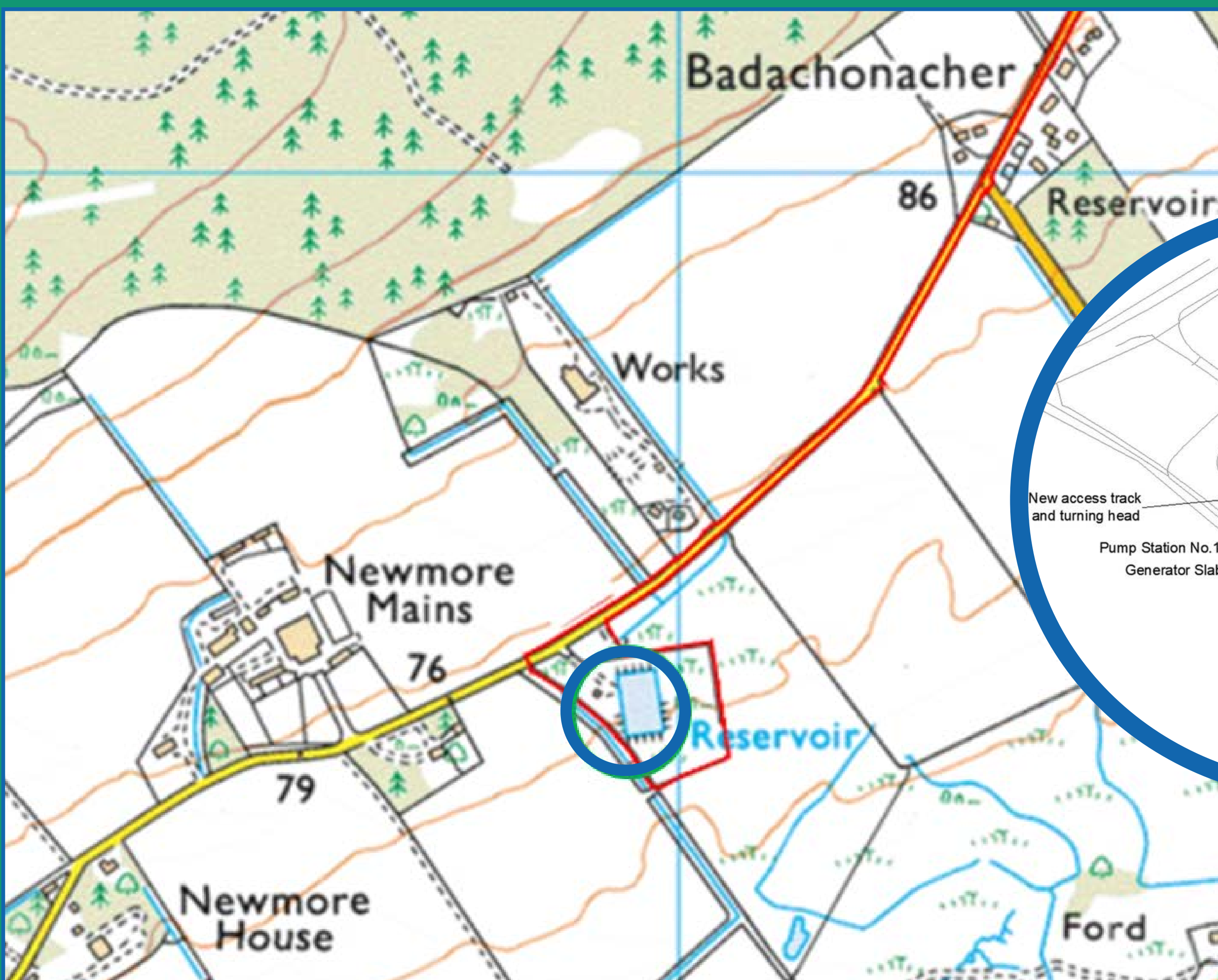
