

From: [Nokes, Laura Miss \(DIO Estates-SnrSafegdgMgr1\)](#)
To: [Aquind Interconnector](#)
Subject: 20201006-AQUIND Interconnector-MOD response to written questions
Date: 06 October 2020 09:25:20
Attachments: [20201006-AQUIND written questions MOD response.pdf](#)

Good morning,

Re: AQUIND Interconnector Project

Your reference: EN020022

Our reference: 10042978

Thank you for notifying the Ministry of Defence (MOD) that the Examining Authority's first set of written questions have been published. Two sets of questions relating to Compulsory Acquisition and Shipping and Navigation were directed at the MOD, the attached letter provides responses to these questions.

I trust this is sufficient for your needs but if you need anything further please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Laura Nokes

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Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Due to Covid-19 I am working from home until further notice.

In line with the latest guidance, I am working offline where possible to ease the pressure on the IT network, so I will only be checking emails and Skype periodically. This means I might not respond as promptly as usual.



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06 October 2020

Your Reference: EN020022 & AQUI-SP014
Our reference: 10042978

Dear Sir/Madam,

Application by AQUIND Ltd for the AQUIND Interconnector - The Examining Authority's first written questions

I write to provide responses to the examining authority's first set of written questions, two of these questions were directed at the Ministry of Defence (MOD). The questions relate to Compulsory Acquisition and Shipping & Navigation.

Reference	Respondent(s)	Question
3. Compulsory Acquisition		
CA1.3.37	The Applicant The Ministry of Defence	<p>What are the current positions of the Applicant and the Ministry of Defence in respect of discussions relating to s135 of the Planning Act 2008 (Statement of Reasons [APP-022] paragraphs 1.5.7 and 8.3.3)? Provide details of any such discussions.</p> <p>In the context of Planning Act 2008 guidance related to procedures for the Compulsory Acquisition of land (September 2013), Annex B Paragraph 2, when does the Applicant expect to receive any relevant consent? Are there other bodies that should be the subject of such discussions? If the relevant consent is not received, would the project be able to proceed and, if so, in what form? Would a reassessment of environmental effects be necessary?</p>

To undertake their works, the applicant requires the use of grass verges at Farlington Avenue, Portsmouth which are owned by the MOD. The applicant will not be purchasing these parcels of MOD land so compulsory acquisition is not required instead the applicant is looking to obtain consent from the MOD to carry out these works at this location through the grant of wayleaves.

A tri-party agreement between Avison-Young (representing the Applicant), MOD and Annington Homes (provider of Service Families Accommodation) is in discussion for the prospective grant of wayleaves relating to the cable routes over MoD land. The applicant has full details of the Heads of Terms and documents, at the time of writing this response these agreements are yet to be completed.

Reference	Respondent(s)	Question
14. Shipping and Navigation		
SN1.14.1	The Applicant MoD	With reference to paragraph 13.6.2.44 of ES Chapter 13 [APP-128], in the event of an urgent military need (rather than just exercise), can the path be cleared for naval forces to deploy and would sufficient notice be available to allow cable installation works to cease to enable this to occur?

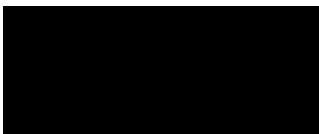
We have previously made representations in response to a Scoping Opinion request and a Section 42 consultation in relation to this project and the safeguarding of offshore military assets and interests.

As previously advised, the offshore cable route will intersect military Danger Area D037 however we have no safeguarding concerns with the cable route passing through this danger area. We have no other offshore safeguarding concerns with this proposal however we did advise that the applicant should consider the presence of both historic explosive munitions disposal sites and unexploded ordnance (UXO). The onshore cable route does not occupy any statutory onshore safeguarding zones so we also raised no safeguarding concerns with the onshore element of the project.

In response to the written question, the AQUIND interconnector cable route runs clear of the main navigation channels used for deploying warships out of HM Naval Base Portsmouth and only a small section of the cable route falls within the port limits. It is therefore unlikely that the route will need to be cleared should a warship need to be deployed. Information relating to maintenance and constriction works will be circulated by the project to the Queens Harbour Master (QHM) at Portsmouth and via Notices to Mariners so the QHM and Navy will be notified.

I trust this is clear however should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Laura Nokes
Senior Safeguarding Manager