Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

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Our ref: S3700022
Your ref: FEX837

07 October 2026

Dear Mr Elson

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: FEX837

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:

Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

- Upgrade approximately 1,159 metres of existing 11kV overhead line from two wires to three wires.

Secretary of State considerations:

1. 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 Dorset Council ("the LPA"). In particular, in reaching her decision the Secretary of State notes the following factors:

   a) The proposed development does not fall within Schedule 1 (mandatory EIA);
   b) 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.
   c) The proposed development is located within the Dorset National Landscape.
   d) The Applicant consulted the LPA, which, on 13 July 2026, concluded that the proposed development was not likely to have significant environmental effects and therefore advised that EIA was not required. The LPA raised no objections to the proposed development (reference: P/STA/2026/01074).
   e) The Applicant consulted with Dorset National Landscape board, which reviewed the proposed development and, in its response dated 18 February 2026, confirmed that it had no objection to the proposed works.

2. The proposed development is a minor modification to an existing infrastructure and is not likely to have a significant effect on the National Landscape in which it is located.

Yours sincerely,

Anna-Maria Inglis

Consent Manager
Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery Team