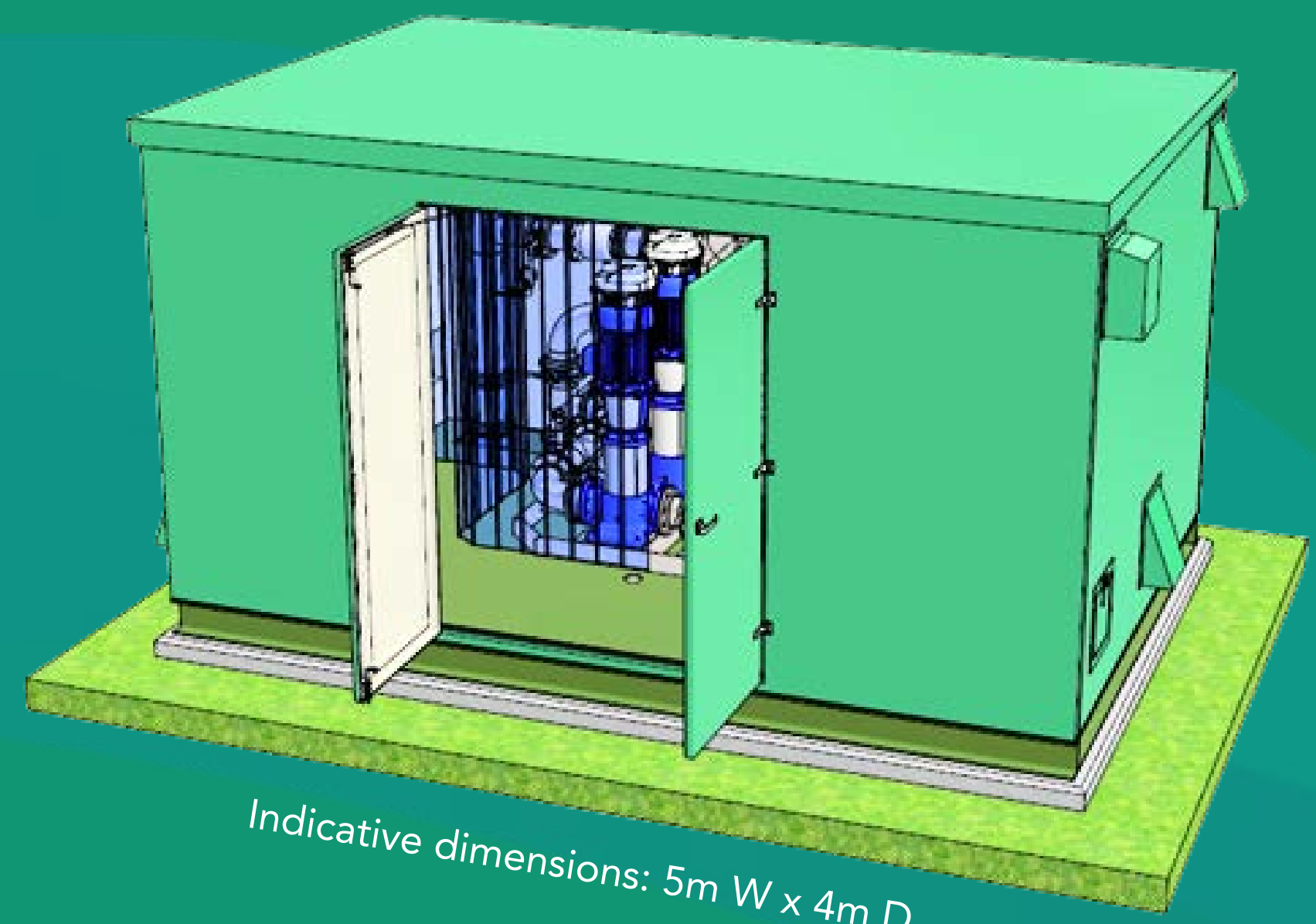
20.5 km of pipe

