

03 November 2020

The Examining Authority Case Team
Aquind Interconnector Project
National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

By email only

Dear Sir / Madam

**DCO Application for the Aquind Interconnector Project
SDNPA Deadline 3 Submission**

I write to provide this Authority's response to the following documents submitted by the applicant at deadline 2:

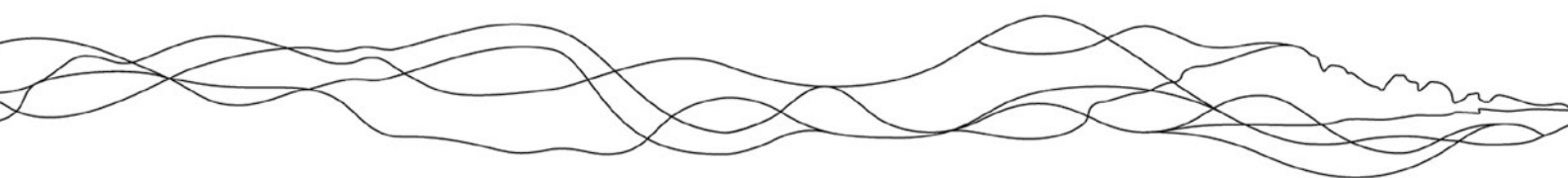
1. The Applicant's Response to Local Impact Reports (reference REP2-013)
2. The Applicant's Response to Written Representations (reference REP2-014)

The Examining Authority will be aware that the applicant and South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) disagree, for example, on the impact of the proposal on the setting of the National Park. We do not seek to reiterate our points of concern with the proposed development here but rather wish to make the following corrections/clarifications:

1. In relation to paragraph number 5.4.5 on page 9-166 of the Applicant's Response to Local Impact Reports (and reference 4.11, page 2-29 of the Applicant's Response to Written Representations) it is important to state that 'tranquil and unspoilt places' is a special quality of the South Downs National Park. It applies to the National Park as a whole and does not, as the applicant implies, only relate to or have importance in certain parts of the National Park.

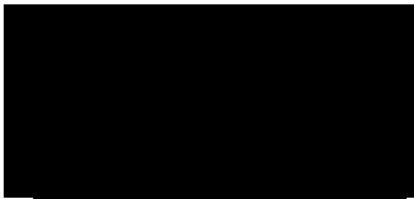
The South Downs National Park Tranquillity Study (2017) sets out relative tranquillity levels experienced across the National Park (including proximate to the development site) and this is explained in our Local Impact Report (reference REP1-178).

2. Regarding paragraph number 5.4.6 on page 9-167 of the Applicant's Response to Local Impact Reports it is incorrect to state that 'in instances [the SDNPA] is seeking for less information to be secured (for instance in relation to the colour palette to be utilised).'



This is simply not the case as is evident from paragraph 4.3.13 of the draft Statement of Common Ground (reference REPI-121) where it is stated in unequivocal terms that the SDNPA welcomes continued discussions to progress the building design, including the proposed colour scheme. Our Deadline 1 submissions also make it clear that this Authority considers that there is currently a lack of information about the design and appearance of the Convertor Station. Further, we have been working with the applicant and other local planning authorities over a number of Design Group meetings to try and get the colour palette (and other design matters) agreed during the course of the examination. The SDNPA will continue to work with the applicant on these matters.

Yours faithfully



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