From: [redacted]
To: Aquind Interconnector
Subject: Objection
Date: 05 October 2020 10:34:01

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.

Aquind has not demonstrated a need for the project other than their own gain. They are inconsistent in their plans and intentions. The allotments at Milton were not previously 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.

Consultation with the public has been poorly managed, in my view intentionally so. Social media and a local newspaper does not reach a representative proportion of residents. Their approaches to residents have been inappropriate, verging on aggressive. Letters to residents asking for home owners' details and house prices is not acceptable.

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.

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. From their tactics so far there is no indication that works would be carried out with any regard to responsible traffic management. It is well known that a serious accident on any route into the city can have enormous consequences: gridlock; A&E services hampered; public and commercial cost and inconvenience.

4) Environmental impact on the city.

These proposals will have enormous short term and long term repercussions. There are precious few green spaces in the city and what wildlife we have must be preserved. 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 is no benefit to the city, only disruption, inconvenience and significant social and environmental damage.

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,

Philip M. Illingworth
[redacted]