Pumping

Station - Newmore Reservoir

A primary pumping station would be located within Scottish Water's operational site at Newmore Water Treatment Works raw water reservoir which is also the proposed water source for the hydrogen plant.

This would comprise an access track, turning head, chamber, above ground kiosk and slab for an emergency generator. The kiosk will have minimal visual impact on the local area.

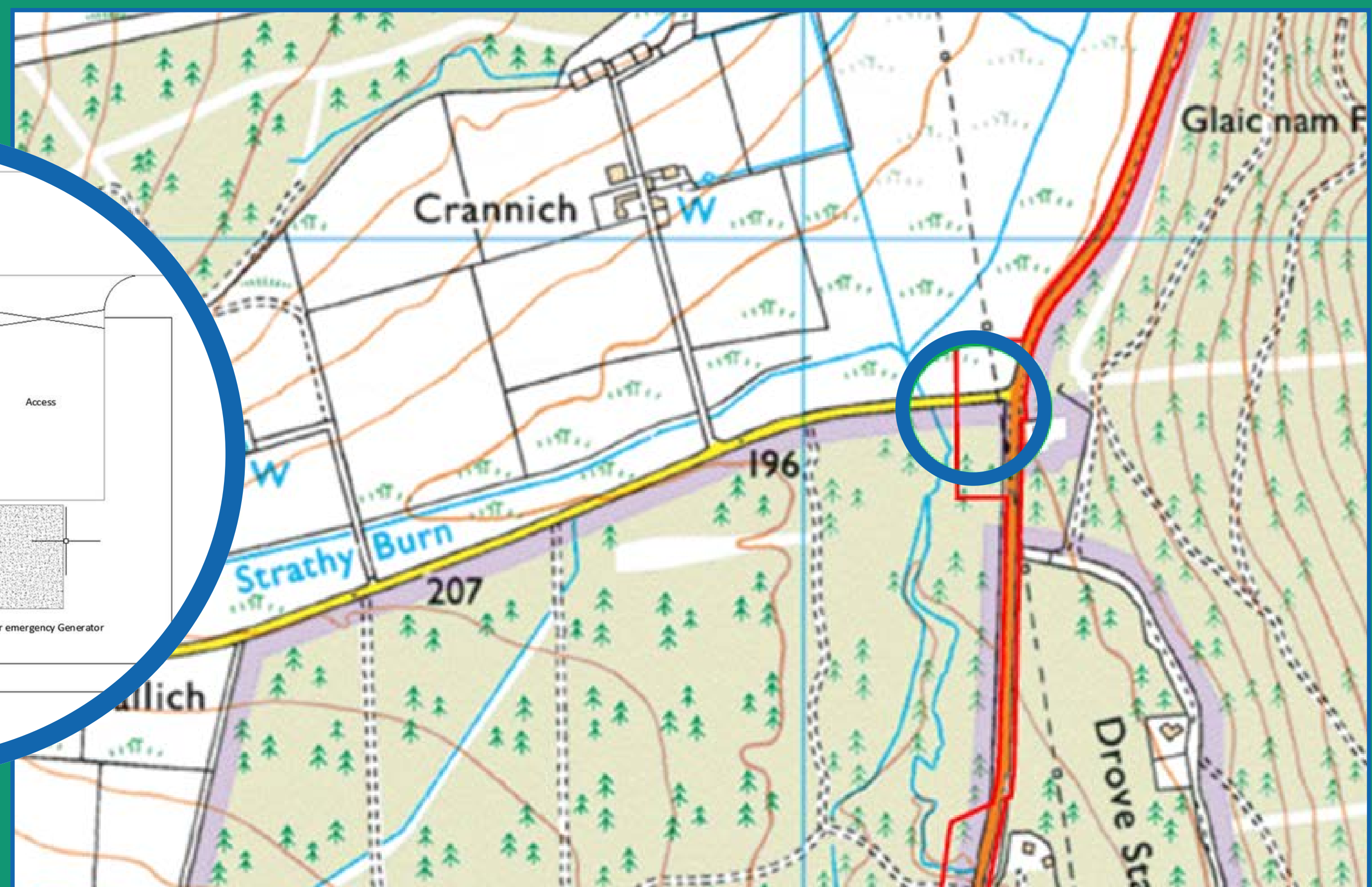
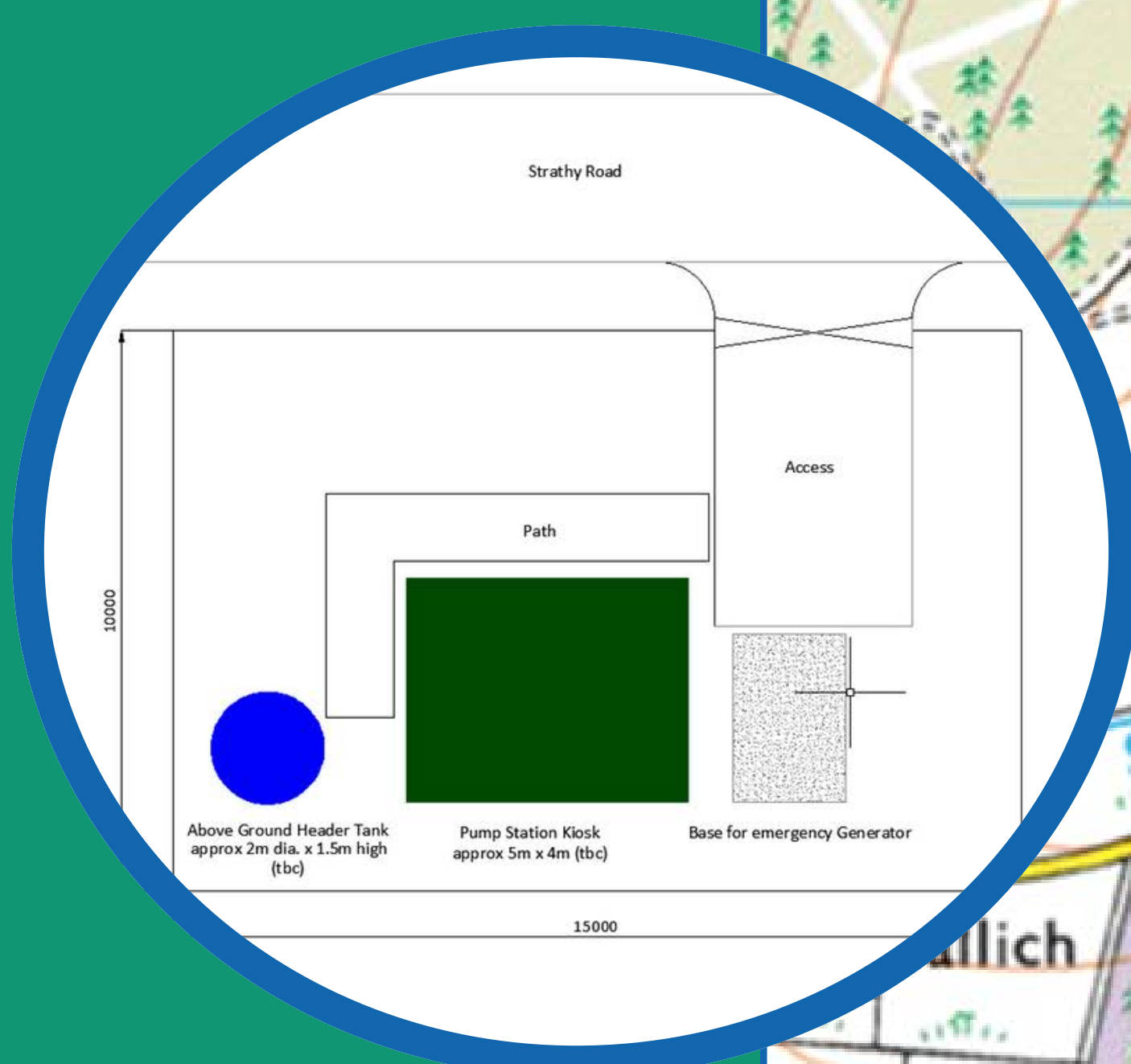
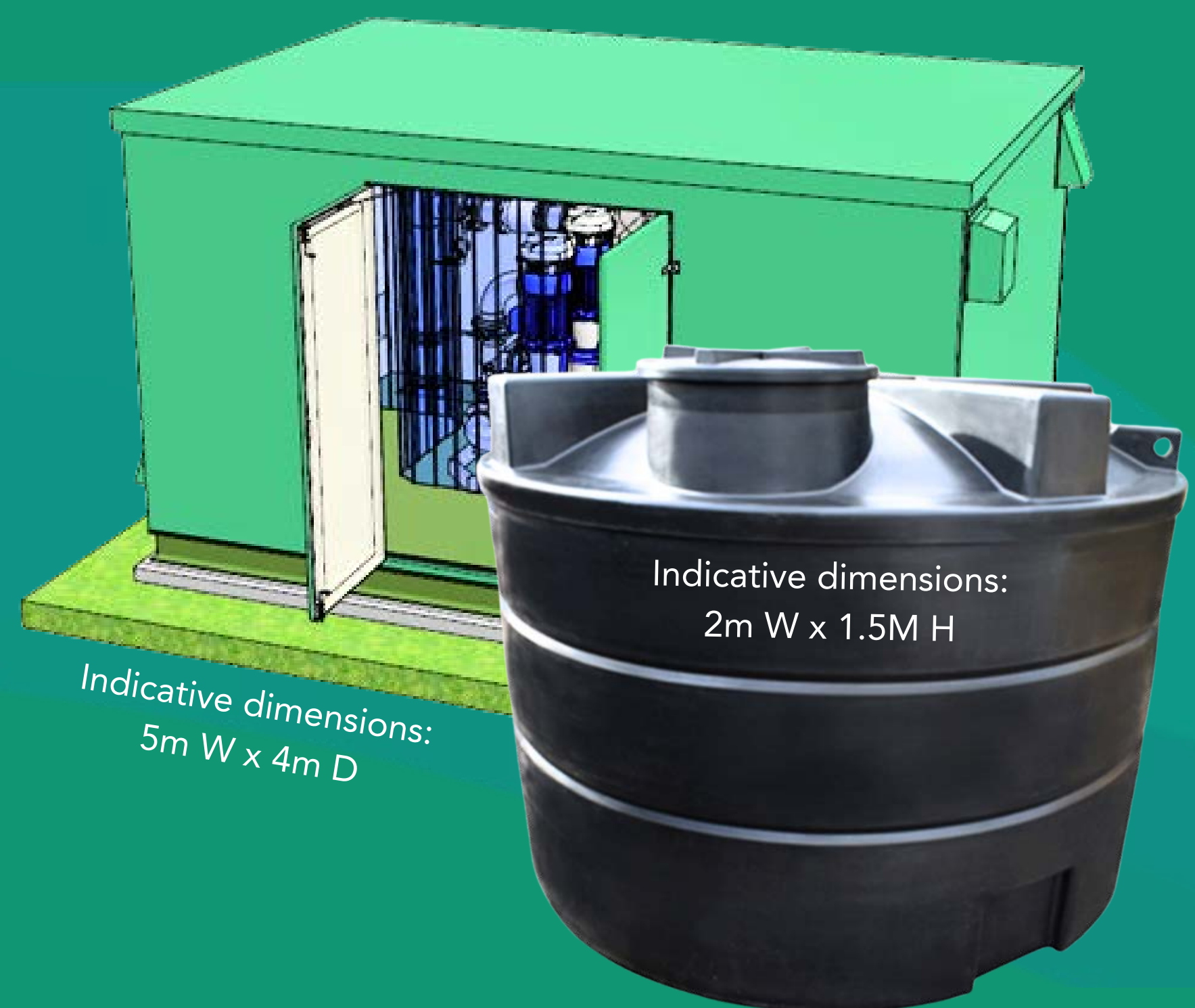


