



Department for  
Energy Security  
& Net Zero

Bernard J Molloy  
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Our ref: 1734u  
Your ref: BM/ASHP E5L5 Steeple Ashton SSSI

22 August 2023

Dear Mr Molloy,

**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: BM/ASHP E5L5**

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

- Replace ten electricity wood poles and associated stays supporting an 11kV overhead line
- Renew an 11kV cable termination

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 Wiltshire 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);



Department for  
Energy Security  
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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 development is located within the Steeple Ashton SSSI and in an Impact Risk Zone. The Applicant has produced a construction method statement detailing how the operations will be executed and submitted this to Natural England. Natural England and granted assent from the period of the 1st of April 2023 to the 31st of March 2024, and no further comments were made.
4. The LPA was consulted and noted the environmental sensitivity of the site is at a level where the development would not have wide ranging significant environmental impacts. The LPA's archaeological department were also consulted and noted there were no archaeological issues relating to the 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

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