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Reinforcement to the North Shropshire Electricity Distribution Network



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Environmental Statement Appendix 8.5
Historic Environment Scoping Opinion Response

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November 2018

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Electricity Distribution Network**

**APPENDIX 8.5
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT
SCOPING OPINION RESPONSE**

Environmental Statement

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The Planning Act 2008

The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

Regulation 5(2)(a)

Reinforcement to the North Shropshire Electricity Distribution Network

Environmental Statement: Appendix 8.5 – Historic Environment Scoping Opinion Response

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SP Manweb plc, Registered Office: 3 Prenton Way, Prenton, CH43 3ET. Registered in England No. 02366937

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APPENDIX 8.5:

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOPING OPINION RESPONSE

1.1 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 This section provides the response to the historical environment assessment comments raised by the Secretary of State (SoS) within the Scoping Opinion¹. Table A8.5.1 lists the issues raised by the SoS within the Scoping Opinion and how these have been addressed in the Environmental Statement (ES).

Table A8.5.1: Issues Raised and Responses to the Scoping Opinion		
Para	Issue Raised by SoS	Response
Historic Environment		
3.62	The SoS notes the intention to undertake desktop data gathering in line with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 'Standard and guidance for Historic Environment desk-based assessment', and Historic England's Good Practice Planning Advice Note GPA3: 'The Setting of Heritage Assets'.	-
3.63	The SoS notes the use of the guidance in the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges in lieu of specific guidance relating to the assessment of effects on heritage assets, with some divergence where appropriate. The Applicant should engage closely with the Heritage Conservation team at Shropshire County Council together with Historic England. Wherever possible agreement should be sought on the assessment	Methodology and scope agreed with relevant consultees as presented in Chapter 8 'Historic Environment' (DCO Document 6.8) of the ES with further details provided in the relevant appendices.

¹ <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020021/EN020021-000012-Scoping%20Opinion.pdf>

Table A8.5.1: Issues Raised and Responses to the Scoping Opinion		
Para	Issue Raised by SoS	Response
	methodology, including the viewpoints to be assessed and how potential adverse effects can be minimised or avoided, e.g. through design/siting changes and/or mitigation measures. The scope of any proposed survey work to determine the assessment baseline should also be discussed and agreed with these bodies.	
3.64	The SoS welcomes the clarification of terminology in relation to ‘significance of effect’ as set out in paragraphs 10.2.26 – 10.2.28 of the Scoping Report, and notes that study areas of 2km and 5km are proposed (paragraph 10.7.4). <i>which (the Proposed Development) would potentially give rise to significant visual effects.</i> (paragraph 10.7.4), particularly considering that a 5km study area is proposed for the visual assessment.	Noted
3.65	In terms of assessing the setting, the SoS notes the use of Historic England’s Good Practice Planning Advice Note. The Scoping Report states that as a computer generated Zone of Theoretical Visibility would be unreliable, field survey will be used to gain understanding of the visibility of the proposed development. The comments made by the SoS in relation to this approach in the section on visual amenity above also apply here.	Methodology, study area and scope agreed with relevant consultees as presented in Chapter 8 ‘Historic Environment’ (DCO Document 6.8) of the ES with further details provided in the relevant appendices.
3.66	The Scoping Report states that to assess the effect on archaeology, best practice and guidance notes	Methodology agreed with relevant consultees and an overview is presented in Chapter

Table A8.5.1: Issues Raised and Responses to the Scoping Opinion

Para	Issue Raised by SoS	Response
	by CifA and Historic England are to be used. However a detailed methodology has not been included in the Scoping Report. As suggested above the methodology should be discussed and agreed with Shropshire Council and Historic England.	8 'Historic Environment' (DCO Document 6.8) of the ES. Greater detail on methodology is presented in Appendix 8.1 'Historic Environment Assessment Methodology' (DCO Document 6.8.1).
3.67	The mitigation measures discussed in the Scoping Report include those in the CEMP and the Written Schemes of Investigation (WSIs). The ES should make it clear what measures would be included in the CEMP and the WSI so it is clear what level of mitigation has been taken into account in the assessment. It should also be clear how delivery of the measures set out in these documents has been secured in the DCO.	The mitigation approach for the Proposed Development is set out in Section 4.6 of Chapter 4 'Approach and General Methodology' (DCO Document 6.4) of the ES. Good practice working methods are set out in the draft CEMP (DCO Document 6.3.2).
3.68	The SoS welcomes the consideration at paragraph 10.7.59 of interdiscipline relationship effects in the ES. This approach should be demonstrated in all topics, as appropriate.	Noted
3.69	The Applicant's attention is drawn to the comments, contained in Appendix 3 of this Opinion, of Historic England, and the Canal and River Trust, particularly in respect of potential impacts on the Montgomery Canal and its structures.	All statutory consultee comments accompanying the Scoping Opinion are noted and have been fully considered within the historic environment assessment presented in Chapter 8 'Historic Environment' (DCO Document 6.8) of the ES and its associated appendices.