



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

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Our ref: 1679u
Your ref: PS ABER - DEPOT

01 August 2023

Dear Mrs Duffy,

**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: ABERYSTYTH - MANWEB DEPOT

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

- Rebuild the overhead 11kv line from the substation in Llanabdran fawr to Devils Bridge

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 SP Manweb (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of Ceredigion County Council (“the LPA”). In reaching his decision, the Secretary of State notes the following factors:

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



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3. The development is partially located within the Rheidol Shingles and Backwaters Special Scientific Interest (SSSI);
4. Natural Resources Wales (NRW) were consulted and granted assent subject to the adherence of conditions as outlined in Document Reference: A002668/1. NRW advises that provided the noted conditions are met, the development's operations should not cause significant damage to the SSSI.
5. The LPA was consulted and considered the development would not cause significant adverse impact to the sensitive area. Furthermore, the ecology department of the LPA was consulted and commented that the applicant should adhere to pollution prevention measures, in addition to mitigation measures to protect the species and habitats of the SSSI. The applicant also undertook an ecological survey which advised prevention measures to protect the SSSI as well as along the rest of the route of the proposed development.

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 Planning team

Energy Infrastructure Planning