



**AQUIND Limited**

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# **AQUIND INTERCONNECTOR**

Consultation Report – Appendix 1.4U  
Statutory Consultation – Articles in local  
media about Statutory Consultation 2019

The Planning Act 2008

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

Document Ref: 5.1.4U

PINS Ref.: EN020022

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**PINS REF.: EN020022**

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**DATE: 14 NOVEMBER 2019**

WSP

WSP House

70 Chancery Lane

London

WC2A 1AF

+44 20 7314 5000

[www.wsp.com](http://www.wsp.com)



## Website launched to explain energy connector plans

PLANS for a cross-channel power link which will come ashore in Portsmouth will be available online to provide residents with information.

Portsmouth City Council has developed a website about the proposed **AQUIND** interconnector subsea and underground electric power transmission link.

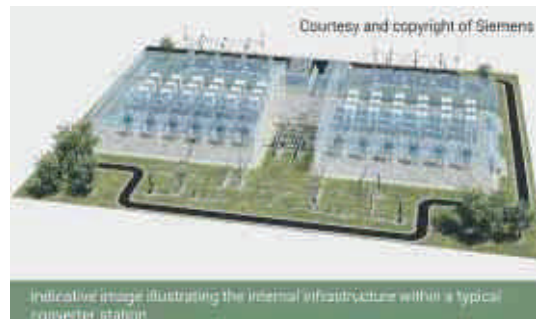
The purpose of the website is to explain the council's role and to signpost to further information and how people can get involved in the forthcoming

consultation on the project.

Council Leader, Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson said: 'Although this isn't a council project we thought the website would be useful to have as we've received a number of calls from residents about the project.'

The proposal has proved controversial and last year some residents were left worried about losing their homes to compulsory purchase order for the scheme.

Visit [interconnectorportsmouth.co.uk](http://interconnectorportsmouth.co.uk)





# Time to connect as site earmarked for power facility

**By PAUL FERGUSON**

paul.ferguson@petersfieldpost.co.uk  
Newsdesk: 01730 232605

**AN ENERGY firm is ready to connect with the public having chosen a site for a massive power facility between Lovedean and Denmead.**

Aquind bosses are pressing ahead with their £1.42bn scheme to link the Lovedean substation with the French power grid.

They have also earmarked a site for a converter station with land between Edneys Lane and the National Grid facility being favoured over a plot close to Broadway Lane cottages.

Little has been heard from the Russian-backed firm in recent months with initial proposals for a subsea power link between Eastney and Le Havre being presented more than a year ago.

But it has been working hard to “refine its proposals” and is now seeking extra feedback with another round of consultation events starting in Portsmouth on March 3.

A spokesman for Aquind said: “We remain committed to en-



PICTURE BY PAUL FERGUSON



Land west of the Lovedeane substation, seen here from the north, has been earmarked by Aquind for a converter station.

gaging with the local community and as part of our upcoming statutory consultation we look forward to discussing our updated proposals with the local community.

“We encourage all those with an interest in the project to take time to review the consultation materials at a public exhibition

event, which provide an opportunity to discuss the proposals with members of the Aquind project team.”

Events will take place from 4pm to 8pm in Jubilee Hall, Horndean, and Waterlooville Community Centre on March 14 and 21, with further sessions from the same times in the Eagle

Centre, Wecock on March 22 and in Denmead War Memorial Hall on April 5.

The firm is also due to speak to Denmead Parish Council’s planning committee in Ashling Pavilion from 7.30pm next Wednesday.

For more details visit [www.aquindconsultation.co.uk](http://www.aquindconsultation.co.uk)





# Residents raise their concerns on power link plans

**By PAUL FERGUSON**  
 paul.ferguson@petersfieldpost.co.uk  
 Newsdesk: 01730 232605

**UPDATED plans by an energy firm to connect the Lovedean substation to the French power grid are "vague" and lacking detail according to worried villagers.**

Representatives from Aquind also failed to succinctly answer questions about the scheme's funding, backing and motives following a presentation in Denmead last Wednesday.

The firm has begun a second round of consultation in its bid to link a power station near Le Havre to the National Grid through undersea and underground cables.

They will run from the Forest Road roundabout to a converter station west of the substation but the exact route has yet to be determined, with options including tunnelling under farmland west of Soake Road or underneath Hambledon Road, Mill Road, Martin Avenue and Anmore Road.

Bosses are hopeful the privately-funded scheme will be ap-



CONTRIBUTED PICTURE

A trench could be dug along Hambledon Road if a cable route via Martin Avenue and Mill Road, Denmead, is pursued.

proved by the Secretary of State in late 2020, with construction beginning the following year.

Concerns about disruption were raised during the presentation at Ashling Park Pavilion with one resident calling their previous consultation "appalling" as only 239 responses were received from a population of over 89,000.

The firm's decision not to draw up plans for a converter station was also criticised with Councillor Caroline Brook claiming that planners have doubts.

She said: "In all five local authorities there is an awful lot of disquiet and my view is that all five feel you're being equally vague."

Another resident said the proposals "lacked basic detail" and queried whether Aquind have the capacity to deliver, with representatives being very coy about the scheme's cost. An exhibition will take place from 4-8pm tomorrow (Thursday) in Horndean's Jubilee Hall. Visit [www.aquindconsultation.co.uk](http://www.aquindconsultation.co.uk)



## Residents' confusing letter - MP is involved

MP Penny Mordaunt has welcomed moves to clarify a controversial scheme that left people fearing they would lose their properties.

Aquind sent out a questionnaire to 1,500 homes detailing plans to install cables through Portsmouth to bring across electricity from France.

But the confusing nature of the letter left many people in the proposed affected areas of Eastney, Milton and Cosham worried a compulsory purchase order was being applied for.

Ms Mordaunt, the MP for Portsmouth North, met with the company, which has now sent out letters to residents to clarify matters.

The MP said: 'One of my requests made to Aquind was to urgently send a letter clarifying matters for residents. I was pleased that they agreed to comply with my request.

'I will keep constituents advised of this matter as it does or doesn't progress.

'Aquind have also advised of their lines of contact for residents to contact them directly.'



# Public can have say on electrical cable controversy

by **STEVE DEEKS**

Senior reporter

steve.deeks@thenews.co.uk

AN UNDER-fire firm that plans to install cables through Portsmouth to bring across electricity from France has announced its controversial proposals will be put to consultation today.

Aquind is giving the public a chance to leave feedback on its plans.

The interconnector would offer a link to France so electricity can be bought and sold under the channel, and the undersea cables would come on to land at Eastney.

The company notoriously sent out around 1,500 letters that left residents scared they would lose their homes, while others thought it was a scam.

## Company that scared city residents with letter keen to get feedback

People in Eastney, Milton and Cosham were sent a questionnaire that left people fearing their houses would be acquired by a compulsory purchase order after questions over whether properties had mortgages was asked to the recipients.

Aquind subsequently apologised and explained the document was a questionnaire that was part of the planning application process.

The consultation documents will be available to view at public exhibitions in Portsmouth, Havant, East Hampshire and Winchester. They will also be avail-

able to view on the company's website ([aquind.co.uk](http://aquind.co.uk)).

After criticism from initial proposals in January 2018, the company has since stated it has listened to the people and has refined its proposals.

A spokesperson for Aquind said: 'We've been working hard to refine our proposals in response to comments received.'

'We remain committed to engaging with the community and as part of our upcoming statutory consultation we look forward to discussing our updated proposals.'

'We encourage all those with an interest in the project

to take time to review the consultation materials online, at one of the deposit locations or at a public exhibition event, which provide an opportunity to discuss the proposals with Aquind's project team.

'The feedback received will assist us in further refining our plans before we submit an application for a development consent order.'

The scheme previously caused controversy when ex-council leader Donna Jones described it as 'pie in the sky' as it would cause congestion on Eastern Road for 18 months.

