



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Clarissa Dunwoody-Kneafsey
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Our ref: 2476u
Your ref: SWT2221/58CK20

17 June 2026

Dear Miss Dunwoody-Kneafsey,

**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: HV DIVERSION AT DUKES MEADOW, PENDINE

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:

- Dismantle approximately 180 metres of 11kV overhead line and replace one 11kV H pole



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- Install one 11kV H pole, two low voltage poles and approximately 25 metres of low voltage overhead line

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 (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of Carmarthenshire County 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 Laugharne-Pendine Burrows Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Laugharne–Pendine Burrows Historic Landscape.
4. Heneb was consulted due to the works being located within a historic landscape and confirmed on 11 July 2025 that the works can proceed without archaeological mitigation.
5. An ecology survey was conducted at the site of the proposed development on 18 November 2025, and the subsequent “Preliminary Ecological Appraisal” was issued by Wyndrush Wild (reference: WW/181125). The survey found that no bat roost features were present within the mature trees along the proposed new line route. Water voles have been recorded in the wider area and may use the pond within the survey site, although no field signs were identified and the proposed works would not affect the pond. The site has low potential to support reptiles and is of minor value for nesting birds. No Birds of Conservation Concern were recorded, although a Cetti’s warbler (Schedule 1 species) was heard approximately 50 metres from the site, and species such as dunnock may nest within scrub areas. To mitigate potential ecological impacts, access to poles near the pond will be undertaken on foot. Any removal of woody vegetation should be carried out outside of the main bird breeding season, unless a survey completed by a competent ornithologist prior to works establishes the absence of nesting birds. Mechanical works near the pond and adjacent to the river should follow best practice for pollution prevention. These mitigations are secured through conditions 3 to 6 of the



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associated consent granted under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989.

6. Natural Resource Wales (NRW) was consulted regarding the designated sensitive area and on 25 February 2026 granted conditional assent to the development, valid until 1 November 2026 (reference: A005515/1). Conditions include a minimum 3 metre buffer to protect the pond and nearby water courses, within which no machinery or earthworks are permitted, alongside the implementation of pollution prevention measures at all times, with contractors required to adhere to the GPP5 guidance for works in or near water.
7. The Applicant consulted the LPA which raised no objection to the development on 27 March 2026 (planning reference: PL/10512), subject to conditions.

Yours sincerely,

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