

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 06 October 2020 12:45

To: Aquind Interconnector <aquind@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

Subject: Objection

My reference 20025148

I wish to add to my first objection. It has been brought to our attention that the plans for the Milton Allotments have changed.

1. The original consultation we were led to understand that the site would be horizontally drilled underground so little disturbance to the plots and plot holders. It now appears that this is not the case for the plots in the purple area of AQUIND plan. They are now seeking rights of access including the right to remove all structures and vegetation on those allotments, included in this is the community garden site with all its structures and summerhouse. This site is a lifeline to the people who tend it. Being a sanctuary away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life especially in the last few months of this pandemic which could disrupt our lives for months or years. We all need our green open spaces for our mental health and well-

being. More so now than any time since the Second World War. The plans have been vague and non-specific. Their intentions and impact on surrounding areas are not precise. If permission is granted they can and will do as they like, changing plans at will. Can we trust them? I have my doubts seeing how they have changed the plans. Previous promises have already been broken.

2. I note from the present planned route that three areas of nature reserves will be disturbed, Farlington Marshes, Milton Common, and Milton Allotments. All habitats of many protected species. Has there been an ecological survey undertaken on our allotment at Milton, number [REDACTED]? We have seen frogs, toads, slowworms, newts that we never identified but did inform English Nature who recommended not to disturb but if we could get a photo they could identify them. As we have two ponds on our plot we have wildlife breeding there. We have field mice that shelter in our shed and fox families are frequently seen. Many of these species are protected so we try never to disturb them. Just enjoy being close to nature. We have hosted visits from the local infants and junior school who came to look at our shed which is a wartime air aid shelter, and observe what lives and grows in the local area they live in. This rich resource cannot be lost. Portsmouth is not a city that has houses that are large and have large gardens. Many of our children grow up thinking that their food comes in plastic bags from supermarkets. We cannot afford to lose any of our green spaces or even for a few weeks and for AQUIND to disturb them for even a short time is a travesty. Many of the plot owners are retired and have worked their plots for years. We ourselves had had ours over 45 years. Our crop this year has meant that we did not have to use supermarkets in lockdown. It has been our place of normality where we can watch the seasons come and go, this is the case for many allotment holders many of whom have lost partners. And this is now their lifeline. We don't deserve to have big business and money to ride roughshod over our community.

3. Instead of this cable which I'm sure will bring nuclear generated power, we should be considering sustainable energy, such as wind farms off the coast not disturbing the seabed, natural habitats, and a city that has the highest population of an island city.

These are my further objections to these plans. I hope they will be given further consideration.

Mrs L R Mills