



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

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Our ref: 1482U
Your ref: S.37/OHL/S-309/NB

14 June 2022

Dear Miss Davies,

SCREENING DECISION BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE UNDER THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 2017 (“THE 2017 REGULATIONS”)

NAME OF SCHEME: DUNGE FARM KETTLESHULME SK23 7RF

Screening decision for a proposed development to divert an existing overhead line near Kettleshulme, Cheshire East, SK23 7RF. The proposed development will involve the removal of the existing overhead line and four poles and the installation of a new 11kV overhead electricity line of approximately 460 metres which will include seven new poles (the “proposed works”).

The proposed works require Section 37 consent under the Electricity Act 1989 and are subject to the 2017 Regulations.

The Secretary of State has considered the factors set out in Schedule 3 of the 2017 Regulations, together with the information within the supplied documentation (“the Application”) by Electricity North West Limited (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed works and the views of the Peak District National Park Authority (“the LPA”). In particular, in reaching his decision the Secretary of State notes the following factors:

- The proposed works do not fall within Schedule 1 (mandatory EIA);
- The proposed works fall under Schedule 2 of the 2017 Regulations as the electricity line is to be installed above ground in a sensitive area;
- The proposed works are to provide a minor diversion to an already existing 11kV line;
- The existing line and proposed works are within the Peak District National Park;



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- There are three statutory designated sites within 2 kilometres of the proposed works. The South Pennine Moors Special Area of Conservation (SAC) at approximately 600 metres to the east, the Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) Special Protection Area (SPA) at approximately 600 metres to the east, and the Goyt Valley Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) at approximately 600 metres to the east. However, the Application suggests that it is highly unlikely that any of these statutory designated sites for nature conservation would be affected by the proposed works;
- There are two non-statutory nature conservation sites located adjacent to the proposed works, the Dunge Farm A Local Wildlife Site (LWS) and the Dunge Farm B Local Wildlife Site (LWS). However, given the scale and location of the works, the application suggests that any direct impact upon these sites is highly unlikely if existing tracks are used to access them;
- The Application indicates that Badgers and their setts, bats, nesting birds and reptiles could be directly affected by the proposed works. However, any potential impact to such protected species will be mitigated through the implementation of the precautionary measure as detailed in the Environmental Report submitted with the Application (EcoCheck Report, ref. WNT69105-792(00), dated 12 March 2021);
- Natural England was consulted, and stated they have no objections to the Application, and that the proposed works will not have significant adverse impacts on designated sites. (Letter dated 28 April 2022, ref. 388413).
- The proposed works do not pass through any designated heritage asset nor is in the proximity of any listed building. In addition there is no indication that any of the areas affected by the proposed works have the potential to impact upon archaeological remains;
- The Application does not suggest that there will be any cumulative adverse effects given that the proposed works are to divert an existing overhead line in the same area and there are no other known proposed or existing developments nearby;
- The LPA was consulted, and their views are that an Environmental Impact Assessment is not required as the development does not have a significant impact on the environment provided that the works are conducted outside the bird breeding season (Screening Decision – Appendix A dated 19 May 2022).

Taking account of the abovementioned factors and information received, the Secretary of State concludes that the proposed works are not EIA development under the 2017 Regulations and do not require a statutory EIA as they are unlikely to have significant effects on the environment due to their nature, location and size. A copy of this letter has been sent to the LPA for information.

Yours sincerely,

Francesco Marolda
Overhead Lines Manager
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