

**Aquind Interconnector application for a Development Consent  
Order for the 'Aquind Interconnector' electricity line between Great  
Britain and France (PINS reference: EN020022)**

**Summary of Written Representations**

on behalf of

**Mr. Robin Jefferies**

**Registration Identification Number: 20025045**

**Submitted in relation to Deadline 1 of the Examination Timetable**



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Ref: 609575-1

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Mr Robin Jefferies (our "**Client**") owns the freehold interest in Mill View Farm, Old Mill Lane, Denmead, PO8 0SN (the "**Land**"). The Land is situated within the Converter Station Area (Works No.2) and covers plots 1-26, 1-29 and 1-30. The Land is mostly used for commercial purposes. Part is let as a scaffolder's yard, and part is let as a stabling and livery business, with some residential mobile homes. Also on the Land are paddocks, grazing land, and an outdoor riding arena.
- 1.2 The Promoter proposes to permanently compulsorily acquire a 9,495 square metres of the Land within plot number 1-29, and compulsorily acquire new permanent landscaping rights over 3,138 square metres of the Land within plot numbers 1-26 and 1-30.

## **2 COMPULSORY PERMANENT ACQUISITION OF FREEHOLD INTEREST**

- 2.1 Most of plot 1-29 is let to [REDACTED], on which she operates a horse livery business. Her business also uses the paddocks and riding arena, and the field for grazing. The compulsorily acquisition of plot 1-29 would reduce the viability of [REDACTED]' business and in turn our Client's.
- 2.2 There is no need to compulsorily acquire the freehold interest over the entirety of plot 1-29:
- 2.2.1 Under Option B(i) for the converter station, only part of the converter station footprint is located on plot 1-29. Under option B(ii), none of the footprint will be located on plot 1-29. The Promoter however intends to permanently acquire the same sized area irrespective of which option is chosen;
- 2.2.2 Within Option B(i), some of the land will remain as "existing pasture". No reason is given as to why this needs to be permanently compulsorily acquired; and
- 2.2.3 Most of plot 1-29 is only to be landscaped. Landscaping rights would be more appropriate, as they would be supplemented by Articles 23, 30 and 32 of the draft DCO, the fact that landscaping management activities need only be carried out once or twice a year, and because the Outline Landscape and Biodiversity Strategy provides that local farmers would be responsible for implementing parts of the detailed landscaping strategy.
- 2.3 It is requested that the compulsorily acquisition power relating to plot 1-29 is:
- 2.3.1 Subject to alternative options depending on whether Option B(i) or Option B(ii) is chosen; and
- 2.3.2 Reduced so that it only covers the footprint of the converter station.
- 2.4 It is also requested that the Book of Reference be amended accordingly so that Ms. Windybanks is added as an affected interest, and that none of our Client's freehold interest is subject to powers of permanent compulsory acquisition should Option B(ii) be selected.

## **3 COMPULSORY PERMANENT ACQUISITION OF NEW PERMANENT LANDSCAPING RIGHTS**

- 3.1 The Promoter has failed to provide any justification for the need for permanent landscaping rights over the full lengths of hedgerows, HR06 and HR09. The extent of those rights relating to these hedgerows is also questioned.
- 3.2 The Promoter has failed to demonstrate that all of the land in plots 1-26 and 1-30 is required for landscaping.

## **4 LOSS OF AMENITY**

### *Dust*

- 4.1 The Promoter's conclusions on the risk level of dust conflicts between the Environmental Statement and the Onshore Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan. Our client is concerned that the dust mitigation measures will be insufficient, and that the impacts to their Land have not been accurately assessed.

### *Air*

- 4.2 Our Client is also concerned that the Promoter proposes only that it "**may**" monitor air quality. There is no obligatory monitoring.

### *Construction noise*

- 4.3 The Promoter has failed to identify two mobile homes situated within 300 metres to the west of the proposed Converter Station as a key environmental receptors. Hillcrest is also referred to as 'R3' in the context of it being a sensitive receptor to noise, but there is no analysis in layman's terms of what all the data presented for R3 mean and an explanation as to how the Promoter concluded that overall noise effects would be "negligible". We would also not categorise an estimated 3-year construction period for the converter station as a "temporary" period of time. Exposure to noise for such a long period of time would cause significant harm to the health and wellbeing of our Client's tenants. The community liaison proposals relating to noise also do not require positive steps to be taken to deal with sources of complaints over and above a 'review'.

### *Operational noise*

- 4.4 It is anticipated that this may be audible at the nearest residential receptors, and result in adverse effects on the psychological health for residents. This may cause anxiety and could lower levels of quality of life or wellbeing. The Promoter concludes the impacts will be negligible to minor adverse, but no explanation has been provided.

## **5 WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION**

- 5.1 It is unclear to what extent the Environmental Statement considers the presence of existing wildlife and protected species on our Client's land.
- 5.2 We are concerned that the construction of the Converter Station will lead to the permanent loss of 410 m of species-rich hedgerow, with no explanation or assessment provided giving a timeline for the overall recovery or improvement in wildlife in the area.

## **6 DECOMMISSIONING**

- 6.1 There needs to be a requirement for the Promoter to submit a decommissioning strategy, impact assessment, and programme to the relevant local authority before any decommissioning takes place. There is currently no control being placed over how decommissioning could take place.