



Department for  
Energy Security  
& Net Zero

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Our ref: 1977u  
Your ref: GLOS/41/JOH/WINECELLAR4920957

4<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Dear Mr M 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:**

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 350m of an existing 11kV overhead line from 2 wire to 3 wire.
- Replace 4 wood poles



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- Replace existing single pole mounted apparatus and install a new H Pole transformer.

### 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 impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of Stroud 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 Cotswold National Landscapes.
4. The proposed development falls within a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Impact Risk Zone associated with Midger (SSSI).
5. The Applicant consulted the LPA on 11 June 2024. The LPA concluded their checks and raised no objections.
6. The Applicant consulted Natural England (NE) on 4 June 2024. NE concluded that “the development is not close to or within a Habitats Site, Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and had no comments to make on this consultation.”
7. An Ecology Survey was issued on 3 June 2024 by GE Consulting Services (UK) Limited (reference: 2412-NG-VB). The survey determined that the site “passes across several other neutral grassland fields, several mature broadleaved trees, species-rich and poor hedgerows and ends adjacent to the residential garden of Wine Cellar Farm. No evidence of protected species was found. Evidence of badger including several sett entrances were noted towards the northern end of the route but given the distance to this sett and the topography of the landscape, it will not cause an ecological constraint to the proposals.”
8. The proposed development is a minor modification existing piece of infrastructure and not likely to have a significant effect on the Natural Landscape.



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Yours sincerely,

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