



Department for  
Energy Security  
& Net Zero

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Our ref: 1752u  
Your ref: EVN185

21 November 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:        Letcombe Bower**

**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 3.3km of existing 11kv overhead lines to 3 phase. Replace and relocate 1x’s pole with a new H terminal pole.**



## 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 Southern Electric Power Distribution PLC (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of Vale of the White Horse District Council Authority (“the LPA”). In particular, in reaching his 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 the North Wessex Downs, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
4. The LPA were consulted and raised no objections and concluded that the development will not have significant adverse impacts to the environment.
5. Archaeology was consulted and confirmed there would be no archaeological constraints to the works proposed as per communication on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023.
6. Natural England was consulted and had no comments as per communication on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2023. (Natural England Ref: 429716)
7. The proposed development is a minor modification to an existing piece of infrastructure and will have minimal visual impacts on the landscape designation.

Yours sincerely,

John McKenna  
Head of Network Planning team  
Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery Team