



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Claire Griffiths
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Our ref: 2554u
Your ref: CW52671 - PRESTON HILL SOLAR FARM

13 August 2026

Dear Mrs Griffiths,

**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: CW52671 - PRESTON HILL SOLAR

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:

- Construct a new 132kV tower;
- Install overhead conductors between the tower and two proposed gantry positions;
- Remove an existing 132kV tower



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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 (“the Applicant”) in relation to the impacts on the environment of the proposed development and the views of South Staffordshire Borough Council (“the LPA”). In reaching her 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 132kV kilovolts;
3. The proposed development does not fall within any designated sensitive areas.
4. The Applicant consulted with the LPA, which raised no objection to the development, subject to conditions, on 2 July 2026 (planning reference: 26/00148/OHLS37). The conditions set out in the LPA’s Case Officer Report have been agreed by the Applicant.
5. Public Notices regarding the proposed development were posted in local newspapers on 1 April 2026 and 8 April 2026. Zero representations were received regarding the proposed development by the deadline of 6 May 2026.

Yours sincerely,

Anna-Maria Inglis
Consent Manager
Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery Team