



**AQUIND Limited**

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## **AQUIND INTERCONNECTOR**

Consultation Report – Appendix 1.3K  
Presentation to Recreational Angling  
Stakeholders March – April 2019

The Planning Act 2008

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

Document Ref: 5.1.3K

PINS Ref.: EN020022

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**DATE: 14 NOVEMBER 2019**

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# INTERCONNECTOR PROJECT

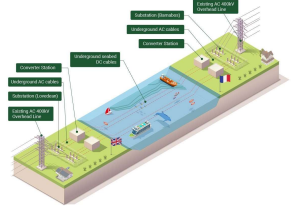
Linking UK and France  
Angling Meetings



## PROJECT INFORMATION

AQUIND Interconnector

- ❖ 'AQUIND Interconnector' is a proposed cross channel cable that would connect the electricity grids of the UK and France.
- ❖ This High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) would have a capacity of 2,000 MW, and transmit up to 16,000,000 MWh of electricity each year.
- ❖ The interconnector will support 5% of Britain's energy consumption.
- ❖ The project will incorporate marine (subsea) and onshore (underground) cables, as well as substations on land.

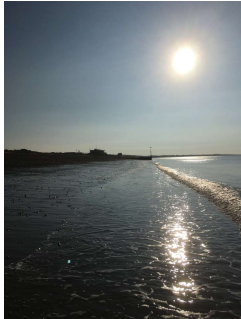


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## THE ROUTE

Marine cable corridor

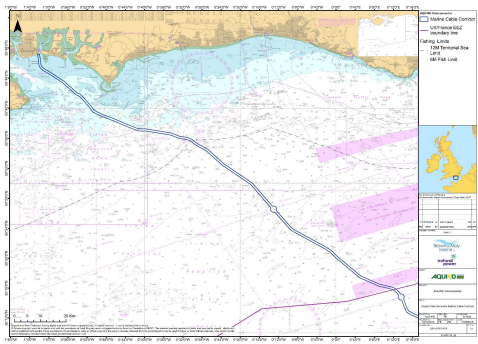
- ❖ The marine element of the cable route will be approximately 190 km (109km in UK waters).
- ❖ It will comprise four 140 mm high-voltage marine cables (2 bundles of 2).
- ❖ The bundled cables will be 50 m apart
- ❖ In the UK, the proposed landing point is at Eastney, near Portsmouth.
- ❖ On the French side, the interconnector's landing point will be in Pourville (Normandy).
- ❖ The route has changed, since first fisheries meetings due to input from fishermen and geophysical/geotechnical survey results.



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## CABLE CORRIDOR

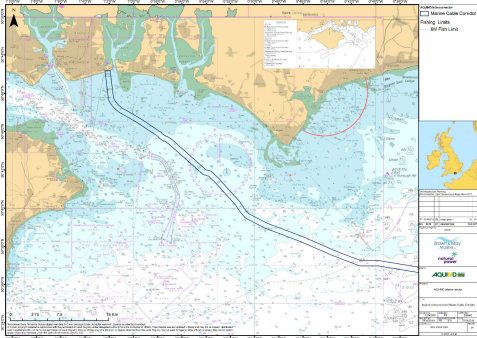
UK waters



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## CABLE CORRIDOR

UK Inshore Area




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## MARINE APPLICATION PROCESS

Update

- ❖ The project is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).
- ❖ Aquind is now preparing an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO), which covers marine and onshore in one application.
- ❖ This will include a Deemed Marine Licence (DML).
- ❖ An Environmental Impact Assessment for marine works is being carried out.
- ❖ The Preliminary Environmental Information report (PEIR) has been submitted



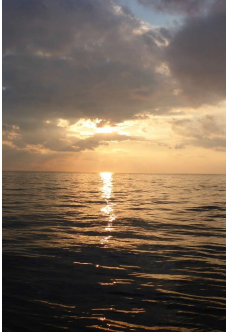
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### PROJECT TIMELINES

Update

Indicative timelines for marine elements of application (UK):

- Submission of Preliminary Environmental information – Q1 2019
- Public consultation – Q2 2019
- DCO submission – Q3 2019
- Anticipated DCO Decision – Q4 2020
- Earliest start of seabed preparation works – Q2 2021
- Earliest start of installation of marine works – Q4 2021
- Installation works up to 2 year 3 months – Q4 2021 to Q4 2023
- Total period (inc. seabed prep and installation) - 2 years 9 months





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### SURVEYS

Marine Survey

Marine surveys carried out:

- ❖ Intertidal surveys – July 2017
- ❖ Benthic surveys – (Drop Down Video and Grabs) - July 2017 – March 2018
- ❖ Geophysical survey – November 2017 – March 2018
- ❖ Geotechnical survey – June – August 2018

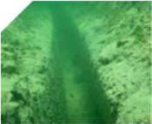
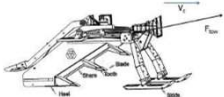




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### INSTALLATION OF CABLES

Potential technical methods

- ❖ Where possible, the marine cables will be buried in trenches under the seabed or, where trenches cannot be excavated, the subsea cables will be protected.
- ❖ Methods of cable installation may include:
  - ❖ Plough
  - ❖ Jet Trenching
  - ❖ Mechanical Trenching
  - ❖ Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD)

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### INSTALLATION OF CABLES

- ❖ The type of vessel will be decided as a result of the scientific campaigns.
- ❖ Example vessel types include:

Cable Lay Barge



Cable lay vessel






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### MICRO SITING

Wrecks

- ❖ Sites of archeological importance will be avoided
- ❖ This includes underwater structures such as wrecks
- ❖ They act as reefs and refuges for fish
- ❖ These areas are hotspots for angling
- ❖ No impact from the cable route is expected







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### WORST CASES

Cable installation

- ❖ The target burial depth is between 0.6 and 5.1 m below the sea bed
- ❖ A worst case of 19 km of the cable will be unable to be buried
  - ❖ Non burial protection will be used e.g. concrete matting
  - ❖ This includes non burial protection at cable crossings
- ❖ HDD will be used to drill under the intertidal area with break out at c1 km from the shore
- ❖ Dredging will be used to clear the cable route of large natural obstructions such as sand waves. Disposal will be outside the Solent.

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**ELECTRO-MAGNETIC FIELDS (EMF)**

- ❖ The cables to be installed are HVDC and not HVAC.
- ❖ DC cables emit much lower magnetic fields than AC.
- ❖ The marine cable will be buried for the majority of the marine cable corridor which will further reduce the magnetic field at the surface of the seabed.
- ❖ It is predicted that at 1m burial depth the EMF will be less than the earth's natural magnetic field of 50 micro-Tesla.

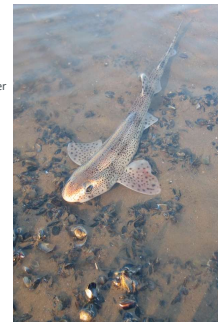
Cable Depth (m)	Magnetic Field at Seabed Level (micro-Tesla)
1	42
2	11
3	5
4	3
5	2
6	1



**WHAT WILL BE ASSESSED**

Environmental Impact Assessment

- ❖ Commercial fisheries assessment
- Installation (and decommissioning) and operation:
  - Complete/Temporary loss or restricted access to established fishing grounds
  - Complete/Temporary displacement of fishing activity into other areas;
  - Interference to normal fishing activities
  - Navigational safety issues for fishing vessels
  - Temporary increases/increased steaming times
  - Obstacles on the seabed after installation/maintenance
- ❖ Natural Fish and shellfish:
  - Installation (and decommissioning):
    - Temporary habitat disturbance
    - Temporary increase in suspended sediments
    - Noise and vibration.
  - Operation:
    - Electro-magnetic field (EMF) effects
    - Permanent habitat loss.



**RECREATIONAL ANGLING**

Bullocks Patch

- ❖ The cable will pass through the Solent
- ❖ An area which is fished recreationally from shore and boat
- ❖ The cable will be buried where possible with impacts to the seabed temporary
- ❖ The cable route passes to the east of the Bullock Patch:
  - ❖ A known mark for black seabream (April onwards)
  - ❖ Other species are also caught here throughout the year



**RECREATIONAL ANGLING**

Bullocks Patch



**WHY ARE WE HERE?**

Information on angling

- ❖ Here to gather information on where angling occurs and what your concerns are so we can assess the impacts to angling properly.



**GET IN TOUCH**

To find out more about AQUIND Interconnector, please visit <http://aquind.co.uk> or our consultation website at <https://aquindconsultation.co.uk> or for project documentation <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/aquind-interconnector/?ipsection=docs>

If you have any questions, you can contact the project team via:

Infoline: 01962 893 869

Email: [aquindconsultation@becg.com](mailto:aquindconsultation@becg.com)

Freepost: 'AQUIND CONSULTATION'

**For Fisheries related questions**

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