Pumping

Station - Strathy Road

A second pumping station and header tank would be located along Strathy Road, near its junction with Struie Road and would comprise an access track, path, above ground kiosk, header tank and slab for an emergency generator.

Both the kiosk and header tank will have minimal visual impact on the local area.

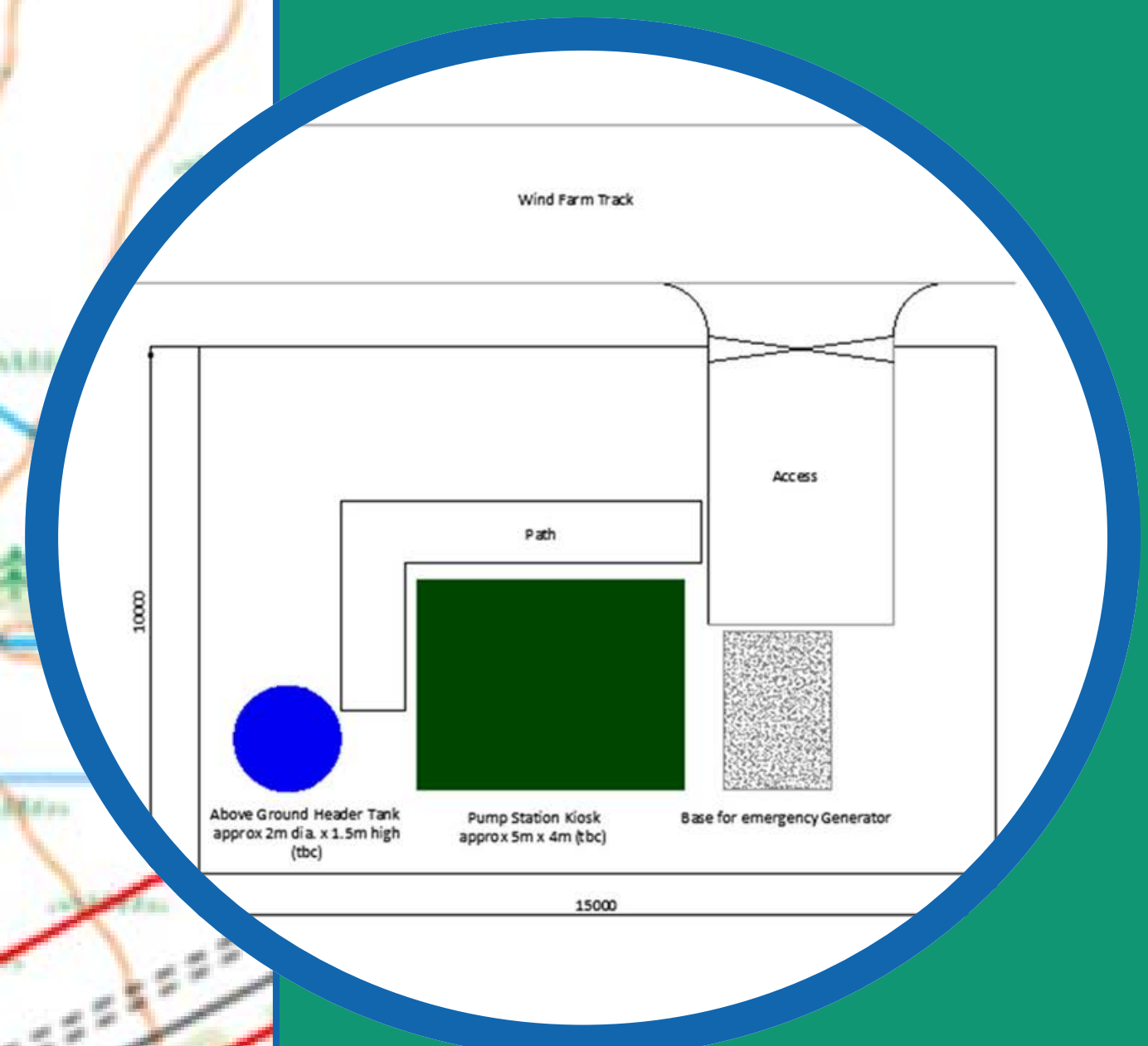
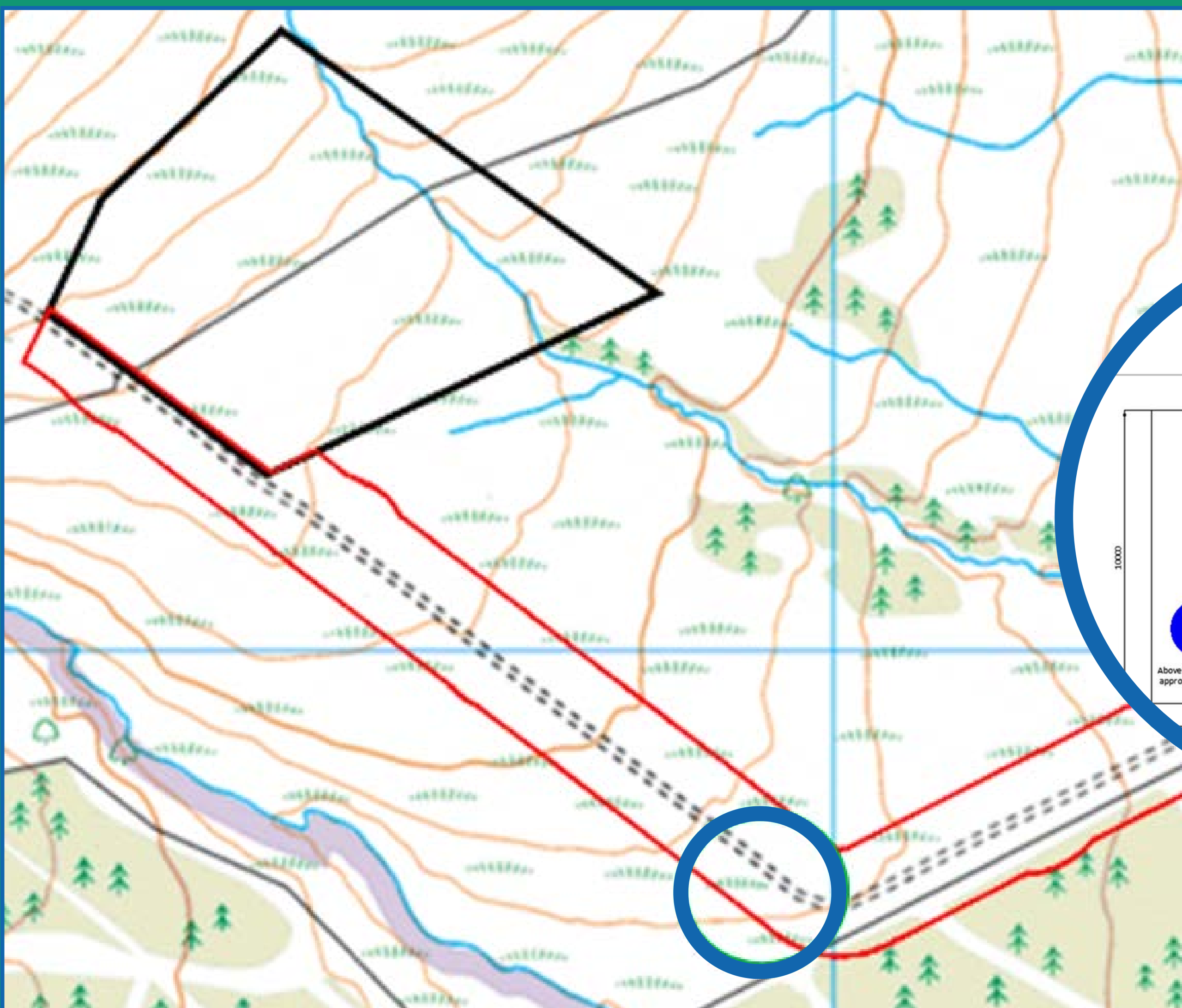
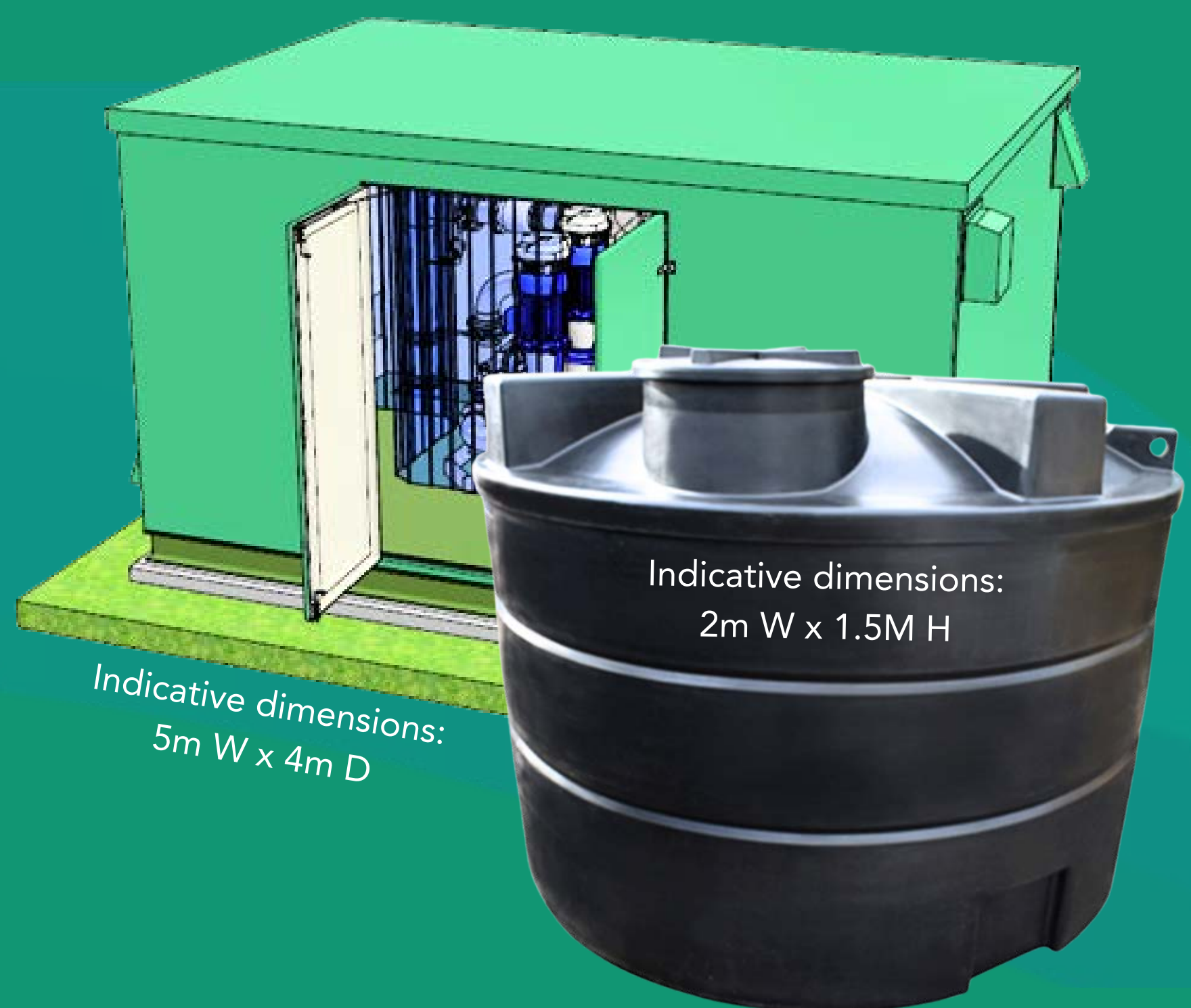


