



The Planning Inspectorate Yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

The Planning Act 2008

Application for Development Consent for the AQUIND Interconnector

Case ref: EN020022

Examining Authority's Note of an Unaccompanied Site Inspection

USI5: 24 June 2020, 1230 to 1335.

Andrew Mahon from the ExA carried out an Unaccompanied Site Inspection at Old Winchester Hill National Nature Reserve. This comprised a walk from the NNR car park to the hill fort, around the ramparts and returning to the car park. The location of Applicant's viewpoint 16 [APP-266] was included.

Clear, long-distance views were available to Portsdown Hill and beyond. The views towards the Proposed Development site were compared with the Applicant's ZTV ([APP-242] to [APP-249]), and it was confirmed that the site of the existing substation and the Proposed Development are only visible from the southern side of the Old Winchester Hill Fort itself, and even here only from the highest parts.

The top of one of the pylons at or near the existing substation was discernible, and the site was viewed in the context of its very well wooded surroundings that formed a small part of the expansive view. The interest associated with the historic landscape and features of the hill fort itself was noted, and then beyond that the 360-degree panoramic view that entices the viewer to turn full circle to appreciate the landscape and visual context.

Map A: the route taken

