From: [redacted]
To: Aquind Interconnector
Subject: Aquind
Date: 04 October 2020 20:40:08

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you as a resident of Portsmouth to formally lodge my objection to the proposed Aquind energy project.

This project would see large areas of the eastern side of Portsmouth disrupted and disturbed which would have an extremely detrimental effect on the human as well as wildlife population of our city. From a personal perspective, the cable is proposed to go extremely near and down the road of my father's house. [redacted]. The last thing he needs for his [redacted] to his home life and routine. He walks his only companion, his dog, on [redacted] every single day and through this, has managed to form supportive friendships with neighbours who he meets regularly on his perambulations. The laying of the Aquind cable across this landscape would cause serious disruption to him. I am absolutely certain that he is not the only person who relies on this natural space for precious green space to assist with their physical and mental health.

Secondly, as a resident of the area, I also use the Eastney shoreline for regular exercise and family walks with our dog. We walk past the allotments at least 3-4 times a week up and round onto Milton common. During the 2020 restrictions, this was one of the safest places I could take my [redacted] so he could have time outside and it was spacious enough for him to avoid contact with others. We have personal friends who own plots at the allotments and this land plays a huge part of our community life. We also love watching the wildlife thrive along this shore. We have seen Red Kites, Pereguin Falcons and other birds of prey there this year as well as loved watching the bees enjoy all the local flora and fauna that is vital for their continued protection and existence. It is outrageous that such a thriving local community hub and beautiful landscape should be threatened because of the needs of the Tory party to have donations from billionaires linked to this project who have potentially breached the competition laws.

Finally, in an age where we are increasingly aware of protecting the environment and considering renewable ways to harness power as well as gain energy security in the face of the realpolitik games coming from Russia, it seems incredulous that our government should even consider buying power from elsewhere rather than use the money to invest in renewable sources to generate carbon neutral power. We know that over 75% of France's power is still generated from nuclear power stations; I am sure many would agree that the days of creating more waste uranium (harming our planet for the younger generations) should absolutely be halted.

In short, there is no place in Portsmouth for the Aquind cable. It would be extremely damaging to the environment, community and individuals' lives. It is also the wrong energy policy to be investing in for the long term needs of our country and planet.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth McNally-Gray

Sent from my iPhone