



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Mr Anton Burns
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Our ref: 1611U
Your ref: EVZ170

30 January 2023

Dear Mr Burns,

**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: West Lynch Farm Kingston

Screening decision for a proposal to add a third wire to an existing 11 kilovolt (KV) overhead electricity line of approximately 92 metres. The proposal will involve the removal of the existing wooden poles and the installation of new poles of similar structure and size in close proximity to the route of the existing overhead electricity line on land at West Lynch Farm, Kingston, Corfe Castle, Dorset (the “proposed development”).

The proposed development requires 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 Southern Electric Power Distribution (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of Dorset Council (“the LPA”). In particular, in reaching his decision the Secretary of State notes the following factors:

1. The proposed development does not fall within Schedule 1 (mandatory EIA);



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2. The proposed development falls under Schedule 2 of the 2017 Regulations as the electricity line is to be installed above ground in a sensitive area;
3. The proposed development is to add a third wire to the line. In addition one pole will be replaced and will have a pole mounted transformer attached to it;
4. The existing line and proposed development are within Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (“the AONB”). However, any potential effects to these sites will be mitigated as the work is adding an additional wire to the current line. Additionally, the pole replacement and new pole mounted transformer is located in a wooded area and therefore will not have a major visual impact on the AONB. Natural England were consulted about the work and granted their Assent, dated 30 November 2022;
5. The Application does not suggest there will be any cumulative adverse effects given that the proposed works are to upgrade an existing line which will be along the route of the existing line and there are no other known proposed or existing developments in the area near the proposed works;
6. The Secretary of State contacted the LPA on 11 January 2023 to confirm they had no additional comments on the proposed development. The LPA replied to the Secretary of State on 17 January 2023 stating they considered that having screened the proposed works, the characteristics of the development together with the level of environmental risk, any resultant impact is considered to be limited as the proposal comprises repairs to existing apparatus and equipment. The LPA therefore does not warrant the submission of an Environmental Impact Assessment and does not consider the proposed works to be an EIA development (Form B dated 23 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,

John McKenna
Head of Network Consents
Energy Infrastructure Planning



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