### HAVE YOUR SAY

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## Powerless

With months of traffic chaos and pollution fast approaching with the proposed Aquind Interconnector development having been given a 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project' rating, the residents of this most densely populated city in the UK are seemingly powerless in their opposition to it.

This project will have the potential to paralyse the Island of Portsea when it snakes its way through the Eastern seaboard of the city with months of lane closures ahead. The question has to be asked if Portsmouth City Council have been asked to play any part in the initial feasibility study of this project and if not, why not.

When it is stated that Portsea Island is the 'appropriate and preferred location' for this cable from France to make landfall, surely the question has to be asked what is the criteria for this outcome to come about?

What was so wrong with the initial 29 identified sites, whittled down to nine sites, which made the torturous route through the streets and roads of the most densely populated city in the UK with the associated traffic pollution really

assess the potential cable routes options, came to the outcome that these studies confirmed the most appropriate and preferred location for the landfall to be at Eastney at a site which will ensue months of misery, traffic pollution and gridlocked traffic.

It defies all logic and Portsmouth City Council has to demand access to these 'optioneering studies' to study why and how this outcome has been arrived at and what were the alternatives.

We have a right to know and contest these findings.

**Mick Johnson**  
Edgeware Road,  
Milton

***We have  
a right to  
know and  
contest these  
findings***

**MICK JOHNSON**

'appropriate'?

Portsmouth City Council must have grounds for a 'judicial review' on how this feasibility study, having reduced this to nine options, with further optioneering exercises then being undertaken to identify and





# Power plans back on agenda

**By PAUL FERGUSON**  
paul.ferguson@petersfieldpost.co.uk  
Newsdesk: 01730 232605

**AN ENERGY firm is ready to connect with the public having chosen a site for a massive power facility between Lovedean and Denmead.**

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Little has been heard from the Russian-backed firm in recent months with initial proposals for a subsea power link between Eastney and Le Havre being presented more than a year ago.

But it has been working hard to "refine its pro-

posals" and is now seeking extra feedback with another round of consultation events starting in Portsmouth on March 3.

A spokesman for Aquind said: "We remain committed to engaging with the local community and as part of our upcoming statutory consultation we look forward to discussing our updated proposals with the local community."

"We encourage all those with an interest in the project to take time to review the consultation materials at a public exhibition

**'We look forward to discussing our updated proposals'**

event, which provide an opportunity to discuss the proposals with members of the Aquind project team."

Events will take place from 4pm to 8pm in Jubilee Hall, Horndean on March 14 and 21, with further sessions from the same times in the Eagle Centre, Wecock on March 22 and in Denmead



PICTURE BY PAUL FERGUSON

Land west of the Lovedean substation has been earmarked by Aquind for a converter station.

War Memorial Hall on April 5.

The firm is also due to

speak to Denmead Parish Council's planning committee in Ashling Pavilion from

7.30pm next Wednesday.

For more details visit [www.aquindconsultation.co.uk](http://www.aquindconsultation.co.uk)



# Power link raises fears for Downs beauty spot

## Report will flag up park concerns

by **BYRON MELTON**

*Havant and Waterlooville reporter*  
The News

NATIONAL park planners have hit back at proposals for a cross-channel power link amid fears of the 'massive' effect it could have on the view enjoyed by their visitors.

Bosses at the South Downs say the Aquind Interconnector could have 'large-scale negative effects' on them, despite being pencilled for land 200m away from their boundary to the west of an existing National Grid substation.

The project would see cables laid to transfer power from Normandy to a UK converter station at Lovedean, in a bid to strengthen both nations' electric grids.



**IMPACT** A CGI view of the Aquind Interconnector amid Downland at Lovedean

But planners at the national park claim proposals to date have 'skimmed over' the potential impact the link could have on their beauty spot.

The plot earmarked for the converter station was referred to as 'option B' at a South Downs National Park

Authority planning committee meeting yesterday – being one of three potential sites considered for the infrastructure.

Park planner Sarah Nelson said: 'We feel option B is probably the best one, but all of them are going to have a large-scale negative impact.'



She added: '[Aquind] do provide a long decision relating to the site selection process, but we feel it skims over the impact on the national park.'

If construction on the converter station went ahead, it would sit 200m to 300m from the South Downs National Park's boundary near Horndean.

Picturing a hypothetical visit in the event the converter station is built, Ms Nelson added: '[Visitors] would have just got into the countryside when they are met by this development, which is not what we would wish to see.'

The converter station would comprise two 90m by 50m converter halls, with two smaller buildings, lighting masts, emergency lighting columns, an auxiliary power supply and cooling systems.

South Downs planners voted unanimously at the meeting to approve a report which will lay out

their response to the proposals. It is also expected to highlight mitigation issues and suggestions for 'camouflage design' to help the converter station fit in with its potential surroundings.

An Aquind spokesman said: 'Aquind recognises the sensitivities around the impact of the converter station and welcomes constructive feedback on the approach to the design parameters of the converter station, landscape mitigation and approach to construction as part of the current consultation.'

'Aquind will consider all feedback received as part of this consultation, as well as explaining how that feedback has been taken into account in the ongoing refinement of the proposals for Aquind Interconnector.'

Aquind said last year a planning application for the interconnector would likely be lodged this year.



## Fait accompli

Further to your report in *The News* on March 15 – *'Aquind plans would cause 'massive disruption' to city'* – I understand that the government's policy on interconnectors has not changed since the EU referendum in 2016.

More recently, the government's Brexit White Paper was clear in recognising the importance of continued interconnection as part of a broad energy co-operation

between the UK and Europe.

Despite the doubts over security of supply, new interconnector projects continue to move forwards. A number of interconnectors are proposed connecting the UK to countries such as Ireland, Belgium, Norway and Denmark.

These links will help achieve the government's ambition of widening access to international markets thus increasing competition and security of supply(?).

Does this policy of relying on interconnectors carry the risk of us not investing in our own power stations and more renewable energy?

A converter being built in East Cork and France is costing a billion euros to supply 45,000 homes.

Lovedean substation was identified as the preferred connection location for Aquind interconnector following an assessment by the National Grid.

That assessment considered factors such as the Grid's knowledge of the existing network (including agreed future connections), agreed cost information, environmental considerations and other constraints associated with the project, alongside input from Aquind on the details of the assets to be connected.

When Lovedean was identified as the preferred grid connection point, a total of seven potential landing points

were prioritised. Eastney was chosen as the preferred option after an extensive engineering process which took account of a wide range of factors.

The search for an appropriate landing

point began in 2014/15 with 29 possible landing points being identified between Weymouth and Bognor Regis.

These landing points were then subjected to a further detailed study to assess their suitability and as a result of this work – Eastney, Hayling Island and East Wittering were shortlisted as potential landing points.

Hayling was removed from the shortlist primarily due to the requirement to cross Chichester/Langstone Harbour at Langstone Bridge, which presented significant engineering and environmental constraints.

Eastney was chosen as the preferred option as this minimised the length of the onshore cable route between the landfall location and converter station locations, which in turn minimised disruption and the impacts of the proposals.

On whom?

As for the poor souls at Lovedean, just reading of the work to be undertaken there – ie up to 45 two-way HGV movements per day, abnormal loads to deliver plant and heavy items, 10 telescopic cranes and 150 personnel on site – makes worrying reading.

I just hope from the Portsmouth point of view that the chosen route through

our city will be one of the Furze Lane options to avoid having to dig up Eastney and Milton Roads and Velder Avenue.

I am amazed with all this going on there was not a whisper of this project from local councillors.

Even Portsmouth's Westminster politicians seemed to be unaware of what the government plans were – even though they would appear to have been on the table for years!!

Unfortunately, it looks like a fait accompli, Portsmouth.

