



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Jamie Drummond
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Our ref: 1650u
Your ref: ALDE/PR/EVT315

17 July 2023

Dear Mr Drummond,

**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: Lower Eype Farm

Screening decision for a proposed development (“the proposed development”) to:

- Replace an existing 12m pole with a 16m pole to provide necessary clearance for a new structure that is to be built.

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 National Grid Electricity Distribution (South West) PLC (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of the 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 falls within the Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and within a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Impact Risk Zone (IRZ).
4. Natural England were consulted regarding the IRZ and had no comment to make as per communication with the Applicant on 11 July 2023.
5. The Dorset AONB Partnership were consulted and did not identify any landscape or visual impacts on the wider area as a result of the proposed development that would cause any concerns to be raised.
6. The LPA were consulted, and a site visit was carried out by their Senior Landscape Architect on 3 December 2021. Based on this site visit it was concluded that the proposed development would be acceptable on landscape and visual grounds as the site is relatively discreet.

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