



Department for  
Energy Security  
& Net Zero

Mr Jonathan M O'Hara  
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Our ref: 1936u  
Your ref: GLOS/41/JOH/CULVERSLADESPUR

31 July 2024

Dear Mr O'Hara,

**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: GLOS/41/JOH/CULVERSLADESPUR**

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 1,950 metres of existing 11 kV overhead line to 3-phase
- Replace a single pole with an H pole and pole mounted transformer



## 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 National Grid Electricity Distribution (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of South Gloucestershire 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 a designated sensitive area:
  - Cotswolds National Landscape
  - A Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Impact Risk Zone (IRZ) associated with the St Catherine’s Valley SSSI
4. Due to the designations, GE Consulting produced an ecology survey (document reference: 2275-NG-RY) on behalf of the applicant in February 2024. The document included mitigations such as pre-commencement nesting bird checks from a suitably qualified ecologist and all vegetation clearance to be undertaken outside of bird breeding season.
5. The applicant consulted with Natural England regarding the SSSI IRZ designation. On 6 March 2024, Natural England responded with no comments regarding the development.
6. The LPA was consulted regarding the proposed development and noted no objection to the development on 20 June 2024 (planning reference: P24/00545/OHL).
7. The proposed development is a minor modification to an existing piece of infrastructure and is likely to have minimal visual impact on the National Landscape in which it is located.

Yours sincerely,

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