From: [redacted]
To: Aquind Interconnector
Subject: OBJECTION - Aquind cable route through Portsmouth.
Date: 06 October 2020 21:44:46
Importance: High

To whom it may concern,
I am writing to object to the Aquind cable route through Portsmouth.
Portsmouth is the second most densely populated city in England. As well as this Portsmouth is an island that only has three roads that connect it to the main land. These roads are the M275, the A3 (London Road), and the A2030 (Eastern road). Portsmouth is only 4.4 miles long and 3.3 miles wide at its largest points.
With these features making up Portsmouth which is a unitary authority there is a real sense of community within it.
The community is very important to those that live there and they try hard to support those who need it.
The planned route will affect the parents and children of
Wind in the willows nursery Mary Rose Special Academy Milton Park Primary School Moorings way Infant school Solent Infant and Junior schools
It will also impact children and parents from other schools indirectly as they will need to find alternative routes and may get caught up in disruptions.
It will also have a direct impact on people who live in supported housing systems one of which is for those with severe learning needs who may be very confused and unsettled by the works this is very close to the route as the Aquind enters Portsmouth.
On top of that the hospital for those with severe mental illness (The Orchards) also will be next to the cable many of whom who may be deeply affected and many find loud noises a trigger and this can be very distressing for them.
There are allotments, a shore, nature reserves and other wildlife that will be disrupted. Many residents use these areas to take a break and unwind. Some have been using these areas for a number of years and will become isolated if these areas are affected.
There are a number of sports and recreation areas that will also be affected. These are also a place of respite and relaxation for a number of adults and children. The spaces are restricted due to density and a loss of these areas would have an impact on the local residents as there are very limited green areas in Portsmouth and expansion is not an option due to the remaining space being utilised already.
Leaving Portsmouth borders the route has further disruption to wildlife, shopping areas and trades.
The disruption once we hit the Eastern road will be huge too. This as previously stated is one of three main routes into the city. If the proposed clean air zone goes ahead many of these vehicles will loose access to the M275 so will be all channeled through one road which will cause major disruption and put lives at risk as children try to cross roads around a huge number of vehicles.
On top of this Portsmouth City Council have a contract with Colas for all roadworks and if this is not timed in with their schedule the whole city could grind to a halt for traffic thus affecting most residents and the emergency services not forgetting local trades and essential services.
I ask this route is looked at urgently to save the disruption to local residents.
Kind regards

Matthew Fleet