

#### **AQUIND Limited**

#### **AQUIND INTERCONNECTOR**

Consultation Report – Appendix 1.10 Non-Statutory Consultation – Media Coverage for Non-Statutory Consultation Events

The Planning Act 2008

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

Document Ref: 5.1.10

PINS Ref.: EN020022



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**WSP** 

**WSP House** 

70 Chancery Lane

London

WC2A 1AF

+44 20 7314 5000

www.wsp.com

## Plans for new interconnector near Waterlooville on show this month

By STAFF REPORTER

Email

Published: 06:34

Wednesday 10 January 2018

Volunteers raise £4,700 for Rowans Hospice



comments

HAVE

CONSULTATIONS will be held this month so that people can view plans for a new interconnector.

Aquind, which has drawn up proposals to bring electricity from France to the UK, wants to get the public's thoughts on the plans.

As previously reported in *The News* the proposals, which are in the early stages, would see electricity run from France through subsea cables, out of the sea at Eastney in Portsmouth, before going underground to Lovedean, near Waterlooville.

There, it will run to a new converter station and be distributed using the existing substation.

Three consultation events are taking place. They are:

n January 24 at Waterlooville Community Centre, on Maurepas Way, between 2pm and 8pm.

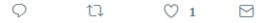
n January 26 at Milton Village Community Hall, on Milton Road, between 2pm and 8pm.

n January 27 at Lovedean Village Hall, on Lovedean Lane, between 2pm and 8pm.



Portsmouth Lib Dems @portsmouthId · Jan 26

Aquind Interconnector power cable proposed to come ashore at #Eastney from France make it's way up through the #Portsmouth Lovedean. Consultation exhibition at #Milton Village Hall from 2-8pm today @Spotted\_Pompey aquindconsultation.co.uk #LibDems #WorkingHardAllYearRound







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page rate £178.50, scc rate

Keyword: AQUIND



#### **LOVEDEAN**

# Planners have doubts about power plans as location is questioned

#### By Paul Ferguson

paul.ferguson@clanfieldpost.co.uk Newsdesk: 023 9257 2801

# AN ENERGY firm which is keen on building a massive power facility on open land near Lovedean will need to provide proof to planners that other sites have been considered.

Planners are unconvinced that land south and west of the Lovedean Substation is the best place for a converter station judging by the contents of a recent report.

They've also told Aquind bosses that they will need to produce an Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) as part of its scheme to link the substation to the French power grid via underground cables.

The firm behind the

£1.2bn scheme asked East Hampshire District Council (EHDC) if they would need to produce an EIA when they submit their full planning application.

Their plan to boost the UK's power options is to lay under sea cables from a power station near Le Havre to a landing site at Eastney in Portsmouth.

A further 20km of cables will be laid between the coastal site and the proposed converter station in Lovedean.

The cable route from Waterlooville to Lovedean or the site of the station has yet to be confirmed but it's clear Aquind will need to provide a lot more information if the scheme is to progress in East Hampshire due to the "absence of details".

Furthermore, planners



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Article Page 1 of 2



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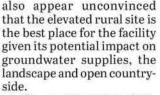
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The report states: "Evidence must be submitted demonstrating what alternative sites for the converter have been considered that may have a less sensitive impact on the environment.

"It is understood a position close to the substation is required so as to reduce the length of DC cables between the converter and the substation.

"However, similar systems at Daedalus and the FAB link in east Devon comprise much greater lengths of DC cables – approximately 5km in the case of the FAB link – and that raises the

question of whether alternatives further south of Lovedean may be more suitable."

The EHDC report also states that the development area is rich in wildlife with the proposed cable route through Denmead Meadows being a stand-out case due to its nature conservation value.

It's also currently being considered by Natural England for designation as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), while there's a possibility the rare Bechstein bat could live in woodlands around the site.

The report added: "Hazel dormouse is highly likely to occur within hedgerows in the agricultural land within the area, and there is a recent record from woodland immediately adjacent to the Lovedean substation."

### More details released about Lovedean link to Aquind interconnector scheme

Saturday, 9 December 2017 By Post in Local People

THE COMPANY behind plans which will see a site in Lovedean playing a key role in an important energy supply project has revealed more details about its proposed scheme.

