



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Mr Nick Shackson
National Grid Electricity Distribution (South West) Plc
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Energy Infrastructure Planning

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Our ref: 1846u
Your ref: Little Hollacombe Farm 4791718 NGS

22 March 2024

Dear Mr Shackson,

**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: LITTLE HOLLACOMBE FARM WELCOMBE EX39 6HE

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:

- Add a third conductor to an existing 11kV 260 metre overhead line



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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 Torrington 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:
 - North Devon Biosphere Reserve
 - North Devon Coast National Landscape
 - A Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Impact Risk Zone (IRZ) associated with the Marsland to Clovelly Coast SSSI
4. The applicant consulted with Natural England regarding the Biosphere Reserve designation. On 6 February 2024 Natural England responded with no comments regarding the development.
5. LPA were consulted regarding the proposed development and noted no objection to the development on 12 February 2024 (document reference: GE/0030/2024).

Yours sincerely,

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