From: [redacted]
To: Aquind Interconnector
Subject: Objection
Date: 04 October 2020 13:50:28

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to object to the Aquind proposals as a local councillor in Portsmouth.

The key objection to this is the disruption to the amenity of the people of Portsmouth, including the area I represent. This has increased as a result of the changes.

The plan may require the closure of a bus lane at Furze Lane or the University playing fields. This will mean either the only bus route covering 3000-4000 people - mainly pensioners - will be forced to close or it will directly affect people in Dunlin or Whimbrel Closes, who live at the end of the playing fields. Acquind has ignored requests to put this through the vacant University campus for plans that will significantly affect the amenity of people I represent.

Now, Acquind proposes to defy what it told us about digging deep under Milton allotments for a depth that will mean many potholders will either be forced to vacate their plots or face significant disruption. The public health benefits of allotments are well known - especially in a pandemic - and to disrupt them seems pointless. Again, this will impact on the amenity of many people I represent.

These changes reinforce my main objection to the Acquind plan. This will cause significant disruption to the amenity of many people in Portsmouth for no clear benefit. This is an answer in search of a question. It will close the Eastern Road at a time when the Government wants us to cut air pollution by imposing a Clean Air Zone, displacing traffic onto the very roads they propose to close.

I also ask what impact this will have on the SSSI that is Langstone Harbour.

I object to this in the strongest possible terms.

Regards,
Ben

Ben Dowling - [redacted]
Liberal Democrat Councillor for Milton Ward
Chair of Employment Committee

[redacted]

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