Aquind has also confirmed it is planning to consult with the East Hampshire public about the project in general and a converter station being located on land in Lovedean.

The company last week launched its proposals for the Aquind Interconnector – a new underground and subsea electrical power transmission link between France and the UK's power grids, which its management hopes will be up and running in 2022.

The cable will come onshore at Eastney in Portsmouth and will then run for 20km to the new converter station at Lovedean.

Underground cables will be buried beneath existing verges and roads where possible and the converter station is needed to convert the electricity from direct current (DC) to alternation current (AC) once it has travelled between the two countries.

Lovedean was chosen as the location for the convertor station on this side of the English Channel for a number of reasons, including the existing substation already in the village which connects to the National Grid.



The current substation site in Lovedean - the Aquind Interconnector's converter station will be located close to this site.

Under the proposals, the converter station site will comprise a mix of buildings and outdoor electrical equipment, with the outdoor equipment being similar in nature to the equipment at the existing substation.

The new building's roof line will vary in height, but at its highest point it will reach 22 metres. Up to nine hectares of land will be needed for the station site, which will include buildings, outdoor equipment and any screening required.

The design and layout of the converter station has yet to be finalised. Aquind says the project will improve security of electricity supplies, aid renewable energy integration and provide greater flexibility in managing this country's electricity grid.

A spokesman for Aquind said: "This is an exciting project which brings huge possibilities in terms of improving reliability and promoting competition within the energy market."

A?public exhibition on the plans will be held in Lovedean Village Hall on January 27 in the new year.

## Aquind power plans to be presented to Denmead councillors

Saturday, 23 December 2017 By Post in Local People

MORE information about the plan to use a field near Lovedean as a major part in a new power supply scheme will be revealed to Denmead residents early in the new year.

A converter station will be built next to the Lovedean substation if the Aquind Interconnector scheme to link electricity supplies in France and England comes to fruition. Although the design and layout has yet to be finalised, the proposed development off Broadway Lane will cover the size of nine international rugby pitches. The converter station will have a maximum height of 22 metres while outdoor electrical equipment and screening is also planned.

As the site lies close to the Horndean and Denmead parish border, the developers have agreed to present their proposals to residents in Denmead on January 3.



Denmead residents can find out more about the Aquind interconnector project at the January 3 parish council meeting.

Denmead Parish Council has asked residents interested in attending to call 023 9224 7947 so they can arrange a suitable venue for the 7.30pm meeting.





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#### **LOVEDEAN**

# Campaigners criticise council over approval

#### By Paul Ferguson

paul.ferguson@clanfieldpost.co.uk Newsdesk: 023 9257 2801

## DISMAYED campaigners have accused planners of not "looking at the bigger picture" after giving an energy firm the green light to build on a field in Lovedean.

Residents are still fuming with East Hampshire District Council (EHDC) for approving plans to build an energy storage system on agricultural land south of the Lovedean substation.

The application – which includes 40 containers, each housing a battery, substations and a brick building – was unanimously approved by the EHDC's planning committee last month.

The decision has since been labelled "disappointing" by members of residents action group, Action to Protect the Living Environment Around Lovedean/Denmead (APLEAL), given the significant objections raised.

Members are also unhappy that the Anesco Ltd application was approved despite the fact the first application allegedly contained "many inconsistencies and inaccuracies".

"There were a large number of very legitimate objections raised," said Jeremy Warren, chairman of APLEAL, in a statement.

"But nonetheless, the council still agreed to this development.

"It's particularly disappointing that they have allowed yet another development through in the same small area, which has already seen an extension to the Lovedean substation and the construction of a large solar field in recent years."

Protestors were also unhappy that plans to build an interconnector station at a yet-to-be determined site close to the substation were also not considered.

The station will be part of the Aquind project to connect the substation with the French power grid but as an application has not yet been submitted, the Anesco application has to be considered on its own merits.

Mr Warren added: "We have the even larger Aquind interconnector project looming on the horizon.

"The council is only choosing to look at each proposal separately, rather than the detrimental effects of all the projects combined, which is utterly nonsensical.

