

MV Distribution

Pate Hill Wind Farm

IQA Group were appointed by Scottish Power to perform the upgrade of supply cables at Pates Hill Wind Farm. Located near the village of West Calder in West Lothian, Scotland, the wind farm was commissioned in February 2010 and consists of 7 Vestas V-80 wind turbines.

This project involved upgrading the supply cable from a single 33kV circuit to a double 33kV circuit from the wind farm back to the grid connection point in Livingston Grid substation.

The works included:

- Full project management
- Supply and installation of 13km of underground cabling
- Fibre Optic installation
- Cable/ Fibre Jointing
- Commissioning and testing



Extreme adverse weather conditions occurred throughout the project which required modified working techniques. Such methods included reducing the amount of open track and completing it in shorter, less extensive stages and fully ducting the route from end to end. Providing passing places to assist vehicular movement and pumping pits to remove excess water.

The upgrade of cables required installation across 13km of carriageway, footway and verge excavation. This route included several water courses to cross over which required different excavation techniques such as open cut and directional drilling.

In order for the works to be completed, there were a number of road closures within the area. A presentation was held for local residents to attend as an information point providing details of road closures, timescales and ensuring all queries were dealt with during this inconvenient period. IQA Group successfully completed the works on 29th January 2014.