**M A Bradrick (Mrs)**  
Shelford Road, Southsea







# Plan to rip up Eastern Road for Aquind electricity cables revised to stop 'traffic chaos'



An artist's impression of Aquind's Interconnector, which would link to cables running through the city

By

**FIONA CALLINGHAM**

Email

Published: 12:36

Tuesday 23 July 2019



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**FEARS that plans for controversial electricity cables would lead to a major city road being 'ripped up' have been allayed in a bid to avoid**

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The route of the Aquind interconnector, which will bring electricity from France, could now go partly alongside Eastern Road in Portsmouth rather than through the length of it.

Residents voiced their concerns when a consultation last year proposed running the electricity lines through the road and city councillors formally objected to plans for the same reason.

Now, among different options for the route, is the possibility of installing cables in the verges and footpaths next to Eastern Road 'where possible.'

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Council leader, Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson, said: 'That would have significantly less impact on car drivers.

'Ripping up Eastern Road would cause traffic chaos, it would be a huge operation.'

An Aquind spokesman said: 'In a number of locations, we looked at routes that avoid roads completely, while along the Eastern Road we have proposed that, where possible, the cables be installed in verges or footpaths to minimise traffic disruption.

'Where this is not practically achievable, we will consider a range of traffic management measures to minimise disruption to road users.

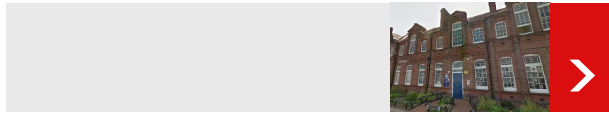
'However, any roads or green spaces directly affected would be restored following completion of construction.'

Feedback from the most recent Aquind consultation - held in February and March this year - also questioned why the lines, which will travel to the Lovedean convertor station, could not run through Langstone Harbour instead.

However, a special protection status of the harbour meant this was not possible.

'Langstone Harbour was discounted as a potential landfall location due to the numerous environmental designations which protect the harbour and surrounding area from development and help care for protected species,' Aquind said.

Cllr Vernon-Jackson added: 'Logically if the interconnector is coming out of the water it would make more sense for it to come through the harbour rather than through the city, but that was a government ruling.'



Options for the cable route are still being considered. It is planned a development consent order application will be made to the secretary of state at the end of this year.

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# Impact of power scheme on roads could be shocker

BY PAUL FERGUSON

paul.ferguson@petersfieldpost.co.uk  
 Newsdesk: 01730 232605

**THE DISRUPTION** caused by the delivery of an abnormal load to Lovedean last summer could become a daily occurrence around the village if plans for an energy scheme are approved. That's the fear of some councillors as concerns have been raised about the size and number of vehicle movements to a development site next to Lovedean substation.

Representatives from Aquind Ltd will talk to Horndean residents next week about their updated plan to link the substation to the French power grid through undersea and underground cables.

The firm appears to have ruled out laying cables under Milton Road and Lovedean Lane because they've earmarked land west of the substation for a connector station.

But construction traffic will still have to pass through Horndean and Lovedean if the scheme is approved, as access to the con-



CONTRIBUTED PICTURE

Councillors are concerned scenes like this on Dell Piece West could become the norm if the Aquind scheme is approved.

connector station is likely to come from Broadway Lane.

Councillor John Lay reminded Horndean Parish Council of the disruption on roads around the area when a 169-tonne Super Grid Transformer was delivered to the substation in August.

He warned councillors last Monday that the biggest impact

of the scheme locally would be the regularity of similar deliveries.

He said: "The thing that worries me is about how they're going to get things to the Lovedean substation because there's quite a lot going on up there."

"It causes chaos but it's the obvious way in," said Councillor

Dorothy Denston.

Villagers can learn more about the latest Aquind proposals during the annual parish meeting of Horndean from 7pm next Monday, April 8, in Jubilee Hall. The public exhibition will also take place from 4pm to 8pm next Friday, April 5, in Denmead War Memorial Hall.





# Feedback desperately needed on power plan

By PAUL FERGUSON

paul.ferguson@petersfieldpost.co.uk  
 Newsdesk: 01730 232605

**REPRESENTATIVES of a firm which could construct a major energy development in Lovedean have assured villagers their scheme is not a done deal.**

But Aquind and Horndean Parish Council (HPC) have pleaded for written feedback as the deadline for the latest consultation is fast approaching.

People who attended the annual parish meeting of Horndean heard Aquind had received only around 50 pieces of feedback since its consultation opened.

The figure was rubbished by Councillor Sara Schillemore, as she believes around 200 people attended a recent informal event in Lovedean,

while around a dozen exhibition events have taken place in the likes of Horndean, Denmead, Waterlooville and Portsmouth in recent weeks.

The multi-million-pound scheme will link Lovedean substation with the French power grid through underground and undersea cables.

A new connector station will be built west of Lovedean.

The cable route from Eastney to the connector site will pass west of Waterlooville before heading north through Denmead or the gap between the communities.

The prospect of heavy construction traffic through Lovedean, Day Lane and Broadway Lane, plus the delivery of several large transporters on lanes ill-equipped for special loads, concerned some councillors.

“One of the main concerns I have about the project is about the construction at Lovedean,” said Councillor Richard Veitch.

“Last year we had a transformer that was taken up through the same route and it caused absolute chaos with all the village and surrounding area.

“If you’re going through lanes and country roads you’re going to cause mayhem so I’d like to know what you’re planning to reduce that impact.”

Cllr Sarah Schillemore, who suggested HPC should object to the “horrendous” plans before urging the council to make a formal response, said: “I think people are very nervous about large pieces of equipment being moved through Lovedean.

“The National Grid had a

comprehensive travel plan to move a transporter in on a Sunday morning and it was very exciting and people came out with their cameras early in the morning.

“They needn’t have bothered because it got stuck on Day Lane and they had to get a large crane to help it out.”

Aquind representatives told HPC that construction routes are being planned “very carefully” with feedback from the public, National Grid and Hampshire Highways all playing a part.

There could be an intensive period of construction traffic and the possibility of some taking place at night could not be ruled out.

More details can be found and feedback can be submitted at [www.aquindconsultation.co.uk](http://www.aquindconsultation.co.uk) with the consultation finishing on April 29.





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 Shelford Road, Southsea





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## Energy scheme on annual agenda

REPRESENTATIVES from a firm that's looking to link Lovedean substation with the French power grid will attend a key meeting in Horndean next week.

People who attend the annual parish meeting in Jubilee Hall next Monday will get the chance to meet Aquind representatives.

Residents will be given a verbal update on matters of interest to the parish and will also hear reports from county and district coun-

cillors during the meeting, which begins at 7pm.

Other items on the agenda include the annual report of Horndean Parish Council and a presentation from their Countryside Team about completed, current and planned projects around the village.

Residents will also get the chance to ask questions as the meeting will conclude with a "general discussion of matters concerning the parish".





# Electricity plant in same class as power stations

By JON WALKER

jonwalker@petersfieldpost.co.uk  
Newsdesk: 023 9257 2801

**A PROPOSED undersea cross-Channel power cable from Normandy to East Hampshire has been moved into the same planning category as new nuclear power stations and airports.**

The Aquind Interconnector project will see a cable from a power station near Le Havre come ashore at Eastney in Portsmouth and then run to a new converter station at Lovedean.

On Monday (July 30) the Government announced the privately-funded £1.1 billion proposal is to be treated as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project.

The Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, Greg Clarke MP, issued the direction for Aquind Interconnector to be treated as project for which government development consent is required.

Such projects include power stations and new airports, and bypass local

planning policy issued by authorities like East Hampshire District Council; now Aquind will apply to the Secretary of State for a Development Consent Order (DCO).

Aquind, a British registered company, says it anticipates an application for development consent will be submitted in 2019.

The submission will come after further technical studies and consultation with the local community, affected landowners and other relevant stakeholders.

Once submitted, the government's Planning Inspectorate will examine the DCO application before the Secretary of State makes a decision on whether authorisation should be given for the project, which is due to go 'live' in 2022.