"This is large-scale industrialisation of an area of beautiful Hampshire countryside just outside the South Downs National Park and it simply has to stop."

People who attended the EHDC hearing heard the energy storage facility west of Broadway Lane would be screened by a variety of trees and would primarily act as a back-up station.

No one seconded a motion for rejection, put forward by Councillor Ferris Cowper, during the EHDC Planning Committee meeting.

APLEAL is keen to hear from potential members or anyone who would like more information. For more details e-mail: apleal2018@ gmail.com



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Love Eastney shared Ben Dowling's post.

#### Ben Dowling ► Keep Milton Green!!

26 January at 13:40 - Portsmouth - €

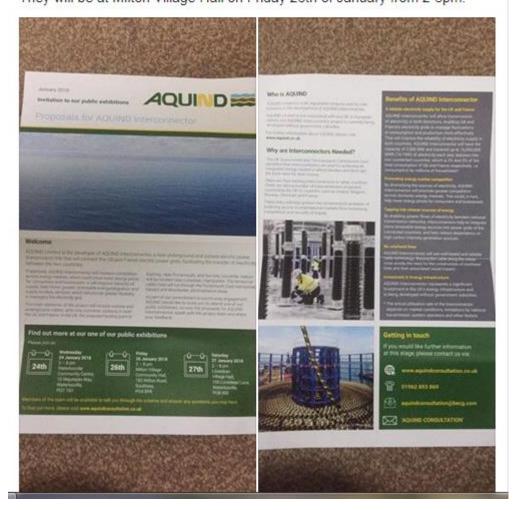
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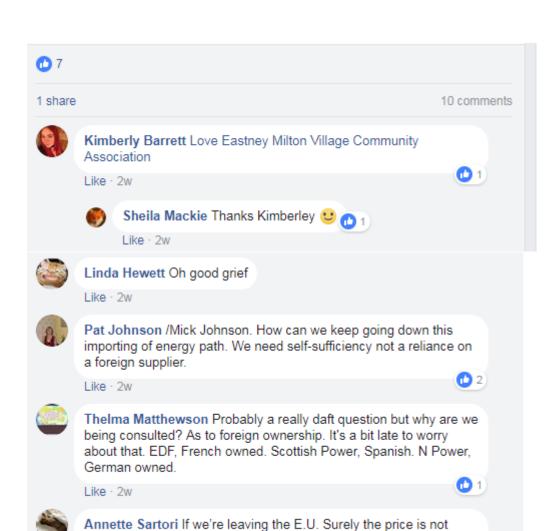
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..



going to be cheap.

Like · 2w

#### Post-Exhibition comments:



**Shelagh Simmons** Don't forget this is TODAY - Friday, 26th January.

Like · 4d · Edited





Sue Cottrell Yes, like Thelma said, why are we being consulted? What are we likely to object to? (genuine question: completely clueless on this).

Like · 4d



Shelagh Simmons Have shared a link below that gives some background information, Sue, so hope it's helpful. Personally, my concerns are to know exactly where this would be at Eastney, what the environmental impact might be and whether this scheme could ensure better security of supply. Other people may have different issues.

Like · 4d





Clare Ash Digging up Bransbury Road, Milton Road, to all the way north of the city. Probably be a nightmare getting into or out of Pompey. I guess I should have taken a photo of their map.

Like · 4d



Shelagh Simmons Please have a look here for more information:

http://aquindconsultation.co.uk

AQUIND – Connecting the UK and French electric power grids

AQUINDCONSULTATION.CO.UK

Like · 4d



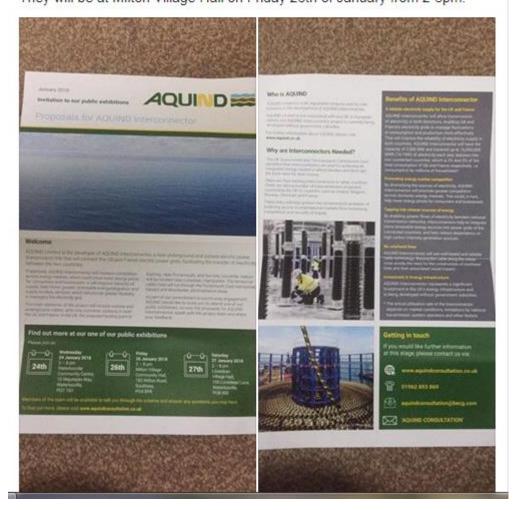
Clare Ash No map here of where they will be digging up the roads.