Pumping

Station - Wind Farm Track

The third pumping station and header tank would be located along the wind farm track and would comprise an access track, path, above ground kiosk, header tank and slab for an emergency generator.

Both the kiosk and header tank will have minimal visual impact on the local area.



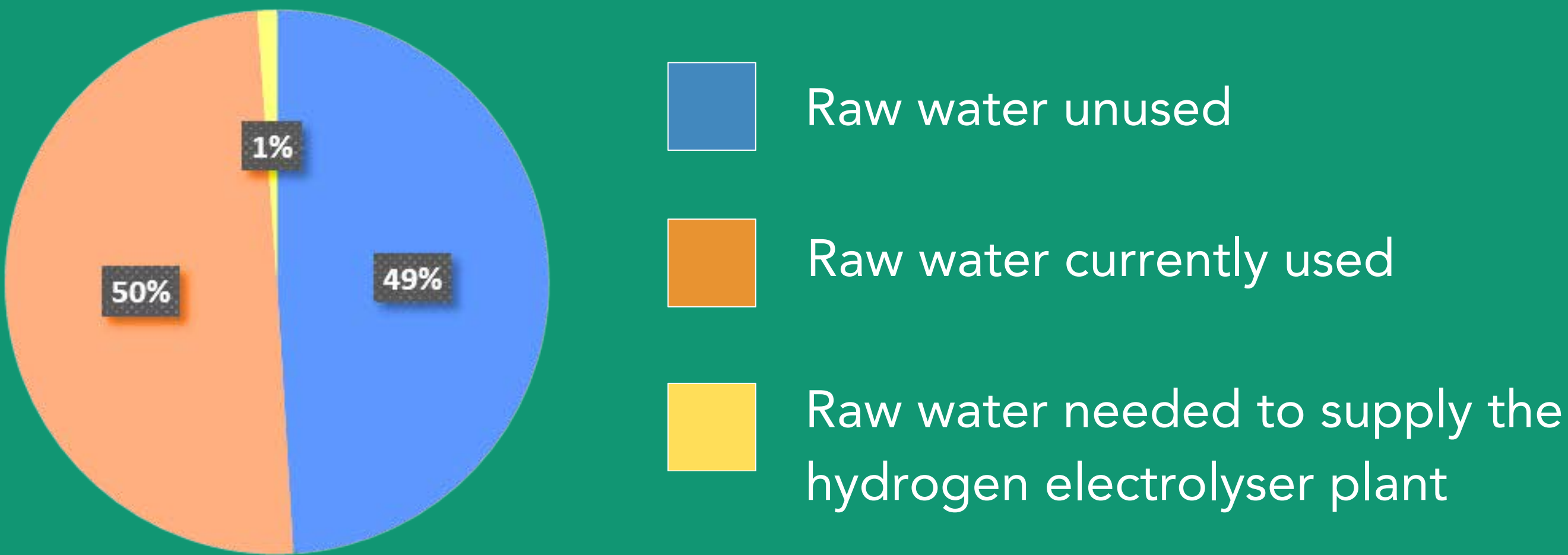
Source

Of the Raw Water Supply

Newmore Water Treatment Works draws its water from River Glass (approximately 14km to the south west near Alness) and we are proposing to supply the hydrogen electrolyser plant from the raw water reservoir at Newmore within the current Scottish Water Abstraction Licence from River Glass (as illustrated below).

Scottish Water is also implementing a leakage reduction project on the existing raw water main supplying Newmore Water Treatment Works from River Glass to significantly improve its drought resilience.

Scottish Water Abstraction Licence from River Glass



Environment

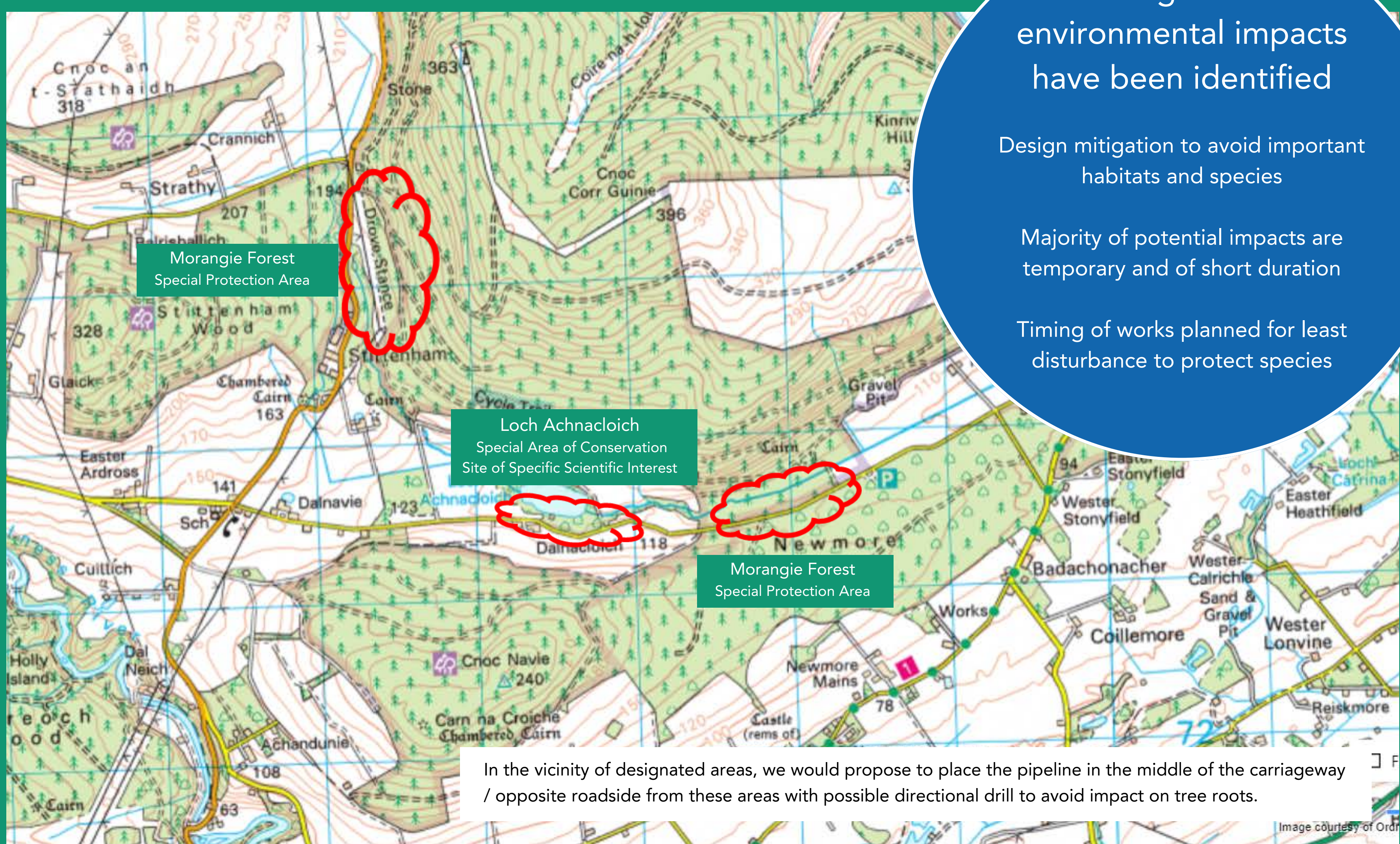
Impact Surveys

The water pipeline route has been developed taking into account environmental and development constraints to mitigate potential impacts.

