



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Bennath Coad
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Our ref: 1867u
Your ref: CW52129 Haunton Farm Solar Project
17th June 2024

Dear Mr Bennath Coad,

**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: Haunton Farm

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:

- Dismantle an existing infrastructure and erect two towers and run a connection from the new towers directly into the new ground mounted substation.



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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 PLC (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impact on the environment of the proposed development and the views of Litchfield District Council (“the LPA”). In particular, in reaching his 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 an Impact Risk Zone (IRZ), approximately 385m away from River Mease SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) and River Mease Special Area of Conservation (SAC).
4. The LPA were consulted on 6th October 2023. The LPA signed the Form B dated 11th March 2024 and raised no concerns.
5. Natural England (NE) were consulted on 6th October 2023. NE concluded that “the proposed development is unlikely to have an impact on the River Mease.”
6. An Ecological Impact Assessment was completed on 5th October 2020. The report concluded that “there is no potential risk of an impact occurring during either the construction or post construction phases of the scheme.”
7. The proposed development is a minor modification to an existing piece of infrastructure and not likely to have a significant effect on the Natural Landscape.

Yours sincerely,

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