From: [redacted]
To: Aquind Interconnector
Subject: Portsmouth Project
Date: 05 October 2020 21:46:59

Dear Aquind inspectorate.

The residents of Portsmouth, including myself, strongly object to your proposals to destroy our green spaces to construct your interconnector cable as a means of making cheap electricity.

Your process has been completely undemocratic - paying the Tory government a staggering £1.3 million to proceed without accountability.

Milton Locks, Milton Common, Langstone Harbour, Eastney Beach and Farlington Marshes provide habitat to endangered species and make up very small areas of nature that we have left in Portsmouth. Like much of the rest of the world, our city has declared a climate emergency in recognition of the very real and immediate threat of climate change. We live on an island city surrounded by rising seas, and we breathe illegal levels of air pollution. We are working hard to reduce carbon emissions in our city and it is essential that we preserve our remaining green spaces and natural sites to do this.

Moreover, these green spaces are not only the "lungs" of our city, they are the heart of our community. The allotments have been nurtured and tended to by family members of all ages for generations. Milton common has been home to the adventures of generations of children, it is the heart of communities like Moorings Way and is used by people of all ages for running, playing, dog walking, picnicking, paddling, boating, tree climbing, blackberry picking, cycling and more. Moorings Way Infant School [redacted] use the area for outdoor learning.

It is a rare green space in Portsmouth that has some nature intact. Flocks of birds can regularly be seen flying overhead and bathing on the shore, ducks and swans on the lakes and even bobbing on the sea.

It is essential for the health and wellbeing of our residents and the animals living there. As a disabled resident, the works will cause additional problems with accessibility throughout the construction process, and there will be no nature to return to once the diggers have ploughed through the landscape.

To bulldoze and excavate these sites will wreak untold destruction and heartache.

We will not let this city's natural habitats be destroyed without opposition. We are a strong city, we can be united, and we will resist.

We will not give up on our children's future, our city's health, our endangered species', and planet.

Sincerely,
Katie Lawrence