From: [redacted]
To: Aquind Interconnector
Subject: Aquind interconnector infrastructure project objection.
Date: 05 October 2020 09:30:39

Dear Inspector,

I write to object in the strongest possible terms to the Aquind interconnector infrastructure project, due to come to land here in Portsmouth.

I object to these plans for the following reasons:

1) Lack of clarity, overly complicated/technical and ever-changing plans.

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.

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 only 3 roads off and on to the island and any disruption to one of them has a massive impact on traffic across the island as well as onto and off the island.

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 as well as major impacts on traffic flow across the city. This in turn will impact air quality, something that is already a major health concern for residents in the city.

4) Environmental impact on the city.
The plans go directly through green spaces, protected areas and areas with specific wildlife protections. Milton common, locks and now Milton and Eastney Allotments.

As the second most densely populated city in the country, green spaces are at a premium here. Access to green spaces, nature and gardening has shown to have a massive impact on mental and physical health, so destroying or removing access to these spaces, even it it is something that seems short term from a planning perspective, has major impact on mental and physical health. This is especially important in the current state of the world with the negative effects of Covid-19 and Brexit on health and the economy.

If this goes ahead the effect on wildlife and air quality 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.

I hope you will seriously consider these points I make. My concerns are shared by my local councillors and importantly my constituency Member of Parliament, [redacted]

MP, who agrees with my points and has been putting pressure on Government to think again about this national infrastructure project.

Thank you for your time,

Signed: Dr Sara Dalby

[redacted]