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Environmental Protection

AQUIND Limited

PLANNING ACT 2008 (AS AMENDED) REGULATION 32 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2017

NOTIFICATION OF INFORMATION ABOUT DEVELOPMENT LIKELY TO HAVE SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN ANOTHER EEA STATE

PROPOSED AQUIND INTERCONNECTOR

AQUIND Limited has formally notified the Secretary of State, of its intention to submit an Environmental Statement.

The proposals are for a subsea AQUIND Interconnector with a nominal net capacity of 2000MW between the UK and France. The marine aspect of the Proposed Development is defined as the marine cable corridor from the Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) mark within the UK at Portsmouth to the UK/France European Economic Zone (EEZ) boundary in the English Channel. Onshore the interconnector makes landfall at Eastney, Hampshire and terminates at the Lovedean substation in Hampshire.

Information about the Proposed Development and about its likely significant effects is available in the Scoping Report and the Secretary of State's Scoping Opinion which are available electronically on the Planning Inspectorate's website:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/aquindinterconnector/?ipcsection=overview>

and in hard copy at the following location:

The Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6PN

Based on the current information provided by the Applicant to the Secretary of State, and applying a precautionary approach, the Secretary of State is of the view that the Proposed Development is likely to have significant effects on the environment in Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, the Netherlands, and Spain. In accordance with Regulation 32 of the EIA Regulations the Secretary of State has provided information to the above mentioned EEA States about the Proposed Development and its likely significant effects, and these States have been asked to indicate by 22nd May 2019 whether or not they wish to participate in the procedure for examining and determining the application under the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) (PA2008) and Regulation 32 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (EIA Regulations). This Regulation transposes Article 7 of EU Directive 85/337/EC as amended into the legislation of England, Wales and Scotland.

The Proposed Development is currently at the pre-application stage of the process. The Applicant has not yet submitted an application to the Secretary of State. If the application is accepted for examination, the application will be examined in public and, subject to the provisions of the PA2008, the examination must be completed within a period of six months. Further information about how to participate in the examination procedure under the PA2008 and the way in which the Secretary of State will notify and consult EEA States in accordance with Regulation 32 of the EIA Regulations is available on the Planning Inspectorate's website: www.planningportal.gov.uk/infrastructure.

Following examination of the application and having taken the environmental information into consideration, the decision maker may refuse or grant development consent. If development consent is granted, this may be subject to requirements which, if necessary, will secure measures to avoid, reduce or offset the major adverse effects of the proposed development.

Date: 15 April 2019

Marie Shoemith, Senior EIA and Land Rights Advisor on behalf of the Secretary of State

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