An Aquind spokesman said: "The DCO planning process is well-suited to the project given its potential to deliver significant national benefits, including more competition in energy markets, lower carbon dioxide

emissions, greater integration of renewable energy sources and greater security of supply.

"It can also provide valuable ancillary services to the electric power grid.

"The project parameters remain unchanged, irrespective of the consenting regime – the onshore cable will be fully underground, and the converter station will be the only visible element."

Earlier this year, the interconnector was awarded Project of Common Interest (PCI) status by the European Commission (EU).

PCIs are key EU energy projects that address the issues of affordability, security of supply and the use of fossil fuels.

The Aquind spokesman added: "Brexit will have limited impact on the project as the need for more interconnection between the UK and the continent remains."

More information about the Aquind Interconnector can be found at: [www.aquind.co.uk](http://www.aquind.co.uk)



# Council set for power talks

CONTRIBUTED PICTURE

**By PAUL FERGUSON**

paul.ferguson@petersfieldpost.co.uk  
 Newsdesk: 01730 232605

**THE DISRUPTION** caused by the delivery of an abnormal load to Lovedean last summer could become a daily occurrence around the village if plans for an energy scheme are approved.

That's the fear of some councillors as concerns have been raised about the size and number of vehicle movements to a development site next to Lovedean substation.

Representatives from Aquind Ltd will talk to Horndean residents next week about their updated plan to link the substation to the French power grid through undersea and underground cables.

The firm appears to have ruled out laying cables under Milton Road and Lovedean Lane because they've earmarked land west of the substation for a connector

station.

But construction traffic will still have to pass through Horndean and Lovedean if the scheme is approved, as access to the connector station is likely to come from Broadway Lane.

Councillor John Lay reminded Horndean Parish Council of the disruption on roads around the area when a 169-tonne Super Grid Transformer was delivered to the substation in August.

He warned councillors last Monday that the biggest impact of the scheme locally would be the regularity of similar deliveries.

**'It causes chaos but it's the obvious way in'**

they're going to get things to the Lovedean substation because there's quite a lot going on up there."

"It causes chaos but it's the obvious way in," said Councillor Dorothy Denston.

Villagers can learn more



Councillors are concerned scenes like this on Dell Piece West could become the norm in the future.

about the latest Aquind proposals during the annual parish meeting of Horndean

from 7pm next Monday, April 8, in Jubilee Hall. The public exhibition will also

take place from 4pm to 8pm next Friday, April 5, in Denmead War Memorial Hall.







## DENMEAD & LOVEDEAN

# Concerns about cable plans

By PAUL FERGUSON

paul.ferguson@petersfieldpost.co.uk  
 Newsdesk: 01730 232605

**UPDATED plans by an energy firm to connect the Lovedean substation to the French power grid are "vague" and lacking detail according to villagers.**

Representatives from Aquind also failed to succinctly answer questions about the scheme's funding, backing and motives following a presentation in Denmead last Wednesday.

The firm has begun a second round of consultation in its bid to link a power station near Le Havre to the National Grid through undersea and underground cables.

They will run from the Forest Road roundabout to a converter station west of the substation but the exact route has yet to be determined, with options including tunnelling under farmland west of Soake Road

or underneath Hambledon Road, Mill Road, Martin Avenue and Anmore Road.

Bosses are hopeful the privately-funded scheme will be approved by the Secretary of State in late 2020, with construction beginning the following year.

Fears about disruption were raised during the meeting in Ashling Park Pavilion with one resident calling their previous consultation "appalling" as only 239 responses were received from a population of over 89,000.

The firm's decision not to draw up plans for a converter station was also criticised with Councillor Caroline Brook claiming that planners have doubts.

She said: "In all five local authorities there is an awful lot of disquiet and my view is that all five feel you're being equally vague."

Another resident said the proposals "lacked basic



CONTRIBUTED PICTURE

One of the proposed routes for the underground cable could see Hambledon Road, Denmead, being dug up.

detail" and queried whether Aquind have the capacity to deliver, with representatives

being coy about the scheme's cost. An exhibition will take place from 4-8pm tomorrow

(Thursday) in Horndean's Jubilee Hall. Visit [www.aquindconsultation.co.uk](http://www.aquindconsultation.co.uk)





OTHER NEWS

# Brexit delays leave UK at risk of higher power prices

by Bloomberg

🕒 28/03/2019, 6:00 am



Wind turbines stand on the horizon near a National Grid Plc electricity pylons in Kendal, U.K. Photographer: Paul Thomas/Bloomberg

Some projects to develop new power cables between the U.K. and France are on hold because of uncertainties related to Brexit, throwing into question the delivery of infrastructure intended to reduce electricity costs in the U.K.

Work continues on two new interconnectors that were already under construction between the countries. However, talks on three other subsea power lines have been suspended due to the prolonged wrangling between the U.K. and the European Union over their divorce.

The pause, caused by the French energy regulator's decision not to rule on the benefits of new interconnectors with the U.K. until the final conditions of Brexit have been clarified, could mean higher power prices on the British market for several years.

"As the U.K. often benefits from low power prices from France, less interconnection with that country can inadvertently translate to higher power prices," said Andreas Gandolfo, a London-based analyst at BloombergNEF.

Increased connectivity with neighboring countries is becoming more important as the European power market undergoes rapid change. Utilities are becoming reluctant to invest billions to replace coal-fired and nuclear plants that are edging closer to retirement age, while wind and solar power can experience significant fluctuations.

## On Pause

Ofgem, the U.K. energy regulator, has so far approved nine interconnectors, which would more than triple capacity from the current 5 gigawatts, a spokeswoman said. Developers will need to work with governments and regulators in connecting countries to ensure that final approval is granted in those countries, she said.

French regulator CRE's concern over Brexit uncertainty is delaying progress of the Fab Link, Aquind and GridLink.

Prime Minister Theresa May is still struggling to gather enough support to get her EU withdrawal agreement through a vote in the House of Commons by Friday. If her deal fails for a third time, the U.K. will be forced to choose between a potentially long delay to its departure and falling out of the EU without a deal on April 12. Either of those outcomes would deepen the uncertainty that's affecting the development of this vital infrastructure.

"There is a pause on talks for new interconnectors in development to France until Brexit is sorted," National Grid Plc said in response to questions from Bloomberg. The U.K. power-grid operator said it's continuing with projects that are already underway, amounting to a 2.1 billion-pound (\$2.8 billion) investment in cables to France, Norway and Denmark.

"There are significant benefits for consumers from greater interconnection, no matter what the Brexit outcome," National Grid said.

## Slipping Timetables

The construction of Fab Link, a 1.4-gigawatt subsea link between the South of England and the Normandy region in France, is due to start in 2020 and to be completed in 2023, according to its website. The project is being developed by French power-grid operator Reseau de Transport d'Electricite, Transmission Investment and Alderney Renewable Energy.

Achieving that timetable will ultimately depend on the review by the French energy regulator, an RTE spokeswoman said by email. A spokesman for Transmission Investment declined to comment on any delays to Fab Link.

GridLink, a 1.4-gigawatt power transmission cable between Kent and Dunkirk developed by Icon Infrastructure is due to be built between the end of 2020 and the end of 2023, according to its website. GridLink didn't respond to a request for comment

through its website.

The 2-gigawatt Aquind project is “progressing on all planned activities,” said a spokesman for the company, while declining to comment on the details of talks with the French and U.K. regulators. Based on environmental and permitting time lines, the company aims to make its final investment decision by the end of 2020 and commission the cable at the end of 2023. In a statement last October, Aquind said its target was to complete construction in 2022.

## Insufficient Capacity

The only power link between France and the U.K. is the 2-gigawatt IFA 2000 interconnector. That cable has been in service since 1986 and isn't sufficient to meet the highest demand for power trading between the countries.

In the short term, Franco-British interconnection capacity will double to 4 gigawatts — the equivalent of more than two nuclear reactors — as Channel Tunnel operator Getlink expects to commission its EleLink project early next year.

