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Our ref: 2125u

Your ref: S37-0023 8500265011 Drayton Wood House

25 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: DRAYTON WOOD HOUSE, SHIRE LANE, CHOLESBURY HP23 6NA

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 550m of 11kV overhead line to three phase
- Replace nine wooden poles on a like for like basis



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 Eastern Power Networks "the Applicant") in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of Buckinghamshire Council ("the LPA"). In reaching his decision the Secretary of State notes the following factors:

- 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 is located within the Chilterns National Landscape and in proximity to Buckinghamshire Grim's Ditch Scheduled Monument.
- 4. Natural England (NE) was consulted and in correspondence dated 14 November 2024 (reference: 493198), confirmed that they had no comments on the proposal.
- 5. The Applicant consulted with the LPA, who raised no objections to the development on 4 December 2024 (planning reference: PL/24/3395/UA).
- 6. The Applicant consulted with the County Archaeologist, who confirmed in communications dated 6 March 2025 that the area of the proposed works falls outside of the Scheduled Monument.
- 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 located.

Yours sincerely,

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