



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Max Devine
Southern Electric Power Distribution PLC
Unit 1
Staplehurst Farm
Weston-on-the-Green
Bicester
OX25 3QU

Energy Infrastructure Planning
3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2EG
Email: S37consents@
energysecurity.gov.uk
Website: www.gov.uk/desnz

Our ref: 1749u
Your ref: EWZ983

4 October 2023

Dear Mr Devine,

**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: Brockwell House

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

- Upgrade 40 metres of existing low voltage overhead line from 1 phase to 2 phase

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 PLC (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of the West Oxfordshire District Council (“the LPA”). In particular, in reaching her 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 Costwolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Impact Risk Zone (IRZ) relating to the Wychwood and Ditchley Road Quarry SSSIs – both of which are greater than 1.4km away from the proposed development.
4. The LPA were consulted regarding the proposed development and had no objection.
5. Natural England were consulted regarding the SSSI IRZ and had no comment to make as per communications in February 2023 (Natural England reference: 422952).
6. The proposed development is for an upgrade to a small section of pre-existing overhead line, which is likely to have a negligible visual impact on the AONB in which it is situated.

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
Energy Infrastructure Planning