From: Christina Graydon [redacted]
Sent: 04 October 2020 10:50
To: Aquind Interconnector <aquind@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: Aquind interconnector plan Portsmouth

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.

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.

The Eastern road and Milton road have huge traffic queues at peak times already. This will only be made worse with the proposed work. The air quality in Portsmouth is terrible already and further traffic jams will make this worse. As someone with COPD living locally air quality is a big concern.

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.

There are very few green spaces in Portsmouth and the allotment site is a haven for many different species, including foxes, slow worms, hedgehogs, newts and frogs. And the common, locks and unique coastal habitat are home to many species of birds. All of the will be severely impacted by the disruption and loss of habitat.

Example: What few green spaces that exist in Portsmouth are even more cherished than usual as they are essential for fresh air and exercise for those without gardens during the current global pandemic. Bransbury park and Milton Common will have access restricted and be disrupted and damaged.

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.

Thank you for your time,

Signed:

Christina Graydon
[redacted]