



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Mr Tom Watson
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Energy Infrastructure Planning

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Our ref: 1818u
Your ref: Porthilly Farm upgrade works 4868066 TW

25 January 2024

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: PORTHILLY FARM UPGRADE WORKS

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 775 metres of an existing 11 kV overhead line to 3 wires
- Replace two poles

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 (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of Cornwall 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 a designated sensitive area:
 - Cornwall National Landscape
 - A Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Impact Risk Zone (IRZ) associated with Rock Dunes SSSI
4. Natural England was consulted via email regarding the SSSI IRZ and responded on 3 November 2023, noting there were no comments regarding the development.
5. The LPA was consulted regarding the proposed development and noted no objection to the development on 24 November 2023 (planning reference: PA23/08654). The LPA’s National Landscape unit was also consulted, responding on 20 December 2023, noting no comments regarding the development.

Yours sincerely,

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