



Our ref: 20025089
Your ref: EN020022

Highways England
Bridge House
1 Walnut Tree Close
Guildford GU1 4LZ

AQUIND Interconnector Case Team
The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol, BS1 6PN

07825 024024

20 October 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

Application by AQUIND Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the AQUIND Interconnector Project (EN020022): Written Statement

I refer to your letter of 15 September 2020 regarding the above proposal and your invitation to submit written representations to the Examining Authority's (ExA) Written Questions by Deadline 2 (20 October 2020)

Highways England's responses are set out below and should be read in conjunction with Deadline 1 response.

Yours faithfully



Patrick Blake
Area 3 Spatial Planner
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AQUIND Interconnector Project (EN020022)

Written Statement by Highways England

20 October 2020

Introduction

Highways England (HE) have been invited (dated 15 September 2020) to provide written representations to the ExA's Written Questions for this project.

Protective Provisions

Dialogue is ongoing with the Applicant to agree the appropriate protective provisions in relation to the Strategic Road Network and protection of its assets (which includes National Roads Telecommunications Services) to be incorporated with the DCO.

Traffic and Transport

Highways England are currently reviewing the updated Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan alongside other updated traffic information submitted by the applicant. We are still awaiting traffic modelling information from the applicant for A3(M) Junctions 2 and 3.

Once the information has been received and reviewed, it is intended to agree a new statement of common ground with the applicant.

Other Matters

Proposed Easement

Highways England are awaiting an appropriate Geotechnical Risk Assessment in accordance with CD622 (Managing Geotechnical Risk) to inform if Highways England can accept in principle an easement to facilitate a crossing beneath the A27. This is progressing well and it is anticipated to be complete prior to commencement of the DCO hearings.

Highways England have held positive discussions with AQUIND on matters related to the principle of a proposed easement, including an appropriate agreed head of terms. Dialogue continues in advance of the completion of a geotechnical risk assessment.