



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

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Our ref: 2363u
Your ref: 5782971 Plaish Park Farm, Church Stretton, SY6
7HX

6th March 2026

Dear Mr Meehan,

**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: 5782971 Plaish Park Farm, Church Stretton, SY6 7HX

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 600m of existing 11kV overhead line to three-phase, and upgrade approximately 170m of low-voltage overhead line 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 National Grid Electricity Distribution PLC (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of Shropshire Council (“the LPA”). In particular, 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 is located within the Shropshire Hills National Landscape.
4. The Applicant consulted the LPA, who confirmed that neighbour comments and objections had been noted but raised no objections to the development in its response on 3 December 2025.
5. The Secretary of State subsequently consulted the LPA on 14 January 2026 regarding the proposed development and the objections received. The LPA responded on 15 January 2026 and confirmed that it had no further comments on the application.
6. The Shropshire Hills National Landscape board confirmed that it had no comments to make on 3 December 2025 (reference: 25/04261/OHL).
7. The Secretary of State notes that the LPA received representations from local residents. These matters primarily related to the existing planning permission of the property to which the supply will connect, the principle of that development, the need for a three-phase supply, or possible future “planning creep”. Most of these issues, therefore, are not matters which fall to be considered as part of this screening opinion. In carrying out this screening the Secretary of State has considered all the information provided by the Applicant, taking account of the criteria set out in Schedule 3 of the 2017 Regulations and the views of the LPA.
8. The proposed development involves upgrading the existing overhead line to provide a three-phase supply. This includes reconductoring the line, replacing existing poles where required and carrying out associated low-voltage service works, as shown on the submitted plans. The works are confined to the existing electricity line corridor



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and will involve short-duration construction activities such as using existing access routes, replacing poles, and restringing conductors. Only limited vegetation clearance and localised excavation will be required, and only where necessary for pole replacement or service works. The applicant has confirmed that reconductoring will take place within the same footprint as the existing infrastructure with an additional new underground service being installed from one of the low voltage poles.

9. The Secretary of State notes the limited scale of the works, the current use of the land as arable farmland, the temporary, localised nature of any impacts and that the proposed development is a minor modification to existing infrastructure. The Secretary of State therefore considers that there are no likely significant effects arising from the expected residues and emissions and the production of waste or the use of natural resources, in particular soil, land, water and biodiversity and that the proposed development is not likely to have significant effect on the National Landscape in which it is located.

Yours sincerely,

Calum Haig
Consent Manager
Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery Team