



AQUIND Limited

AQUIND INTERCONNECTOR

Consultation Report – Appendix 1.1N Non-Statutory Consultation – Pre-exhibition Press Release

The Planning Act 2008

The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 – Regulation 5(2)(q)

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Proposals for new cross-Channel electricity interconnector to go on display to the local community

The local community will have the opportunity to view proposals for AQUIND Interconnector, a new underground and subsea electric power transmission link that will connect the GB and French electric power grids.

Having recently launched a programme of community consultation, AQUIND Ltd, the developers of AQUIND Interconnector, has been engaging with affected landowners and stakeholder at Parish and District Councils in Portsmouth, East Hampshire, Havant and Winchester.

AQUIND is now inviting the wider community to attend one of a series of public exhibitions at venues located at locations along the proposed interconnector route. Members of the project team will be on hand to discuss the proposals, answer questions and record feedback on:

Wednesday 24 January 2018

2 – 8 pm

Waterlooville Community Centre, 10 Maurepas Way, Waterlooville, PO7 7AY

Friday 26 January 2018

2 – 8 pm

Milton Village Community Hall, 182 Milton Road, Southsea, PO4 8PR

Saturday 27 January 2018

2 – 8 pm

Lovedean Village Hall, 160 Lovedean Lane, Waterlooville, PO8 9SF

Due to the nature of the project, the onshore and offshore elements of AQUIND Interconnector will be consented by separate bodies, including the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and relevant Local Planning Authorities in the UK.

To date, no planning applications have been submitted to the relevant planning authorities. Scoping reports will be submitted to the relevant Local Planning Authorities in the near future.

Following the public exhibitions, AQUIND will review all the feedback received and, where possible, consider amendments to the design of the interconnector and the proposed mitigation strategies before submitting planning applications to the relevant planning authorities.

A spokesperson for AQUIND said:

“Following an extensive and detailed optioneering process, we now look forward to displaying our proposals for AQUIND Interconnector to the local community. We are keen to understand the views of local people and look forward to discussing the proposals and recording feedback before finalising our planning applications.”

“In designing the scheme, we have strived to achieve as low visual impact as possible. AQUIND interconnector will use well-tested and reliable cable technology. Burying the cable underground will avoid the need for the construction of overhead lines and their associated visual impact.

“With a capacity of 2GW, AQUIND Interconnector has the potential to supply as much as 5% of the UK’s electricity needs and would further the Government’s ambition of achieving an integrated energy market in which families and firms get the best value for their money.”

The local community can contact the project team via:

- Website: www.aquindconsultation.co.uk
- Freephone: 01962 893 869
- Email: aquindconsultation@becg.com
- Freepost: AQUIND CONSULTATION

- ENDS -

For further information please contact

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Notes to Editors:

About AQUIND Limited:

AQUIND Limited is a UK-registered company and its sole business is the development of AQUIND Interconnector.

AQUIND Limited is not associated with any UK or European utilities and the AQUIND Interconnector project is being developed without government subsidies.

For further information about AQUIND, please visit: www.aquind.co.uk

Consultation Website:

Further information is available at www.aquindconsultation.co.uk

Key Information:

If approved, AQUIND Interconnector will increase competition across energy markets which could mean lower energy prices for consumers and businesses.

AQUIND Interconnector will use well-tested and reliable technology and will not include any overhead lines; striving to achieve as low visual impact as possible.

The UK Government and European Commission have identified that interconnectors are vital for achieving an integrated energy market in which families and firms get the best value for their money.

Once complete AQUIND Interconnector will have the capacity to transmit up to 16 million MWh* of electricity per year – equivalent to 5% of the total annual consumption of Great Britain currently, and 3% of the total annual consumption of France.

The plans will improve security of supply, help to foster greater renewable energy integration, and provide greater flexibility in managing the UK's electricity grid.

At present, it is estimated that AQUIND Interconnector could become operational in 2022.

Scheme Benefits:

A reliable electricity supply for the UK and France

AQUIND Interconnector will allow transmission of electricity in both directions enabling the UK's and France's electricity grids to manage fluctuations in consumption and production more effectively.

This will improve the reliability of electricity supply in both countries. AQUIND Interconnector will have the capacity of 2,000 MW and transmit up to 16 million MWh of electricity each year between the two connected countries, which is 5% and 3% of the total consumption of Great Britain and France respectively, i.e. consumption by millions of households*.

Promoting energy market competition

By diversifying the sources of electricity, AQUIND Interconnector will promote greater competition across domestic energy markets. This could, in turn, help lower energy prices for consumers and businesses.

Tapping into cleaner sources of energy

Production of electricity by low carbon methods, such as wind or solar, is often reliant on local weather conditions. On non-windy days, this means more of our electricity is supplied from fossil fuels.

The construction of AQUIND Interconnector will enable the UK and France to trade surplus electricity generated from low-carbon sources, like wind farms. By tapping into this clean energy, our reliance on fossil fuel-generated energy is reduced.

No overhead lines

AQUIND interconnector will use well-tested and reliable cable technology. Burying the cable along the whole route avoids the need for the construction of overhead lines and their associated visual impact.

Investment in Energy Infrastructure

AQUIND Interconnector represents a significant investment in the UK's energy infrastructure and is being developed without government subsidies.

** The actual utilisation rate of the interconnector depends on market conditions, limitations by national transmission system operators and other factors*

