From: [redacted]
To: Aquind Interconnector
Subject: Aquind interconnector objection
Date: 05 October 2020 22:23:11

Dear Inspector,

I write to object in the strongest possible terms to the Aquind interconnector infrastructure project, due to make landfall here in Portsmouth.
I object to these plans for the following reasons:
1) Lack of clarity, overly complicated/technical and ever-changing plans.
Example: Milton allotments weren't part of the formal consultation with the public as an area that could be affected. In latest plans released by the company this area is now included.

2) Lack of quality engagement with the public.
Example: There have been several poorly managed consultations with the public, including letters to residents asking for home owners details and house prices.

3) Disruption to the city.
Portsmouth is the second most densely populated city in the country after London. There are 3 roads off and on to the island.
Example: The plans show that one of these roads (Eastern Road) would have lanes closed to traffic. These works would dramatically reduce the access to the city for a considerable period of time, causing huge delays backing up onto the M27 and A3.

4) Environmental impact on the city.
Example: The plans go directly through green spaces, protected areas and areas with specific wildlife protections. Milton common, locks and now Milton and Eastney Allotments. If this goes ahead the effect on wildlife due to increase in pollution/traffic levels of idle vehicles in the surrounding area due to disruption caused by the projects road works will be catastrophic, bit to mention the large tracked trenching vehicles that will be required for the trenching of the cable in the proximity of the Langstone SSSI. The benthic layer of the langstone silts is a delicate ecosystem that feeds into the ecosystem of the surround nature reserves. I do not feel that this has been adequately considered so far.

5) plans for operations ans maintenance of the cable are not transparent and in the event that the cable would need replacing the disruption would continue in the service lifetime. There are no clear plans on how this would be managed.

I hope you will seriously consider these points I make. My concerns are shared by some local councillors and importantly our constituency Member of Parliament, [redacted] who agrees with my points and has been putting pressure on Government to think again about this national infrastructure project.

Sincerely

J. Westcott

[redacted]

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.