



Department for  
Business, Energy  
& Industrial Strategy

Mrs Andrea McKinnell  
NORTHERN POWERGRID (NORTHEAST) LIMITED  
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Our ref: 12.04.09.05-1596U  
Your ref: AMCK\_ENQ23036716

19 August 2022,

Dear Mrs McKinnell,

**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: ENQ23036716 UPTON HALL FARM, GOLDSBOROUGH  
LANE, LYTHE YO21 3RU**

A screening decision is required for a proposal which is in the North York Moors National Park and will involve upgrading the existing overhead line to a three phased line and adding one additional pole to create a H pole arrangement at the existing pole four, at Upton Hall farm, Goldsborough Lane, Lythe, YO21 3RU (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 supplied by Northern PowerGrid (Northeast) Limited (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed works and the views of the North York Moors National Park Authority (“the LPA”) In reaching his decision, the Secretary of State notes the following factors:



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- 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 Secretary of State notes that proposed works are within the North York Moors National Park and that the LPA made no comments or raised any concerns in their Form b return, dated 17 June 2022.
- However, the Secretary of State informed the applicant that Annex A of the Form b was not included with the LPA's original Form b reply and that this was required as per legislation as the proposed works were in a sensitive area. The Secretary of State notes that the applicant went back to the LPA and a completed Annex A was returned to the Secretary of State on 29 July 2022; the LPA stated in their Annex A return that the proposed works would not have adverse impacts on the environment and therefore they had no objections and did not consider this proposal to be an EIA development.
- Regarding archaeological impacts, the Applicant first made contact with the LPA's Head of Historic Environment on 11 May 2022. The Head of Historic Environment stated that, given the small-scale nature of the intrusive work, archaeological monitoring would likely be unrewarding and any impacts fairly minimal. They raised no particular comments/concerns from the archaeological side.
- The LPA's Ecologist did note that care will be needed during the proposed works to minimise disturbance to soils and loss of hedgerow plants in regards to removal/adding of poles and that measures should be taken to minimise any soil or sediment deposition and any turves disturbed should be replaced after the work.
- The LPA noted that a section of the overhead line crosses a Public Right of Way. The LPA advised the Applicant to avoid all non-essential disturbance to path surfaces, and where disturbance is unavoidable to restore the surface to its original condition. The LPA also stated that the footpath remains open for safe use and unobstructed during the work. If this is not possible a temporary closure order may be required from the National Park Authority.
- The applicant sought the views of Natural England on 11 May 2022; Natural England raised no concerns to the proposed works.
- The Secretary of State notes the comments made above and agrees with the assessments made.

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.



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Yours sincerely,

*John McKenna*

Head of Network consents.

Energy Infrastructure Planning team.