National Grid and its French counterpart RTE plan to complete the IFA2 cable between Southampton and Caen in the fourth quarter of 2020. National Grid also expects to complete its North Sea link with Norway at the end of 2021.

RTE and its Irish counterpart are continuing studies for the 700-megawatt Celtic Interconnector, which could bypass the U.K. and link France directly to Ireland from 2026. A final investment decision would happen around 2021, according to Eirgrid's website.

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## More from **Energy Voice**

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- ExxonMobil, Repsol partner on Colombia exploration
- Total joins forces with China battery maker in latest Big Oil shift
- Campaigners urge ministers to reject UK's largest gas power plant

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## Aquind proposals to be showcased in hall

SOUTH of Butser residents with concerns or questions about the impact of a massive energy development near Lovedean have been urged to attend a public exhibition.

Aquind is holding a series of exhibitions over the coming month to showcase its updated plans to link the Lovedean substation with

the French power grid.

The proposals, which include the laying of underground cables from Eastney to Lovedean and a large interconnector station on land west of the substation, will be showcased from 4pm to 8pm next Thursday in Jubilee Hall, Horndean.

Visit [www.aquindconsultation.co.uk](http://www.aquindconsultation.co.uk) for more.





# Aquind plans would cause 'massive disruption' to city

## Residents hit out at cable proposal

by **STEVE DEEKS**

Senior reporter

steve.deeks@jpimedia.co.uk

AN UNDER-fire firm that plans to install cables through Portsmouth to bring across electricity from France held a public consultation where residents had their say on the controversial plans.

Aquind gave the public a chance to leave feedback on its plans at a public event at the Jubilee Hall in Horn-dean yesterday evening.

The interconnector would offer a link to France so electricity can be bought and sold under the channel. Undersea cables would come on to land at Eastney which would run through to a proposed site in Lovedean – built next to the existing substation.

Dozens of concerned residents attended the consulta-

tion to find out more after Aquind moved to reduce fears after the company notoriously sent out around 1,500 letters that left residents scared they would lose their homes.

The firm has also been accused of not listening to residents views.

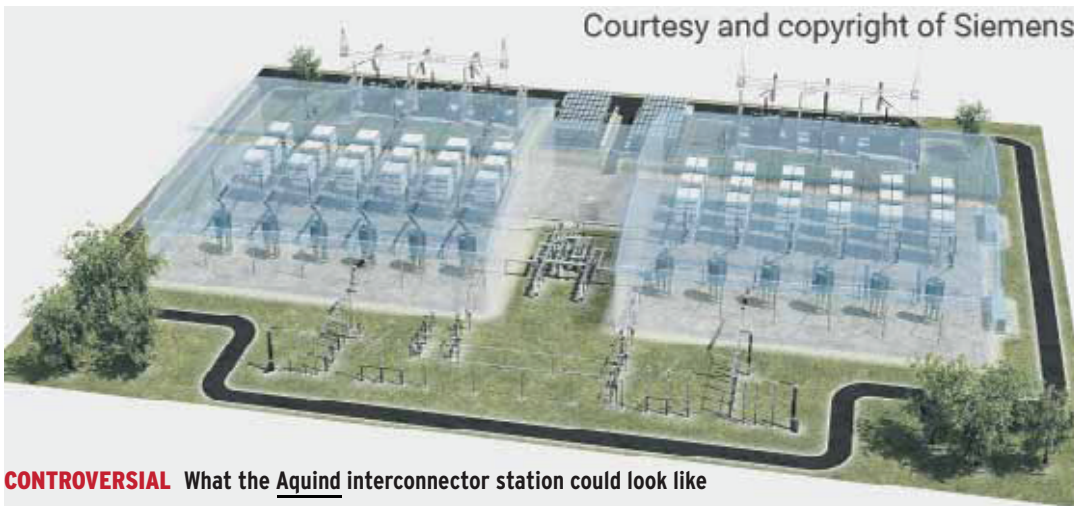
While last night's consultation represented a show of openness, some residents still felt their questions were not answered.

Ray Lincoln, 67, of Horn-dean, said: 'I have concerns over the amount of noise the project will bring.

'They told me it will comply with guidelines but that means nothing to me. There have been similar projects done like this in Europe so they should know the kind of impact it will have.

'There are new build houses close to the power station so it is important for people who are thinking of moving to the area to know





### **CONTROVERSIAL** What the Aquind interconnector station could look like

where they stand.

'It will have a detrimental affect on property prices and many people will not buy in the area now.

'When you drive a massive cable through one of the most densely populated areas in the south of England there will

inevitably be massive disruption – including for the emergency services.'

Paul and Susan Marshall, of Horndean, said: 'It seems like a lot of investment for a small return of energy.

'They would be better off investing in solar energy.

'Travelling will be a nightmare and having the new power station – which is 26 metres high – will be an eyesore.'

Chris and Lucia Durbin, of Horndean, agreed there would be an impact on the roads but said: 'It's a very good idea and

will provide a lot of energy for the country. The consultation has been very useful and professionally presented.'

A spokesperson for Aquind said: 'It's been a good turnout. We plan on taking people's views into account to help us shape what we do.'

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# Power link raises fears for Downs beauty spot

## Report will flag up park concerns

by **BYRON MELTON**

*Havant and Waterlooville reporter*  
The News

NATIONAL park planners have hit back at proposals for a cross-channel power link amid fears of the 'massive' effect it could have on the view enjoyed by their visitors.

Bosses at the South Downs say the Aquind Interconnector could have 'large-scale negative effects' on them, despite being pencilled for land 200m away from their boundary to the west of an existing National Grid substation.

The project would see cables laid to transfer power from Normandy to a UK converter station at Lovedean, in a bid to strengthen both nations' electric grids.



**IMPACT** A CGI view of the Aquind Interconnector amid Downland at Lovedean

But planners at the national park claim proposals to date have 'skimmed over' the potential impact the link could have on their beauty spot.

The plot earmarked for the converter station was referred to as 'option B' at a South Downs National Park

Authority planning committee meeting yesterday – being one of three potential sites considered for the infrastructure.

Park planner Sarah Nelson said: 'We feel option B is probably the best one, but all of them are going to have a large-scale negative impact.'



# Public can have say on electrical cable controversy

by **STEVE DEEKS**

Senior reporter  
steve.deeks@thenews.co.uk

AN UNDER-fire firm that plans to install cables through Portsmouth to bring across electricity from France has announced its controversial proposals will be put to consultation today.

Aquind is giving the public a chance to leave feedback on its plans.

The interconnector would offer a link to France so electricity can be bought and sold under the channel, and the undersea cables would come on to land at Eastney.

The company notoriously sent out around 1,500 letters that left residents scared they would lose their homes, while others thought it was a scam.

## Company that scared city residents with letter keen to get feedback

People in Eastney, Milton and Cosham were sent a questionnaire that left people fearing their houses would be acquired by a compulsory purchase order after questions over whether properties had mortgages was asked to the recipients.

Aquind subsequently apologised and explained the document was a questionnaire that was part of the planning application process.

The consultation documents will be available to view at public exhibitions in Portsmouth, Havant, East Hampshire and Winchester. They will also be avail-

able to view on the company's website ([aquind.co.uk](http://aquind.co.uk)).

After criticism from initial proposals in January 2018, the company has since stated it has listened to the people and has refined its proposals.

A spokesperson for Aquind said: 'We've been working hard to refine our proposals in response to comments received.'

'We remain committed to engaging with the community and as part of our upcoming statutory consultation we look forward to discussing our updated proposals.'

'We encourage all those with an interest in the project

to take time to review the consultation materials online, at one of the deposit locations or at a public exhibition event, which provide an opportunity to discuss the proposals with Aquind's project team.

'The feedback received will assist us in further refining our plans before we submit an application for a development consent order.'

