



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Mr Max Flowerdew
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Our ref: 1829u
Your ref: FAF874

31 January 2024

Dear Mr Flowerdew,

**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: COMBLEY FARM, COMBLEY FARM LANE, DOWNEND,
NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT, PO30 2NY.**

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:

- Install 1 x single phase underground electricity cable to an existing 6.6 kV 205m overhead line for the purpose of becoming a multi-user line

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 (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of Isle of Wight Council (“the LPA”). In particular, 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 the following designated sensitive areas:
 - Isle of Wight National Landscape
 - A Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Impact Risk Zone (IRZ) associated with Briddeford Copses SSSI
4. The LPA was consulted regarding the proposed development and noted no objection to the development on 7 December 2023 (planning reference: S37 (2023) Combley Farm, Downend).
5. Natural England was consulted via email regarding the sensitive area designations and responded on 11 January 2024, noting there would be “... no impacts to the landscape of the AONB”.

Yours sincerely,

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