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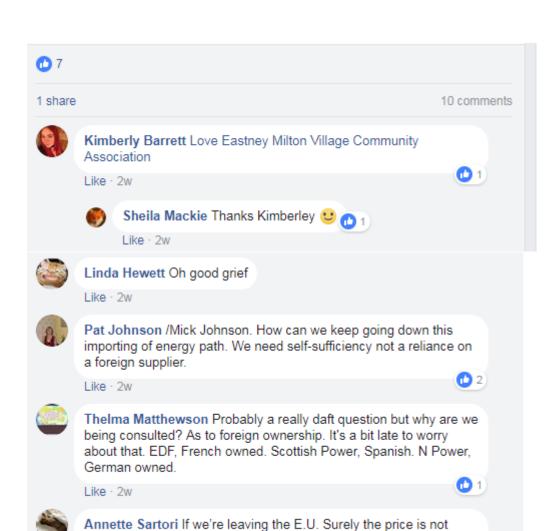
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Like · 4d



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Kimberly Barrett I couldn't go (first consultation ever I have not been able to attend!) due to lack of childcare but was informed of what was there etc. I have concerns about the disruption to main roads in Milton and out of the city - it means that it would be staggered etc but it is something that would cause major disruption and is definitely something to be mindful of. Def needs more research as Sarah has mentioned regarding the environmental impact to the seabed

Like · 3d



Sarah Brown It would cause major disruption..we all know the impact of short closures, accident and roadworks on the Eastern Road and Milton Road. They spoke of closing parts of lanes and working at night and said that they wouldn't be able to dig up roads by schools in the day time. They use some pretty hefty equipment too so where would that go. From the pictures that i saw the space needed looks bigger than one lane.

Like · 3d



Julie Trevellick I only heard about this just now. My initial concerns are re the environmental impact on the seabed and on the marine and vegetative shingle beach ecosystems - Eastney Beach might look like a load of pebbles with some weeds but it's an incredibly rare habitat type with some important and rare flora and fauna species. Was there any mention of these at all?

Like - 3d



Sarah Brown No, they said that the landing point would cause minimal impact. As a company they haven't assessed the route yet but of the options various other places including Hayling have been ruled out. It sounds like a done deal to me. I found an impact study from a few years ago (not commissioned by Aquind as this is their first project of this type). It's long and hard going, fairly vague but talks about the effects of disturbing the seabed on it's inhabitants. Also the effects of an electro magnetic field and how that effects migration of certain species etc. It also depends if they dig a channel to bury the cables or lay them on the surface and then bury them. As a feat of engineering it sounds quite impressive but whether the gains are worth the disruption and possible environmental damage are another thing? I'm waiting to hear back from Friends of the Earth as to whether the practice and the company are desirable (or not).

Like - 2d





Julie Trevellick Thank you for taking time to reply !





Hilary Reed This was too short notice for a fair consultation, and on a Friday afternoon evening. Company needs to do another one with more notice.

Like · 2d





Shelagh Simmons https://www.portsmouth.co.uk/.../people-openminded-about...



People 'open-minded' about Portsmouth interconnector development

PORTSMOUTH.CO.UK

Like · 2d

LOVEDEAN

## Reponse was largely positive for energy plans

BY PAUL PERGUSON

paul fergusongctartfeldpost.cu sk. Newsdesk: 023 9257 2501

AN ENERGY firm has promised to carefully consider its plans for a converter station near Lovedean in light of public feedback.

The announcement from Aquind bosses follows the end of a public consultation into plans to create an underground electricity link between the UK and France.

A subsea cable linking a power station near .e Havre with a landing point at Eastney will be laid under the English Channel if the £1.22bn project becomes a reality.

A further 20km of calile will also be laid between Eastney and a new converter station next to the Lovedean substation.