The scheme previously caused controversy when ex-council leader Donna Jones described it as 'pie in the sky' as it would cause congestion on Eastern Road for 18 months.

### HAVE YOUR SAY

Comment on this or any other story in The News  
[letters@thenews.co.uk](mailto:letters@thenews.co.uk)



# Power plans back on agenda

PICTURE BY PAUL FERGUSON

**PAUL FERGUSON**  
ferguson@petersfieldpost.co.uk  
desk: 01730 232605

**ENERGY firm is ready to connect with the public having chosen a site for a massive converter facility between Horndean and Denmead.**

Aquind bosses are pressing ahead with their £1.42bn scheme to link the Lovedean substation with the French power grid.

They have also earmarked a site for a converter station with land between Neys Lane and the National Grid facility being favoured over a plot close to Broadway cottages.

Little has been heard from the Russian-backed firm in recent months with initial proposals for a subsea power link between Eastney and Leve being presented more than a year ago. But it has been work-hard to "refine its pro-

posals" and is now seeking extra feedback with another round of consultation events starting in Portsmouth on March 3.

A spokesman for Aquind said: "We remain committed to engaging with the local community and as part of our upcoming statutory consultation we look forward to discussing our updated proposals with the local community."

"We encourage all those with an interest in the project to take time to review the consultation materials at a public exhibition event, which provide an opportunity to discuss the proposals with members of the Aquind project team."

Events will take place from 4pm to 8pm in Jubilee Hall, Horndean on March 14 and 21, with further sessions from the same times in the Eagle Centre, Wecock on March 22 and in Denmead

**'We look forward to discussing our updated proposals'**



Land west of the Lovedean substation has been earmarked by Aquind for a converter station.

War Memorial Hall on April 5. The firm is also due to

speak to Denmead Parish Council's planning committee in Ashling Pavilion from

7.30pm next Wednesday. For more details visit [www.aquindconsultation.co.uk](http://www.aquindconsultation.co.uk)

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# Energy scheme on annual agenda

REPRESENTATIVES from a firm that's looking to link Lovedean substation with the French power grid will attend a key meeting in Horndean next week.

People who attend the annual parish meeting in Jubilee Hall next Monday will get the chance to meet Aquind representatives.

Residents will be given a verbal update on matters of interest to the parish and will also hear reports from county and district coun-

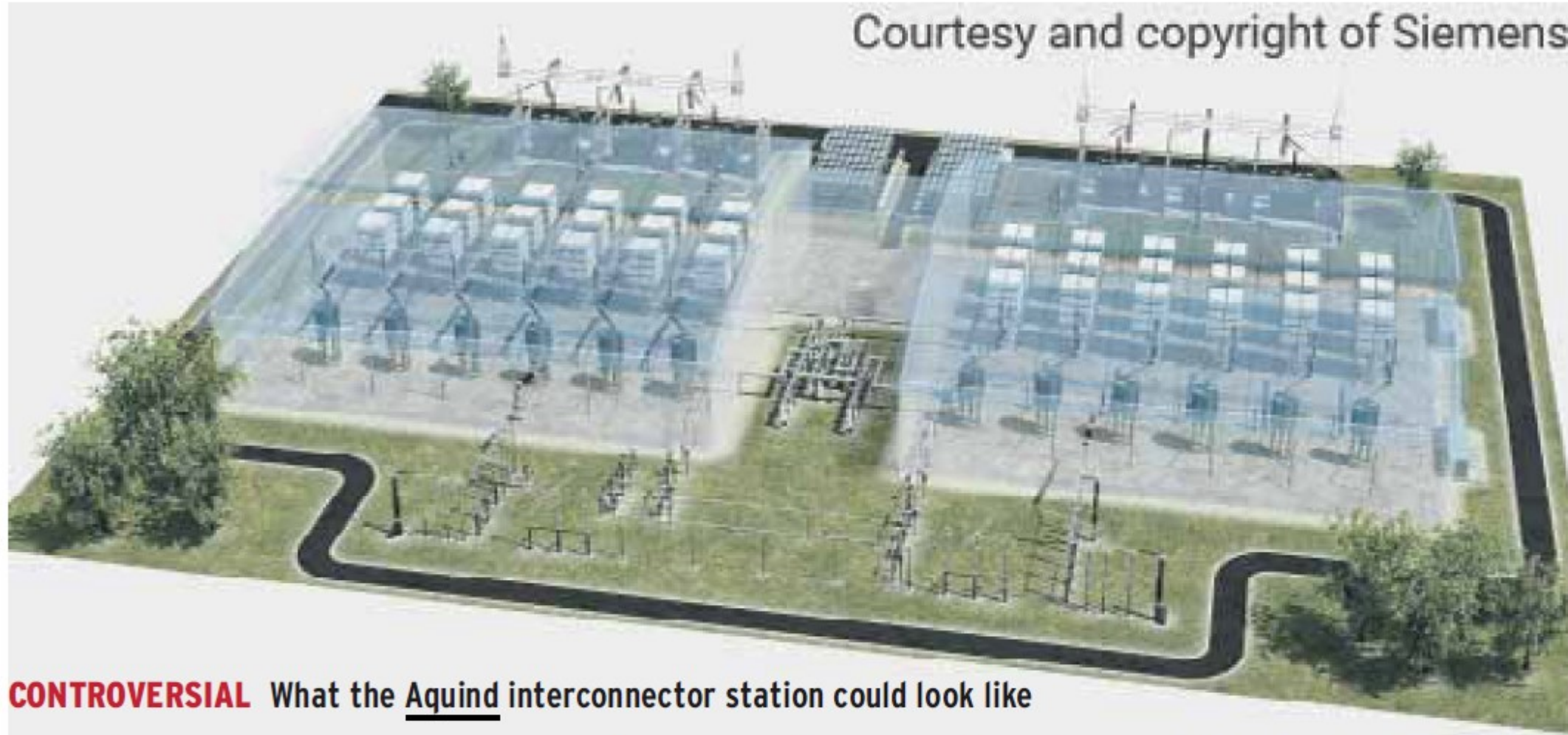
cillors during the meeting, which begins at 7pm.

Other items on the agenda include the annual report of Horndean Parish Council and a presentation from their Countryside Team about completed, current and planned projects around the village.

Residents will also get the chance to ask questions as the meeting will conclude with a "general discussion of matters concerning the parish".



Courtesy and copyright of Siemens



**CONTROVERSIAL** What the Aquind interconnector station could look like

where they stand.

‘It will have a detrimental affect on property prices and many people will not buy in the area now.

‘When you drive a massive cable through one of the most densely populated areas in the south of England there will

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‘They would be better off investing in solar energy.

‘Travelling will be a nightmare and having the new power station – which is 26 metres high – will be an eyesore.’

Chris and Lucia Durbin, of Horndean, agreed there would be an impact on the roads but said: ‘It’s a very good idea and

will provide a lot of energy for the country. The consultation has been very useful and professionally presented.’

A spokesperson for Aquind said: ‘It’s been a good turnout. We plan on taking people’s views into account to help us shape what we do.’



She added: ‘Aquind do provide a long decision relating to the site selection process, but we feel it skims over the impact on the national park.’

If construction on the converter station went ahead, it would sit 200m to 300m from the South Downs National Park’s boundary near Horndean.

Picturing a hypothetical visit in the event the converter station is built, Ms Nelson added: ‘[Visitors] would have just got into the countryside when they are met by this development, which is not what we would wish to see.’

The converter station would comprise two 90m by 50m converter halls, with two smaller buildings, lighting masts, emergency lighting columns, an auxiliary power supply and cooling systems.

South Downs planners voted unanimously at the meeting to approve a report which will lay out

their response to the proposals. It is also expected to highlight mitigation issues and suggestions for ‘camouflage design’ to help the converter station fit in with its potential surroundings.

