

CIRCULAR 14/90 – ELECTRICITY OVERHEAD LINES NOTIFICATION CASE OFFICER REPORT

APPLICATION REFERENCE:	PL/2026/00410
APPLICATION TYPE:	Section 37 Notification - Overhead Lines Electricity Act
SITE ADDRESS:	Land at Broomfield Farm, Easton Piercy, Kington St Michael, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN14 6JU
DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION:	Improve and reinforce the existing local electricity network at Broomfield Farm, Easton Piercy, Kington St. Michael, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN14 6JU by upgrading the existing overhead line. In order to facilitate the improvement of the local network, the line will be upgraded to three phase by adding a third conductor along the alignment, highlighted yellow on the attached plan with this application. Where required, the existing poles will be upgraded like for like and an additional staywires to be installed in the position marked by the red 'T' marks on the attached plan with this application. A new terminal 'H' pole will also be installed with an upgraded pole mounted transformer. One span and pole will be removed as part of the proposal.
RECOMMENDATION:	No objection

SITE DESCRIPTION & PROPOSAL

The proposal is to upgrade the existing overhead line to three phase, associated pole replacements where required (like for like), additional staywires, and a new terminal 'H' pole with upgraded pole mounted transformer on land at Broomfield Farm, Easton Piercy.

There are three Grade II listed buildings to the south at Cromhall Farm. There is a public right of way to the west of the overhead line (ref: YKEY7).

CONSULTATION

Kington St Michael Parish Council - No objection

ASSESSMENT

Consents for the construction of overhead lines with a nominal voltage below 132 kilovolts or a length of less than 2 kilometres continue to be regulated under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989. The Overhead Lines (Exemption) (England and Wales) Regulations 2009 and set out the limited circumstances where consent is not required. According to the submitted plans, the proposed pole replacement relates to overhead lines with a 11kV.

An application is being made to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero for consent under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 and deemed planning permission under Section 90(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The Local Planning Authority's views are sought to assist the Secretary of State's decision-making.

The Planning Act 2008 introduced a threshold of 132kV and above for overhead lines to constitute Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs). As the proposal falls below this threshold, it does not require a Development Consent Order and is appropriately considered under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989.

The proposal involves the upgrading of the existing overhead line to three phase, associated pole replacements where required (like for like), additional staywires, and a new terminal 'H' pole with upgraded pole mounted transformer. The works would result in very limited visual change, and it is not considered that the proposal would give rise to landscape harm.

There are three Grade II listed buildings to the south at Cromhall Farm. The existing overhead lines are already visible within the wider setting of the farmhouse and associated farm buildings. The proposed upgrades would maintain a very similar visual relationship. As such, the works would result in no harm to the setting of the listed buildings.

No objections have been received and Wiltshire Council have no objection to the proposal.

Please find the completed Form B attached.

RECOMMENDATION:

No objection