From: HEATHER LYONS [redacted]
Sent: 04 October 2020 17:00
To: Aquind Interconnector <aquind@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Cc: stephen.morgan.mp@parliament.uk
Subject: Aquind Interconnector Project, Portsmouth
Importance: High

Dear Planning Inspectorate

I write to make my concerns and objections known re the above project:

Environmental concerns

I fully endorse and support the concerns expressed by Stephen Morgan MP in his letter (Aquind Interconnector - Portsmouth) to the Environment Secretary dated 23 February 2020.

In particular, it is absolutely imperative that Aquind does not cause harm to our local wildlife in Portsmouth, already threatened by climate change and habitat degradation. The Milton Common area and shore line is especially vulnerable in this respect.

Environmental protection is a key issue of national, international, indeed global significance, which must inform every aspect of the Aquind project.

Land Referencing

As a long-standing Southsea resident, I am also an allotment holder on Hope Cottage which is part of the Milton allotments off Locksway Road.

I therefore stand to be directly affected by the potential route of the Aquind Interconnector. We live in one of the most densely populated cities in Europe, and this allotment area provides green space, fresh air, recreation and exercise for a large number of our residents, some of whom live in flats and have no outdoor space. The allotments have been a vital outlet for many people during lockdown and also, of course, provide fresh vegetables and fruit throughout the year.

Furthermore, the allotments also provide habitats for wildlife, including pollinators, insects, newts, frogs, many species of butterflies etc. David Attenborough's recent programme on Extinction highlighted the accelerating catastrophe caused by loss of habitats and therefore biodiversity.

It is essential that this resource - this vital green lung in a crowded city- is safeguarded.

I therefore object to the Aquind route through the Milton allotments. It is better to disrupt the roads than despoil these green areas. We must finally give the environment the priority it should have.

I request that these concerns will inform any decision-making regarding the Aquind project.

Thank you for your consideration

Your sincerely

Heather Lyons

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