Some 278 people viewed the ambitious plans when they went on display in Lovedean, Waterlooville and Southsea in late January.

And, although some residents have accused the organisers of 'misleading' visitors with their illustrations and lack of succinct facts, the organisers insist that overall feedback was positive.

Some 68 per cent expressed support for the project while more than two thirds, or 67 per cent, agreed or strongly agreed with the aims of the project.

A further 60 per cent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the approach to the converter station design while 70 per cent felt the same way about the approach to the underground cable design.

"Aquind would like to thank everyone who took the time to provide feedback as part of this round of consultation," said a spokesman for the privately-funded firm.

"We are, of course, pleased to see the support for the project reflected in the feedback received, but Aquind will also be considering all comments submitted carefully and feeding these into the design process for the converter station, cable route

and landfall locations.

"This will be a key consideration in finalising our plans in the coming months and we look forward to displaying the final proposals at further consultation events later this year."

Bosses believe the scheme will result in lower energy bills as the development will have the capacity to transmit up to five per cent of the United Kingdom's annual electricity consumption.

A planning application is expected later this year while bosses hope the scheme will become operations in 2022.

For more details about the project visit www. aquindeonsultation.co.uk

The firm has also submitted an application for a scoping opinion from Havant Borough Council and Portsmouth City Council.

Planning officers at the respective authorities through which the cable from Eastney to Lovedean will pass will be asked to gauge the environmental impact of the scheme.

## Our friends electric: interconnection and Brexit

Vote to leave EU has called into question Britain's role in regional power market



 $Links \ to \ the \ UK \ and \ French \ electricity \ grids \ are \ arguably \ as \ important \ as \ physical \ goods \ in \ Anglo-French \ trade \ talks \ @ \ AFP$ 

Andrew Ward

JANUARY 15, 2018

28

When French president Emmanuel Macron holds talks with UK prime minister Theresa May on Thursday, the future of Anglo-French trade after Brexit will be high on the agenda.

To most people, that conjures images of boats and trains ferrying physical goods across the English Channel. Less obvious, but arguably just as important, are the electrons transmitted through subsea cables linking the UK and French electricity grids.

<u>Interconnectors</u> have been promoted by both governments — and by the EU — as a way of increasing the flexibility and resilience of the European electricity system in an era when rising production of intermittent wind and solar power is making supplies <u>more volatile</u>. However, the UK vote to leave the EU has <u>called into question</u> Britain's role in this increasingly integrated regional power market.

"It is ironic that we are leaving the EU just at the time when we need to become more interconnected with the EU energy market," says Simon Virley, head of UK power and utilities at KPMG, the professional services group, and a former senior official in the UK energy department.

Cross-border interconnection allows countries to supplement their own domestic generating capacity with imported power when supplies are tight, and to export surpluses when demand is higher elsewhere. This capability is becoming increasingly important as a way to balance peaks and troughs in renewable power generation. On windy days, when the UK has more generating capacity than it needs, spare electricity can be exported to continental Europe, where weather patterns may be different. On days when the UK is short, it can fall back on nuclear power from France, hydro generation from Norway or gas, coal and renewable generation from across the continent.

The EU's internal energy market ensures that electricity can be traded seamlessly, without tariffs or regulatory hurdles. The same applies to gas supplies via cross-border pipelines. Mr Virley says a UK exit from the EU single market implies leaving the internal energy market as well. Future access to the market is dependent on agreement in the wider Brexit negotiations.

"Whilst most in the energy sector want the current tariff-free harmonised trading arrangements on gas and electricity to continue, in future we may not have much say on the rules that govern those trades," says Mr Virley. "Instead, like Switzerland, we may end up as observers at the key decision-making bodies."

Uncertainty over the future terms of cross-Channel trade in electricity has raised doubts over billions of pounds of planned investment in increased interconnector capacity.

There are currently four operational interconnectors between the UK and the rest of the EU: one each with France and the Netherlands and two with the island of Ireland, which has its own integrated energy market between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

At least 12 more UK interconnectors are at varying stages of construction or planning, five with France and others with Belgium, Denmark and Germany, as well as with non-EU Norway and Iceland.

