From:
To:
Subject:
Aquind Interconnector
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Date:
05 October 2020 16:43:06

Dear Planning Inspectorate

I am a Portsmouth City Councillor representing Drayton and Farlington and wish to register my objections to the Aquind Interconnector scheme.

Portsmouth is the second most densely populated city in the UK and it makes no sense for this interconnector to make land fall in Portsmouth and be routed through the entire City. I understand that there are further interconnectors in Brighton and Gosport.

I have previously attended two meetings with Aquind who seemed unsure and unaware of the local geography. Their communication has been poor to non-existent and what has been delivered has been designed in such a way to cause fear among residents, demanding mortgage and land ownership details from some.

Technical questions regarding impact on residents with electronic implants have not been answered.

The proposed route, landing the cable at Eastney beach which is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, then runs through long standing allotments and a Milton Common before running the entire length of the A2030.

Milton Common is the only large area of natural grassland on Portsea Island and is a haven for numerous small mammals and butterflies.

The A2030 is one of only three routes onto Portsea Island and will create misery, traffic congestion and significant air quality issues for a City which already has Air quality concerns.

The northern section of the route within Portsmouth will have a severe impact on two local schools, namely Solent Infant and Solent Junior schools, remove two green spaces and affect Farlington Marshes.

Farlington Marshes is a nature reserve and a Ramsar site designated to be of international importance under the Ramsar convention. It is also a site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Area (SPA). Farlington Marshes ranks within the Top 10 most important places for migrating birds in the UK, including Brent Geese which are fully protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Aquind do not appear to have considered alternative routes which are likely to cause significantly less disruption and would question why alternative sites have not been fully explored and considered.

I would ask that the Planning Inspectorate reject this application

Kind regards Simon Bosher

CIIr Simon Bosher Conservative Spokesman for Traffic and Transportation Drayton and Farlington Ward Councillor

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