



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

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Our ref: 1600u
Your ref: WSE/NP/3962619

20 June 2023

Dear Mrs Moore,

**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: Hawling, Gloucestershire

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

- Upgrade an existing overhead line from 2-wire to 3-wire, and:
- Replace 3 x poles with “like-for-like” equivalents to connect the upgraded line

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 National Grid Electricity Distribution (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of the Tewkesbury Borough Council (“the LPA”). 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 existing power line is within the Cotswolds Area of Natural Beauty (AONB). Due to the size and nature of the development, the LPA considers the proposal will not result in any demonstrable environmental impacts.
4. The existing power line is within a Site of Special Scientific Interest Impact Risk Zone; however, consultation with Natural England is not required for planning proposals regarding overhead lines.
5. A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal was carried out by Swift Ecology Ltd. on 24 March 2022. This appraisal concluded that there were no significant ecological constraints 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,

Energy Infrastructure Planning