An Aquind spokesman said: ‘Aquind recognises the sensitivities around the impact of the converter station and welcomes constructive feedback on the approach to the design parameters of the converter station, landscape mitigation and approach to construction as part of the current consultation.’

‘Aquind will consider all feedback received as part of this consultation, as well as explaining how that feedback has been taken into account in the ongoing refinement of the proposals for Aquind Interconnector.’

Aquind said last year a planning application for the interconnector would likely be lodged this year.

## Powerless

With months of traffic chaos and pollution fast approaching with the proposed Aquind Interconnector development having been given a 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project' rating, the residents of this most densely populated city in the UK are seemingly powerless in their opposition to it.

This project will have the potential to paralyse the Island of Portsea when it snakes its way through the Eastern seaboard of the city with months of lane closures ahead. The question has to be asked if Portsmouth City Council have been asked to play any part in the initial feasibility study of this project and if not, why not.

When it is stated that Portsea Island is the 'appropriate and preferred location' for this cable from France to make landfall, surely the question has to be asked what is the criteria for this outcome to come about?

What was so wrong with the initial 29 identified sites, whittled down to nine sites, which made the torturous route through the streets and roads of the most densely populated city in the UK with the associated traffic pollution really

assess the potential cable routes options, came to the outcome that these studies confirmed the most appropriate and preferred location for the landfall to be at Eastney at a site which will ensue months of misery, traffic pollution and gridlocked traffic.

It defies all logic and Portsmouth City Council has to demand access to these 'optioneering studies' to study why and how this outcome has been arrived at and what were the alternatives.

We have a right to know and contest these findings.

**Mick Johnson**  
Edgeware Road  
Milton

***We have  
a right to  
know and  
contest these  
findings***

**MICK JOHNSON**

'appropriate'?

Portsmouth City Council must have grounds for a 'judicial review' on how this feasibility study, having reduced this to nine options, with further optioneering exercises then being undertaken to identify and



# Electricity plant in same class as power stations

BY JON WALKER

jonwalker@petersfieldpost.co.uk  
Newsdesk: 023 9257 2801

**A PROPOSED undersea cross-Channel power cable from Normandy to East Hampshire has been moved into the same planning category as new nuclear power stations and airports.**

The Aquind Interconnector project will see a cable from a power station near Le Havre come ashore at Eastney in Portsmouth and then run to a new converter station at Lovedean.

On Monday (July 30) the Government announced the privately-funded £1.1 billion proposal is to be treated as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project.

The Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, Greg Clarke MP, issued the direction for Aquind Interconnector to be treated as project for which government development consent is required.

Such projects include power stations and new airports, and bypass local

planning policy issued by authorities like East Hampshire District Council; now Aquind will apply to the Secretary of State for a Development Consent Order (DCO).

Aquind, a British registered company, says it anticipates an application for development consent will be submitted in 2019.

The submission will come after further technical studies and consultation with the local community, affected landowners and other relevant stakeholders.

Once submitted, the government's Planning Inspectorate will examine the DCO application before the Secretary of State makes a decision on whether authorisation should be given for the project, which is due to go 'live' in 2022.

An Aquind spokesman said: "The DCO planning process is well-suited to the project given its potential to deliver significant national benefits, including more competition in energy markets, lower carbon dioxide

emissions, greater integration of renewable energy sources and greater security of supply.

"It can also provide valuable ancillary services to the electric power grid.

"The project parameters remain unchanged, irrespective of the consenting regime – the onshore cable will be fully underground, and the converter station will be the only visible element."

Earlier this year, the interconnector was awarded Project of Common Interest (PCI) status by the European Commission (EU).

PCIs are key EU energy projects that address the issues of affordability, security of supply and the use of fossil fuels.

The Aquind spokesman added: "Brexit will have limited impact on the project as the need for more interconnection between the UK and the continent remains."

More information about the Aquind Interconnector can be found at: [www.aquind.co.uk](http://www.aquind.co.uk)



DENMEAD & LOVEDEAN

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They will run from the Forest Road roundabout to a converter station west of the substation but the exact route has yet to be determined, with options including tunnelling under farmland west of Soake Road

or underneath Hambledon Road, Mill Road, Martin Avenue and Anmore Road.

Bosses are hopeful the privately-funded scheme will be approved by the Secretary of State in late 2020, with construction beginning the following year.

Fears about disruption were raised during the meeting in Ashling Park Pavilion with one resident calling their previous consultation "appalling" as only 239 responses were received from a population of over 89,000.

The firm's decision not to draw up plans for a converter station was also criticised with Councillor Caroline Brook claiming that planners have doubts.

She said: "In all five local authorities there is an awful lot of disquiet and my view is that all five feel you're being equally vague."

Another resident said the proposals "lacked basic



One of the proposed routes for the underground cable could see Hambledon Road, Denmead, being dug up.

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# Impact of power scheme on roads could be shocker

By PAUL FERGUSON

paul.ferguson@petersfieldpost.co.uk  
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**THE DISRUPTION** caused by the delivery of an abnormal load to Lovedean last summer could become a daily occurrence around the village if plans for an energy scheme are approved. That's the fear of some councillors as concerns have been raised about the size and number of vehicle movements to a development site next to Lovedean substation.

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But construction traffic will still have to pass through Horndean and Lovedean if the scheme is approved, as access to the con-



CONTRIBUTED PICTURE

Councillors are concerned scenes like this on Dell Piece West could become the norm if the Aquind scheme is approved.

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He said: "The thing that worries me is about how they're going to get things to the Lovedean substation because there's quite a lot going on up there."

"It causes chaos but it's the obvious way in," said Councillor

Dorothy Denston.

Villagers can learn more about the latest Aquind proposals during the annual parish meeting of Horndean from 7pm next Monday, April 8, in Jubilee Hall. The public exhibition will also take place from 4pm to 8pm next Friday, April 5, in Denmead War Memorial Hall.



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# Time to connect as site earmarked for power facility

By PAUL FERGUSON

paul.ferguson@petersfieldpost.co.uk

Newsdesk: 01730 232605

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**AN ENERGY firm is ready to connect with the public having chosen a site for a massive power facility between Lovedean and Denmead.**

Aquind bosses are pressing ahead with their £1.42bn scheme to link the Lovedean substation with the French power grid.

They have also earmarked a site for a converter station with land between Edneys Lane and the National Grid facility being favoured over a plot close to Broadway Lane cottages.

Little has been heard from the Russian-backed firm in recent months with initial proposals for a subsea power link between Eastney and Le Havre being presented more than a year ago.

But it has been working hard to "refine its proposals" and is now seeking extra feedback with another round of consultation events starting in Portsmouth on March 3.

A spokesman for Aquind said: "We remain committed to en-

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PICTURE BY PAUL FERDINAND



Land west of the Lovedean substation, seen here from the north, has been earmarked by Aquind for a converter station.

gaging with the local community and as part of our upcoming statutory consultation we look forward to discussing our updated proposals with the local community.

“We encourage all those with an interest in the project to take time to review the consultation materials at a public exhibition

event, which provide an opportunity to discuss the proposals with members of the Aquind project team.”

Events will take place from 4pm to 8pm in Jubilee Hall, Horndean, and Waterlooville Community Centre on March 14 and 21, with further sessions from the same times in the Eagle

Centre, Wecock on March 22 and in Denmead War Memorial Hall on April 5.

The firm is also due to speak to Denmead Parish Council’s planning committee in Ashling Pavilion from 7.30pm next Wednesday.

For more details visit [www.aquindconsultation.co.uk](http://www.aquindconsultation.co.uk)



# Residents raise their concerns on power link plans

By PAUL FERGUSON

paul.ferguson@petersfieldpost.co.uk  
Newsdesk: 01730 232605

**UPDATED** plans by an energy firm to connect the Lovedean substation to the French power grid are "vague" and lacking detail according to worried villagers.

Representatives from Aquind also failed to succinctly answer questions about the scheme's funding, backing and motives following a presentation in Denmead last Wednesday.

