



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Nick Shackson
National Grid Electricity Distribution (South West) Plc
Victoria Road
Barnstaple
EX32 8PR

Energy Infrastructure Planning
3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2JP

Email: S37consents
@energysecurity.gov.uk
Website: www.gov.uk/desnz

Our ref: 1984u
Your ref: 5050947 Stratton CB 4046 Reinforcement NGS

25 October 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: 3RD WIRE GRIMSCOTT CORNWALL

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 8,470 metres of an existing two wire 11 kV overhead line to three wires



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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 Cornwall Council and Torridge 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 the Kingford Fen Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Three Bowl Barrows Scheduled Monument.
4. The Applicant consulted with Torridge District Council who had no objection to the development and concluded that an EIA is not required on 2 April 2024 (planning reference: GE/0144/2024).
5. The Applicant consulted with Cornwall Council who had no objection to the development on 16 April 2024 (planning reference: PA24/01856).
6. The Applicant consulted with Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET) who confirmed in communications on 9 May 2024 that they had no comments on the proposed development and advise that the groundworkers are made aware of protected status of the Scheduled Monument and for the applicant to consult with Historic England.
7. Historic England was consulted and on 14 October 2024, responded in agreement with the comments made by DCHET regarding the works, emphasizing the need to avoid moving heavy plant equipment and vehicles over the scheduled area.
8. Natural England assent is not required due to the works being undertaken outside of the SSSI. The Applicant only requires foot access to the SSSI which is not likely to damage the special features of the site.



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Yours sincerely,

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