



Department for  
Energy Security  
& Net Zero

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Our ref: 2392u  
Your ref: LRC/GB/T-484

9<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Dear Miss Davies,

**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: Musty Haulgh Farm, Granville Street, Burnley, BB10  
2RA**

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:



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- Installation of x1 steel lattice 132kV tower, new cable sealing end platforms and x2 new underground cables connecting the overhead line to a new substation with the site.

### 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 Electricity North West Limited (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of Burnley Borough 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 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, which reviewed the proposed development and, on 15 December 2025, confirmed that an EIA is not required. The LPA concluded with no objections.
5. An Ecological Survey was carried out on 3 October 2025 by RSK ADAS Limited, followed by the preparation of an Ecological Constraints Reports dated 15 October 2025.
6. The survey assessed ecological constraints and potential impacts arising from the proposed development, and set out details of avoidance measures, seasonal controls and working methods to be embedded throughout the construction.
7. The site is made up of grazed grassland and was being used by horses at the time of the survey. A small watercourse (Walshaw Clough) runs along the western boundary and is bordered by trees. There are farm buildings to the south, with the wider area mostly consisting of farmland, housing, industrial areas and small areas of woodland.
8. One pond was recorded about 150 m to the south. It is used by waterfowl and contains fish, making it unsuitable for Great Crested Newts. Walshaw Clough is shallow and slow-moving, with little vegetation, and is also unsuitable for Great Crested Newts.
9. A small patch of Himalayan Balsam was identified on the western edge of the site, around 25 m away from the proposed works.



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10. In the absence of mitigation, the proposed development is likely to adversely impact the Ecology of the site. It is therefore recommended that the Applicant implements all measures outlined in the Ecological Constraints Report (reference: WNT69105-2353 (00)) to minimise the risk of impacts on wildlife and protected species.
11. In accordance with The Electricity (Applications for Consent) Regulations 1990, the applicant published a statutory notice to the public in the local newspaper, the Burnley Express on 27 February 2026 & 6 March 2026. The Applicant received no representation regarding the proposed development by the deadline of 3 April 2026.
12. A 152 MWh battery energy storage system (BESS) facility is being developed at an industrial estate in Burnley. Full planning permission for the BESS facility has been granted by Burnley Borough Council on 20 July 2023 (reference FUL/2021/0375). The nearest suitable point of connection for importing and exporting electricity to and from the BESS facility is the existing 132 kV overhead 'DR' line, which is owned and operated by the Applicant. The proposed development relates to works required to facilitate this connection and comprises a minor modification to existing infrastructure. As such, it is not likely to have a significant effect on the National Landscape in which it is located.

Yours sincerely,

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