



Department for  
Energy Security  
& Net Zero

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Our ref: 1791u  
Your ref: GLOS/41/TROUBLEHOUSE10135

21 November 2023

Dear Mr O'Hara,

**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: Trouble House**

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:

- Upgrade 3.1km of existing 11kV overhead line – all 32 poles are to be replaced, 3 of which will be relocated, and 17 of the 31 spans will be updated from 2-phase to 3-phase



## Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

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 (West Midlands) PLC (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of Cotswold District 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:
  - Costwolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).
  - A Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Impact Risk Zone (IRZ) associated with several SSSIs, the nearest of which – Veizey’s Quarry Tetbury – is more than 2km from the proposed development.
4. The LPA were consulted regarding the proposed development and had no objections.
5. On 5 July 2023, GE Consulting issued the report ‘Ecology Survey and Recommendations’ (reference: 1998-NG-VB) on behalf of the Applicant. The report concluded, based on the findings of a site survey carried out on 20 June 2023, that due to the discrete and short duration of the proposed development, significant impacts are not anticipated.
6. Natural England were consulted regarding the SSSI IRZ and had no comments to make on the proposed development as per communications on 26 July 2023 (Natural England reference: 442945).
7. The proposed development is a modification to existing infrastructure which is likely to have minimal visual impact on the AONB in which it is situated.

Yours sincerely,

John McKenna  
Head of Network Planning team  
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