



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

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Our ref: 2133u
Your ref: S37-0016 Wickhurst Farmhouse/100000774

24 April 2025

Dear Mr Ramsay,

**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: WICKHURST FARMHOUSE

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 155 metres of an existing 11kV overhead line to 3 phase
- Upgrade pole-mounted transformer to 100kVA



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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 South Eastern Power Networks ("the Applicant") in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of Wealden District 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 High Weald National Landscape.
4. Natural England (NE) was consulted regarding the development and responded on 5 February 2025 with no comments (reference: 501343).
5. The Applicant consulted with the LPA who had no objection to the development and concluded that "these minor changes would have little material impact on the National Landscape" on 27 February 2025 (planning reference: WD/2025/0214/OH).
6. 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 located.

Yours sincerely,

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