



Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

Charlotte Cole
South Eastern Power Networks PLC
Bircholt Road
Maidstone
ME15 9XY

Energy Infrastructure Planning
3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2JP

Email: S37consents
@energysecurity.gov.uk
Website: www.gov.uk/desnz

Our ref: 2373u
Your ref: 100002074-8500345447-Groombridge

22 January 2026

Dear Miss Cole,

**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: GROOMBRIDGE, TN3 9NR

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 712 metres of 6.6kV overhead line from single to three phase



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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 the High Weald National Landscape.
4. The Applicant consulted with the LPA, who raised no objections to the development on 8 December 2025 (planning reference: WD/2025/2451/OH).
5. 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,

Anna-Maria Inglis
Consent Manager
Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery Team