To this end the pipeline would be located largely under roads or within verges to avoid direct impact on important ecological habitats, species, and woodland.

Mitigation measures would be applied throughout the project and would include planned timing of works for least disturbance, pre-work surveys for protected species, and ecological supervision by an Environmental Clerk of Works for certain elements of work.

The majority of potential impacts would be temporary and of short duration.



Traffic

Management

We have had discussions with The Highland Council Roads Department.

The majority of the raw water pipeline route would run adjacent to the local road network.

Construction of the pipeline and three pumping stations is anticipated to last around 18 months with trenching operations and pipework to be carried out along shorter sections and in phases.

Temporary traffic management measures would be required for the duration of the works.

Proposed lane and road closures would take place on short stretches of road at varying intervals.

Proposed lane closures would be managed by traffic lights.

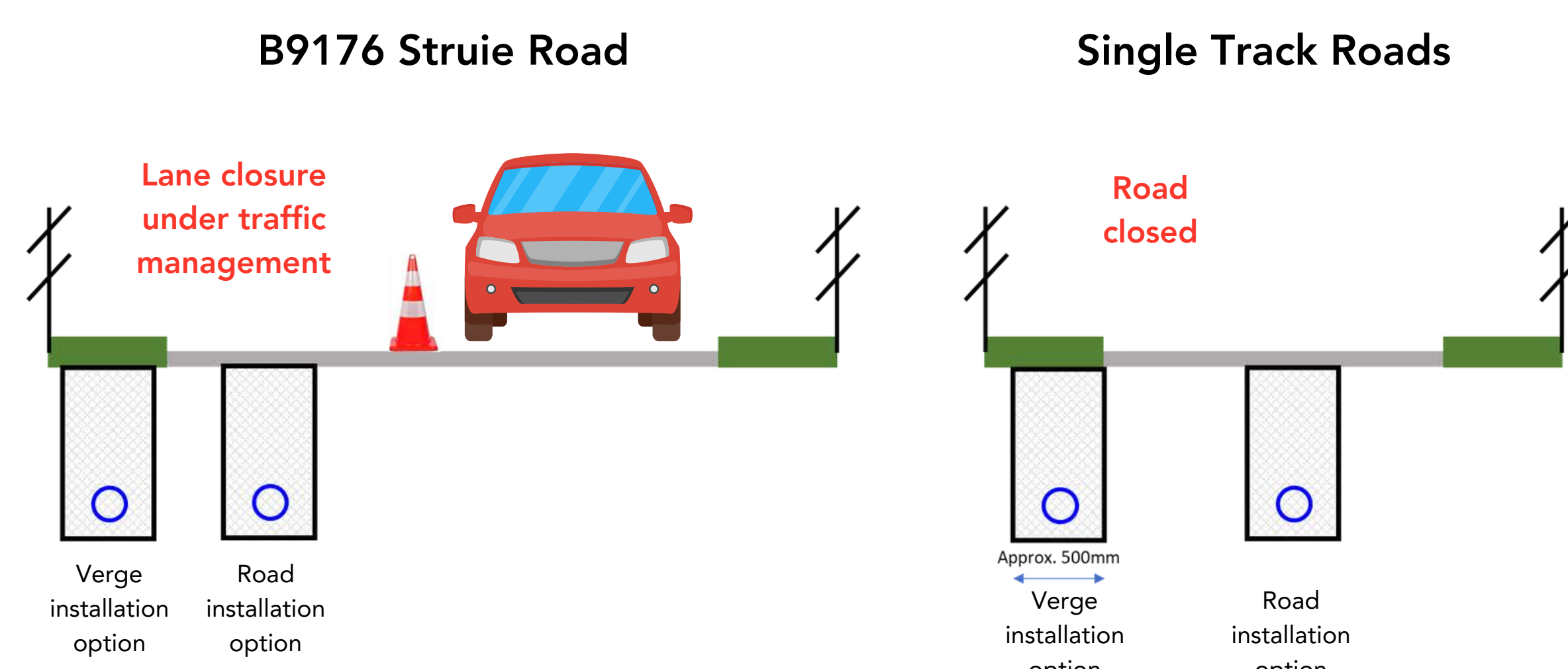
Proposed road closure would be managed with appropriate diversions and authorisations.

The intention would be to contact residents prior to works starting on site to address any traffic questions or concerns.

Typical working area for the pipeline is approx. 6m wide and 300m long along the road network and verge.

Open-cut excavation for the pipeline is approx. 1.5m deep and 0.9m wide.

Indicative pipe trench



Progress

of the Project to Date



Next Steps

- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Request - in preparation
- Site Investigations - from now to end of March 2024
- Further Stakeholder Engagement - from now to mid April 2024
- Detailed Design - from now to mid April 2024
- Public Information Event - mid April 2024
- Planning Application Submission - summer 2024

Keeping in Touch

Scottish Water Horizons is committed to keeping you and the local community fully informed about the work we are doing.

We hope today's event has given you an understanding of our plans and an opportunity to discuss any questions or concerns.

If you have any further questions or comments after today's event, please get in touch:



help@scottishwater.co.uk (quote ref: SWH/51213528254)



0800 077 8778 (quote ref: SWH/51213528254)



www.scottishwater.co.uk/cromartyhydrogen



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For further info on the green hydrogen electrolyser facility, please contact the ScottishPower and Storegga Project Team:



hydrogen@scottishpower.com