From: [redacted]
To: Aquind Interconnector
Subject: Objection to Aquind Interconnector
Date: 06 October 2020 22:16:51

To the Inspectorate

We the undersigned object in the most strongest of terms to the Aquind interconnector proposals affecting the city of Portsmouth. Portsmouth is a historic city with a close community, that community is being let down by these plans and as their representatives it is our moral duty to do all we can to ensure these plans do not go ahead. Our grounds for outright objection are -

<!--[if !supportLists]-->1) <!--[endif]-->A lack of clarity, over complicated/technical and ever changing plans. Aquind's plans do not offer sufficient, understandable detail for residents to be able to make a sound decision on. Furthermore, Aquind have repeatedly moved the goalposts on what the scope of the project contains. Allotment plots that were initially outside of the proposals have now been brought in under the table and are under threat.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->2) <!--[endif]-->Lack of quality engagement with the public. Consultations have been poorly managed and not informative enough. Some residents have also complained having received targeted letters asking for home owner details and house prices.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->3) <!--[endif]-->The disruption to the city will be staggering both for residents and the environment. The cable is due to make landfall in Eastney and Craneswater, travelling through Milton, up Eastern road, across Farlington Marshes and on to the sub station at Lovedean. Swathes of land and roads in Eastney & Craneswater are to be dug up and disrupted, Milton allotments are to be bulldozed with no say for the owners. Eastern road will be dug up causing traffic misery and huge areas of green space destroyed alongside the mud flats and marshes in the north of the City. Huge large areas of natural habitat will be disturbed and generations of wildlife, including rare bird species, marine life and other mammals lost.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->4) <!--[endif]-->Aquind's figures show that it may be possible to increase the capacity of the national grid by 5% and the French national grid by 3%. No statements have been made on where is energy is coming from. If it is from fossil fuel sources then why? In an age where we should be looking to switch to fully renewable sources of energy is this necessary? Should a project on this scale even be considered when the money could be better spent on renewables? The Prime Minister has recently stated that the UK will be fully powered by wind energy in the next 10 years, is such a morally bankrupt project of this magnitude now necessary? None of Aquind's data points towards a benefit to the people of Portsmouth for this project. Only misery and disruption.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->5) <!--[endif]-->Questions have been made around the legality and moral standing of the project. A recent investigation by The Times concluded that Aquind's Russian owners have made donations totalling £1.3 million to the Conservative Party. Conservative Members of Parliament have since had to apologise and withdraw from negotiations after revelations of donations made by Aquind to their own campaigns and constituency party's. This should bring in to doubt the credibility of those behind this project and bring about much more public scrutiny before a decision is made.

I hope you will seriously consider these points and see that this project would be a disaster for the residents, landscape and wildlife of the City of Portsmouth and why we named below object whole heartedly to this disaster for our city.

Craig Withey Eastney & Craneswater	**Paula Savage** Milton	**Amanda Martin** Portsmouth North	**Kirsty Mellor** Charles Dickens	**Cllr Cal Corkery** Charles Dickens
Cllr Stephen Morgan Charles Dickens	**Cllr George Fielding** Central Southsea	**Charlotte Gerada** Central Southsea	**Rebecca Ozaniec** St. Thomas	**Cllr Tom Coles** Fratton
	Nikki Coles Fratton		**Tim Cook** Baffins	