



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Mr Adam Willmott
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Our ref: 1817u
Your ref: GLOS/41/AAW/LYPIATT

05 March 2024

Dear Mr Willmott,

**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: Middle Lypiatt, Stroud

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 1230 metres of an existing 11 kV overhead line from single phase to three phase

Secretary of State considerations:



Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

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 Stroud District 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:
 - Cotswolds National Landscape
 - A Special Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI) Impact Risk Zone (IRZ) associated with Swifts Hill SSSI
4. Ge Consulting produced an ecological survey on behalf of the applicant in October 2023 (reference: 2147-NG-VB). The survey noted a variety of mitigation measures such as, no night working during active bat season and that any necessary vegetation clearance should be undertaken outside of bird breeding season.
5. Natural England was consulted via email regarding the SSSI IRZ and responded on 6 December 2023, noting there was no objection to the development (reference: 456570).
6. The LPA was consulted regarding the proposed development and noted no objection to the development on 21 December 2023, suggesting, “... due to the limited size and scale of the project we do not consider the project to be an EIA development.” (reference: S.23/2229/OHL).
7. Secretary of State therefore deems that because the proposed development is a modification to existing infrastructure, it is likely to have minimal visual impact on the National Landscape in which it is situated.

Yours sincerely,
John McKenna
Head of Network Planning team
Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery Team