



Department for  
Energy Security  
& Net Zero

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Our ref: 1793u  
Your ref: JM/E105735 Upgrade of supply to Tan yr Onnen  
Farm, Waunfawr

11 January 2024

Dear Mr Maloney,

**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: E105735 UPGRADE OF SUPPLY TO TAN YR ONNEN,  
WAUNFAWR**

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 605 metres of 11kV overhead line from 2 wires to 3 wires

## 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 SP Energy Networks (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of Gwynedd Community 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 several designated sensitive areas:
  - Afon Gwyrfai a Llyn Cwellyn Common Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC).
4. In June 2023, an Ecology Report and Method Statement by Baker Consultants was produced on behalf of the applicant (Document reference: Ecology Report and Method Statement, June 2023). The document detailed a list of mitigation measures to be undertaken during the development, (including the presence of Ecological Clerk of Works on site to give a toolbox talk to the construction team).
5. Due to development site being located within an SAC, the applicant produced a Shadow Habitats Regulations Assessment (sHRA) by Baker Consultants (Document Reference: Shadow Habitats Regulations Assessment, July 2023). The document concluded that “... there would be no adverse effects upon the integrity of the European site either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects.”.
6. Natural Resources Wales (NRW) was consulted regarding the development and viewed the sHRA, Ecology Report and Method Statement. On 27 July 2023, NRW granted assent to the applicant’s specified operations for the period between 27 July 2023 to 1 March 2024 (Assent Document Reference: A003246/1).
7. The assent was subject to the following conditions, “The methods proposed to minimise impacts on SSSI described in the supplied Ecological Report and Method statement in Appendix A must be



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followed.”, and “Operatives working under this consent/assent, including contractors and sub-contractors, must be informed of the operations that have been permitted and the stipulated conditions.”.

8. The LPA was consulted regarding the proposed development and noted no objection to the development on 17 October 2023 (Planning Reference: C23/0756/26/TR). They suggested, “the development will have minimal impact upon any areas of environmental concern.”.
9. The LPA’s biodiversity unit department was also consulted and noted that they agreed with the conclusion of the sHRA.

Yours sincerely,

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