



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

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Our ref: 1756u
Your ref: EZC353

11 October 2023

Dear Mr Neil,

**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: Ducklington Farm

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

- Upgrade approximately 250 metres of pre-existing 11kV overhead line from 2-phase to 3-phase
- Install 1 x new H-section pole with 100kVa pole-mounted transformer

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:



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1. The proposed development does not fall within Schedule 1 (mandatory EIA).
2. The proposed development falls within a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Impact Risk Zone (IRZ) related to the Ducklington Mead SSSI which is more than 1.4km away from the proposed development.
3. Natural England were consulted regarding the IRZ and had no comment to make as per communication with the Applicant on 21 July 2023 (Natural England reference: 439633).
4. The LPA was consulted and had no objection to 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
Energy Infrastructure Planning