



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

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Our ref: 2454u
Your ref: FGF659

15 April 2026

Dear Ms Sandhu,

**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: FGF659- PIG BARN

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 West Berkshire Council (“the LPA”) for information.

Screening decision for a proposed development (“the proposed development”) to:

- Line upgrade of a 11kV, 160m overhead line to 3-phase
- Removal of a PMT and pole and erection of a terminal pole and 100kVA 3PH PMT



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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 Southern Electric Power Distribution PLC (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of the West Berkshire Council. 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 following designated area:
 - North Wessex Downs National Landscape
4. The applicant consulted with Natural England who confirmed they had no objections to the proposed development in communications in January 2026.
5. The applicant consulted with the North Wessex Downs National Landscape who confirmed they had no objections to the proposed development in communications in February 2026.
6. The Applicant consulted with the LPA who had no objection to the proposed development (reference: 26/00122/ELEC8) in March 2026. It noted that the overhead line passed over public footpaths, which may require temporary closure and therefore any works that may be on, or affect the footpaths should be coordinated with the Local Highway Authority. It concluded that the proposed development is not an EIA development.
7. The Secretary of State notes the limited scale of the works, 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,



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Anna-Maria Inglis
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