



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Anthony Gordon
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Our ref: 1736u
Your ref: Church Crookham - 33kV Pole - SSSI

29 August 2023

Dear Mr Gordon,

**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: Rutter Pole Replacement Coxmoor to Church
Crookham - 33kV**

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

- Install a new terminal H-pole

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 Hart District 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 located within the Bourley and Long Valley Site of Scientific Special Interest (SSSI) and is within an Impact Risk Zone (IRZ). The Applicant submitted a method statement (including details of operations and mitigation measures) and a Habitats Regulations Assessment to Natural England. Natural England were satisfied, granting assent from the 1st of April 2023 to the 31st of October 2023 and had no further comments.
4. The LPA was consulted and expressed no objection to the proposal.

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