



Department for  
Energy Security  
& Net Zero

Mr Richard Chambers  
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Our ref: 1877u  
Your ref: FBA486

17 June 2024

Dear Mr Chambers,

**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: FBA486 - RUDGE 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:

- Upgrade approximately 220 metres of existing 11 kV overhead line to 3-phase
- Replace three single poles
- Replace one single pole with an H pole



## Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

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 Southern Electric Power Distribution (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of Wiltshire 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 Wessex Downs National Landscape
  - A Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Impact Risk Zone (IRZ) associated with the River Kennet SSSI
4. Natural England was consulted via email regarding the SSSI IRZ and responded on 14 February 2024, noting there was no objection to the development.
5. The LPA was consulted regarding the proposed development and noted no objection to the development as “It is not considered that the proposals would result in any significant environmental effects.” on 20 March 2024 (planning reference: PL/2024/01508).
6. The LPA consulted with the local AONB unit regarding the National Landscape delegation who had submitted no concerns as “The proposals should not impact on the listed building or its setting.”

Yours sincerely,

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