



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Arthur Chandler
National Grid Electricity Distribution PLC
Venture Way
Priorswood Industrial Estate
Taunton
TA2 8DE

Energy Infrastructure Planning

3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2JP

Email:

S37consents@energysecurity.gov.uk

Website: www.gov.uk/desn

Our ref: 1987u
Your ref: 4888899 - Buckland St Mary

4th November 2024

Dear Mr Chandler.

**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: 4888899 - Buckland St Mary 3rd Wire

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:

- Upgrading 160m of existing overhead line by adding a third wire to an existing 2 wire.



Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

- Adding a new pole mounted transformer, with an additional pole being installed 6ft from the existing transformer pole to support the weight of the new 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 Somerset Council (“the LPA”). 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 Black downs Hills National Landscapes.
4. The proposed development falls within a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSI) Impact Risk Zone associated with Barrington Hill Meadows (SSSI)
5. The Applicant consulted the LPA and received a response from the LPA on 9 May 2024. The LPA had no objections for the proposed development.
6. The Applicant consulted Blackdowns Hills National Landscape (BHNL) on 24 April 2024. BHNL raised no concerns.
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