If all these projects were completed, the UK's interconnection capacity would increase from its current 4 gigawatts — about 7 per cent of peak domestic demand — to more than 20GW. That would be equivalent to more than double existing UK nuclear power capacity.

The more advanced projects are proceeding, but people involved in some of those at an earlier stage say more clarity is needed on post-Brexit arrangements to give confidence to investors.

One of the proposed Anglo-French interconnectors is being developed by a company called Aquind, whose investors include Alexander Temerko, a Ukrainian-born British industrialist and large Conservative party donor. He says his project will go ahead irrespective of Brexit but wants Mrs May to raise the issue of energy trading when she meets Mr Macron at the Sandhurst military academy in Berkshire on Thursday.

"Technically, our project is very important for the EU as well as the UK," says Mr Temerko. "Brexit doesn't change the economic or technical case for interconnection, but politically it is not good because it creates instability."

Michael Fallon, the Conservative MP and former energy minister, says there are strong mutual incentives to prevent barriers to electricity trading after Brexit. The UK is usually a net importer from the rest of the EU, making it a valuable market for EU energy companies. But there have also been sustained periods over the past year when maintenance shutdowns of French nuclear plants have caused a reversal in the usual trend.

"Whether you are a Leaver or a Remainer, it is in the long term strategic interest of Britain that there is a genuine energy market across Europe," says Sir Michael.

The UK Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, says the UK government "continues to support interconnector projects and efficient electricity trading with our European neighbours". Referring specifically to the Anglo-French links, it added: "Even further interconnection would deliver significant benefits both to the UK and France and we will continue to engage with industry and the French government in support of interconnector projects."

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#### Ben Dowling @btldowling · Jan 26

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ta





### Aquind bosses hope to make a connection with Lovedean residents

Friday, 19 January 2018 By Post in Local People

#### AN ENERGY development between Lovedean and Denmead could provide up to five per cent of the UK's electricity needs.

The claim has been made by Aquind Ltd bosses as they prepare to unveil plans for a converter station off Broadway Lane to the public.

Residents in the southern parishes will get the chance to find out more about the Aquind Interconnector project next week as the firm is holding a series of public exhibitions.

The first will take place between 2pm and 8pm next Wednesday, January 24, in Waterlooville Community Centre, while the



A boat like this would be used to lay the subsea electricity cables from a power plant near Le Hayre to a landing point in Eastney, Portsmouth.

proposals will be displayed in Lovedean village hall during the same times next Saturday.

The project aims to connect the British and French power grids through underground and subsea cables. The firm has argued the link will improve the security and flexibility of the UK's electricity supply, while making allowances for more renewable energy sources to be added to the grid as Britain weens itself off fossil fuels.

The plan is to run four high-voltage underground cables from a landing point in Eastney to a converter station south of the Broadway Lane substation. The development could cover between six to nine hectares of land while the roof height of the converter station would be 22 metres at its peak.

The firm has already discussed its proposals in the district as it gave a presentation to Denmead Parish Council on January 3.

The feedback it receives next week could influence the design of the interconnector and other proposed "mitigation strategies" ahead of the submission of a planning application.

"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," said a spokesman for Aquind.

"In designing the scheme, we have strived to achieve as low a visual impact as possible. The interconnector will use well-tested and reliable cable technology while burying the cable underground will avoid the need for the construction of overhead lines.

"With a capacity of 2GW, Aguind has the potential to supply as much as five per cent of the UK's electricity needs."

#### Decision on Lovedean power development is delayed

Thursday, 18 January 2018 By Post in Local People

## A DECISION on whether a miniature power plant should be created near Lovedean has been put on hold.

Plans to create an energy storage facility off Broadway Lane were due to be decided by East Hampshire District Council last Thursday.

The proposals by Anesco Ltd for land south of the Lovedean substation were recommended for approval by planning officers, but the hearing was deferred as further consultation is needed with Portsmouth Water Company, as it previously objected.

Forty containers, each containing a battery, have been proposed for land off Broadway Lane.

The development would be capable of generating 49.95mw of power at peak times with 40 containers, each containing a battery, being proposed.

The proposals are not linked with the Aquind interconnector project, the applicants have stated.



