

From: [Barnard, Megan](#)
To: [Aquind Interconnector](#)
Cc: [Maguire, Ian](#); [Williams, David](#); [Samuels, Tristan](#)
Subject: AQUIND - Portsmouth City Council - Hearings
Date: 23 November 2020 15:53:42
Attachments: [20201123a PCC Letter re Hearings.pdf](#)

Afternoon,

On behalf of Portsmouth City Council (PCC), please find attached letter regarding the open floor and issue specific hearings scheduled for w/c 7th and w/c 14th December 2020.

Kind regards, Meg

Megan Barnard
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Our Ref: 20201123a

Date: 23/11/20

Via email to
aquind@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

FAO the Planning Inspectorate

Dear Sirs,

RE: Hearings relating to the Application by AQUIND Limited for an Order granting Development Consent for the AQUIND Interconnector Project.

We write further to the series of open floor and specific issue hearings programmed for the weeks commencing 7 December and 14 December 2020.

Portsmouth City Council ('PCC') notes the Examining Authority's requirement for full transcripts to be submitted to the Examining Authority ('the ExA') at Deadline 5 (30 November 2020) by those Interested Parties who are due to attend and make oral submissions. PCC understands that the purpose for the ExA seeking such transcripts is to help with the effective preparation and conduct of the hearings and with the ExA's examination generally, however, save for the submissions to the Open Floor Hearing, with regard to each of the Issue Specific Hearings it appears to PCC that it is not in reality possible to provide a 'full transcript of any oral submission' that it intends to make at each of the hearings given the nature of the ExA's agenda and questions set out in each case.

PCC would therefore like clarify how best to assist the ExA by setting out below what it proposes to do in order to comply with this request by 30 November.

PCC notes the ExA has stated in each agenda that it does not want participants simply to 'repeat matters previously covered in a written submission' but 'should draw attention to those submissions in summary form and provide further detail, explanation and evidential corroboration to help inform the Examining Authority'.

Draft DCO ISH – 9 December 2020

With regard to the draft DCO ISH the ExA has set out a series of questions directed to the applicant and a few directed solely at PCC. It is assumed that the ExA will want to hear from each IP in respect of the entirety of the DCO however it struck PCC that providing a 'full transcript' of what PCC would wish to say is clearly not very practicable most especially as the draft DCO is changing on a regular basis and will no doubt not be the same as it was prior to Deadline 5 when the ISH is held. To the end, PCC in order best to assist the ExA proposes to provide less a transcript but more an analysis, listing in summary form those articles and provisions with which it has concerns and why. It will also respond directly to the questions it has been asked. We trust this will meet the ExAs requirements.

Compulsory Acquisition ISH – 10 and 11 December 2020

With regard to the Compulsory Acquisition ISH, PCC has considered the agenda and ExA's questions, the majority of which, again and not surprisingly, are directed to the applicant but also clearly require response from PCC given its position as a principal affected person. Again however PCC considers it would be very difficult to provide a full transcript of what it proposes to state in oral submissions at this ISH at Deadline 5 when a great deal of what PCC will want to say depends upon what the applicant's response are to the ExA at the deadline and at the ISH. Once more PCC therefore proposes to provide a summary of its concerns as set out in its written representations and to date in respect of CA but wishes to reserve its position to making additional submissions in light of any new evidence and the applicant's responses.

ISH 2 - Traffic, Highways and Air Quality 14 & 16 December

With regard to Traffic, Highways and Air Quality PCC proposes to summarise its written submissions to date with regard to these topics and will address each of the ExAs questions directed to it within the agenda. In addition PCC again wishes to reserve its position to making additional submissions in light of any new evidence and the applicant's own responses both in writing at deadline 5 but also at the ISH itself.

ISH 3 - Environmental Matters 15 & 17 December

With regard to the Environmental Matters, PCC notes the issues listed by the ExA in the agenda (a) – (p) and 3 – 7 (HRA; Landscape, visual impacts and tranquillity; Marine matters Noise; and Socio-economic assessment)

As well as the questions directed to PCC and proposes again to summarise its written submissions to date with regard to the issues raised under the above identified issues and will address each of the ExAs questions directed to it within the agenda. In addition again PCC wishes to reserve its position to making additional submissions in light of any new evidence and the applicant's own responses both in writing at deadline 5 but also at the ISH itself.

Yours sincerely,



Ian Maguire
Assistant Director Planning & Economic Growth

Cc

David Williams, Chief Executive, Portsmouth City Council
Tristan Samuels, Director of Regeneration, Portsmouth City Council