



Department for  
Energy Security  
& Net Zero

Steph Sharman  
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**Energy Infrastructure Planning**

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Our ref: 2094u  
Your ref: CW52209 Hydes Lane, Hinckley

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Dear Miss Sharman,

**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:** CW52209 Hydes Lane, Hinckley

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:

- Install two new 132kV towers with sealing end platforms to create a looped connection for the 49.5MV battery storage site at Hydes Lane.



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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 PLC (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of Rugby Borough 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 132 kilovolts and therefore requires a mandatory screening.
3. The proposed development does not fall within any designated sensitive areas.
4. The Applicant consulted the LPA on 18 October 2024. The LPA concluded their checks and had no comments to make on the proposed development on 13 November 2024.
5. The Applicant consulted Natural England on 18 October 2024. Natural England responded via email on 14 November 2024 confirming that the development is not close to a Habitats Site, Site of Special Scientific Interest or protected landscape and had no comments to make.
6. In accordance with The Electricity (Applications for Consent) Regulations 1990, the applicant published a statutory notice to the public in the local newspaper, the Hinckley Times on 11 & 18 December 2024. The Applicant received no representation regarding the proposed development by the deadline of 15 January 2025.
7. A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) was issued out by Urban Green on 6 August 2024. The purpose of the PEA report is to identify habitats on site and determine the sites potential value for protected and/or notable fauna and flora, with the addition of potential impacts on designated sites. This will inform the need for any further ecological surveys and/or mitigation to minimise the potential impacts on ecology on site and within the local area. In conclusion, the report determined the site lies within a predominantly rural area of Hinckley with arable fields and farms within the immediate vicinity. The survey found no potential impacts on designated sites. The following potential ecological constraints were identified during the assessment:
  - Suitable habitats for nesting notable bird species.
  - Potential commuting bats, otter, water vole, badger and other small



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mammals through site.

It is therefore recommended that the Applicant follows the recommendations outlined in the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (reference: UG2519) to minimise the risk of impacts on Wildlife and protected species.

8. 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