



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

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Our ref: 1638u

Your ref: CO MW903912 Oswestry - Ellesmere 33kV OHL

6 September 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: Oswestry to Ellesmere 33kV rebuild

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

- Dismantle an existing 33kV single circuit overhead line and rebuild the line on a new route in close proximity to the original line

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 PLC (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of the Shropshire County 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 within a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Impact Risk Zone (IRZ) related to the Fernhill Pastures SSSI.
3. Natural England were consulted regarding the IRZ and had no comment to make as per communication with the Applicant on 20 July 2023 (Natural England reference: 438826).
4. The LPA were consulted and concluded that no additional harm, visual or otherwise, will be caused as a result 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 Consents
Energy Infrastructure Planning