



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Arthur Chandler
National Grid Electricity Distribution (South West) 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/desnz

Our ref: 1951u
Your ref: 4795039

27 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: Lower Mount Barn

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 870 metres of existing 11kV/LV overhead from single phase to 3-phase/2-core cable to 3-core cable.
- Upgrade an existing 50kVa pole-mounted transformer (PMT) to 200kVa and modify existing pole to an H-pole configuration to support the larger PMT
- Replace 3 x existing poles with stout-service poles



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 (South West) PLC (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of Dorset 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 Dorset National Landscape (formerly Area of Outstanding National Beauty) and a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Impact Risk Zone (IRZ) associated with the Mapperton & Poorton Vales SSSI and West Dorset Alder Woods Special Area of Conservation which are more than 2,300 metres from the proposed development.
4. The Applicant consulted with the LPA who had no objection and concluded the proposed development is not likely to have significant environmental effects (reference: P/STA/2024/02508).
5. The Applicant consulted with the Dorset National Landscape Team, who raised no concerns regarding the proposed development as per communications on 16 August 2023.
6. The Applicant consulted Natural England who had no comments to make on the proposed development as per communications on 9 May 2024 (reference: 474419).
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 situated.

Yours sincerely,

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