



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Tom Watson
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Our ref: 1764u
Your ref: 4601305 TW

16 November 2023

Dear Mr Watson,

**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: Luce’s tenement HV diversion

Decision:

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.

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

- Divert an existing 11kV overhead line to allow a new 5 dwelling housing development to be constructed.



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Secretary of State considerations:

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 National Grid Electricity Distribution (South West) PLC (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of Cornwall Council (“the LPA”). In reaching her 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.
3. The proposed development falls within several designated sensitive areas:
 - Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).
 - A Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Impact Risk Zone (IRZ) associated with the Lynher Estuary SSSI which is approximately 650 metres away from the proposed development.
4. The LPA were consulted regarding the proposed development and had no objections. The LPA granted conditional approval for the housing development (“the housing development”) for which the diversion is necessary on 19 June 2020 (planning reference: PA20/00782).
5. The Tamar Valley AONB Unit were consulted, during communications the Applicant confirmed that the diversion route was selected to minimise the tree removal required and that during the housing development new hedgerows would be planted. The AONB Unit confirmed on 20 June 2023 that, given this context, they would be unlikely to object to the proposed development.
6. Natural England were consulted regarding the SSSI IRZ and had no comments to make on the proposed development as per communications on 27 July 2023 (Natural England reference: 442672).



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7. The Applicant confirmed in communications on 31 October 2023 that some tree felling would be required to allow the proposed development to take place. However, the tree felling would be carried out as part of the housing development and would not be carried out by the Applicant or their contractors as part of the proposed development.

Yours sincerely,

John McKenna
Head of Network Planning team
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