The firm has begun a second round of consultation in its bid to link a power station near Le Havre to the National Grid through undersea and underground cables.

They will run from the Forest Road roundabout to a converter station west of the substation but the exact route has yet to be determined, with options including tunnelling under farmland west of Soake Road or underneath Hambledon Road, Mill Road, Martin Avenue and Anmore Road.

Bosses are hopeful the privately-funded scheme will be ap-



A trench could be dug along Hambledon Road if a cable route via Martin Avenue and Mill Road, Denmead, is pursued.

proved by the Secretary of State in late 2020, with construction beginning the following year.

Concerns about disruption were raised during the presentation at Ashling Park Pavilion with one resident calling their previous consultation "appalling" as only 239 responses were received from a population of over 89,000.

The firm's decision not to draw up plans for a converter station was also criticised with Councillor Caroline Brook claiming that planners have doubts.

She said: "In all five local authorities there is an awful lot of disquiet and my view is that all five feel you're being equally vague."

Another resident said the proposals "lacked basic detail" and queried whether Aquind have the capacity to deliver, with representatives being very coy about the scheme's cost. An exhibition will take place from 4-8pm tomorrow (Thursday) in Horndean's Jubilee Hall. Visit [www.aquindconsultation.co.uk](http://www.aquindconsultation.co.uk)

## Time to reverse the dangerous Tory cuts that have see police numbers plummet in our City



Hampshire Constabulary that oversees policing in Portsmouth has seen its budget cut by a staggering £20 million a year.

This has meant dangerous cuts to officer numbers, down to 1,007 since 2010 and forcing our dedicated men and women to do more for less.

Here in Portsmouth this means less time for the remaining officers to patrol our streets, carry out stop and searches, which are so important when tackling knife crime and bring criminals to justice.

Astonishingly the Conservatives still try to claim they are tough on crime. But how on earth can they defend these cuts, or the fact that just four per cent of sexual offences result in a charge and a pitiful 14 per cent of robberies. This is not the record of a political party that puts the safety of local residents first.

The JAC Party believes the first duty of any political party should be to make our streets and communities safe, so we will campaign for police numbers to be returned to pre-2010 levels and for more bobbies on the beat, after all we know this a good way to cut crime.

## LOOK OUT FOR THE JAC PARTY'S MANIFESTO WHICH WILL BE OUT LATER THIS MONTH

The Justice and Anti-Corruption Party will be fielding candidates in the forthcoming local elections. We are ordinary local people who do not have the backing of a big party machine supported by millionaire donors. We simply want to support our local area and highlight where the powerful abuse their positions, ignoring the wishes of their electorate or breaking the rules.

Unlike the other parties, we will never claim credit for things we did not do and we will praise those we think have done the right thing, regardless of their political party.





# E&C News

Election Special from the JAC Party



## Tory backed Aquind Power Cable will bring Misery to residents for months

It has been revealed that a prominent Conservative donor is behind the plans to build a £1.1 billion cable to link to the UK to France's nuclear-powered electricity grid that will bring misery to the City.

The massive cable will land at Eastney beach and then travel the length of the City. It is likely to bring major disruption to the City's major roads, including Bransbury Road, Eastney Road, Milton Road, and the Velder Avenue junction, not to mention the digging up parts of Bransbury Park and open spaces in Milton.

The Tories had claimed to be against the cable, however the consultation has been pathetic and with many residents and business owners are unaware of the disruption. Here are three questions local conservatives must answer.

1

Why do Portsmouth's residents and business have to endure months of disruption when there are alternatives?

2

How much money has the Conservative Party received from the people behind this scheme and how can they be impartial?

3

What steps has the former Conservative Council Leader Donna Jones, who wants to be a Tory MP, take to halt this scheme?

### NEWS IN BRIEF



Well done to the Lib Dem councillors for their decision to support the community gardens.



Councillors have voted to turn the Royal Marine Artillery Tavern into yet more flats.



Well done to Portsmouth City Council for making public transport for disabled people from the end of month.



# Council set for power talks

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**PAUL FERGUSON**  
p.ferguson@petersfieldpost.co.uk  
wsdesk: 01730 232605

**THE DISRUPTION** caused by the delivery of an abnormal load to Lovedean last summer could become a daily occurrence around the village if plans for an energy scheme are approved.

That's the fear of some councillors as concerns have been raised about the size and number of vehicle movements to a development site next to Lovedean substation. Representatives from Aquind Ltd will talk to Horndean residents next week about their updated plan to link the substation to the French power grid through undersea and underground cables.

The firm appears to have ruled out laying cables under Milton Road and Lovedean Lane because they've earmarked land west of the substation for a connector

station.

But construction traffic will still have to pass through Horndean and Lovedean if the scheme is approved, as access to the connector station is likely to come from Broadway Lane.

Councillor John Lay reminded Horndean Parish Council of the disruption on roads around the area when a 169-tonne Super Grid Transformer was delivered to the substation in August.

He warned councillors last Monday that the biggest impact of the scheme locally would be the regularity of similar deliveries.

**'It causes chaos but it's the obvious way in'**

He said: "The thing that worries me is about how they're going to get things to the Lovedean substation because there's quite a lot going on up there."

"It causes chaos but it's the obvious way in," said Councillor Dorothy Denston. Villagers can learn more



Councillors are concerned scenes like this on Dell Piece West could become the norm in the future.

about the latest Aquind proposals during the annual parish meeting of Horndean

from 7pm next Monday, April 8, in Jubilee Hall. The public exhibition will also

take place from 4pm to 8pm next Friday, April 5, in Dell Piece War Memorial Hall.



# Feedback desperately needed on power plan

**By PAUL FERGUSON**

paul.ferguson@petersfieldpost.co.uk  
Newsdesk: 01730 232605

**REPRESENTATIVES of a firm which could construct a major energy development in Lovedean have assured villagers their scheme is not a done deal.**

But Aquind and Horndean Parish Council (HPC) have pleaded for written feedback as the deadline for the latest consultation is fast approaching.

People who attended the annual parish meeting of Horndean heard Aquind had received only around 50 pieces of feedback since its consultation opened.

The figure was rubbished by Councillor Sara Schillemore, as she believes around 200 people attended a recent informal event in Lovedean,

while around a dozen exhibition events have taken place in the likes of Horndean, Denmead, Waterlooville and Portsmouth in recent weeks.

The multi-million-pound scheme will link Lovedean substation with the French power grid through underground and undersea cables.

A new connector station will be built west of Lovedean.

The cable route from Eastney to the connector site will pass west of Waterlooville before heading north through Denmead or the gap between the communities.

The prospect of heavy construction traffic through Lovedean, Day Lane and Broadway Lane, plus the delivery of several large transporters on lanes ill-equipped for special loads, concerned some councillors.

“One of the main concerns I have about the project is about the construction at Lovedean,” said Councillor Richard Veitch.

“Last year we had a transformer that was taken up through the same route and it caused absolute chaos with all the village and surrounding area.

“If you’re going through lanes and country roads you’re going to cause mayhem so I’d like to know what you’re planning to reduce that impact.”

Cllr Sarah Schillemore, who suggested HPC should object to the “horrendous” plans before urging the council to make a formal response, said: “I think people are very nervous about large pieces of equipment being moved through Lovedean.

“The National Grid had a

comprehensive travel plan to move a transporter in on a Sunday morning and it was very exciting and people came out with their cameras early in the morning.

“They needn’t have bothered because it got stuck on Day Lane and they had to get a large crane to help it out.”

Aquind representatives told HPC that construction routes are being planned “very carefully” with feedback from the public, National Grid and Hampshire Highways all playing a part.

There could be an intensive period of construction traffic and the possibility of some taking place at night could not be ruled out.

More details can be found and feedback can be submitted at [www.aquindconsultation.co.uk](http://www.aquindconsultation.co.uk) with the consultation finishing on April 29.

