

AQUIND Limited AQUIND INTERCONNECTOR

Applicant's Post Hearing Notes - Appendix 1 -Correspondence with Allotment Holders

The Planning Act 2008

Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010, Rule 8(c)

Document Ref: 7.9.44.1 PINS Ref.: EN020022



AQUIND Limited

AQUIND INTERCONNECTOR

Applicant's Post Hearing Notes - Appendix 1 -

Correspondence with Allotment Holders

PINS REF.: EN020022 DOCUMENT: 7.9.44.1

DATE: 1 MARCH 2021

WSP

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www.wsp.com

AQUIND Limited





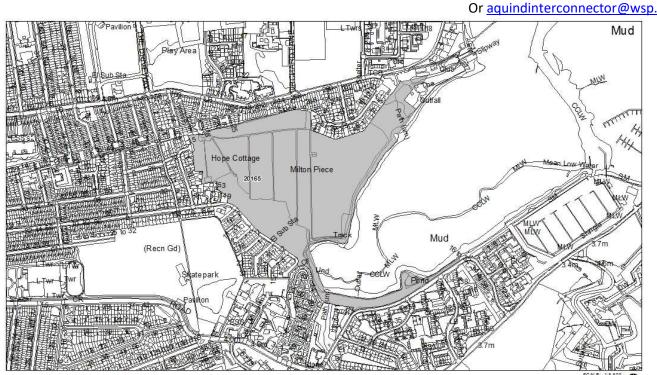
AQUIND Interconnector

Important notice for the owners and any occupiers

AQUIND Limited (The Applicant) intends to develop and construct a new marine and underground High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) power transmission link between the South Coast of England and Normandy in France, which may also include data transmission capacity, known as AQUIND Interconnector. With a capacity of 2,000 MW (net of transmission losses), AQUIND Interconnector will improve the affordability and security of supply of energy, help foster greater renewable power integration and make the national grid more robust by supplying vital ancillary services. The Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy has directed that AQUIND Interconnector is a nationally significant infrastructure project and is to be treated as development for which development consent is required. Accordingly, AQUIND intends to submit an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS), who will examine the application on behalf of the Secretary of State.

AQUIND will be applying to the Secretary of State for development consent under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008. As a part of the application AQUIND needs to identify all persons and organisations that may have an interest in the land shown on the plan below. This includes freeholders, leaseholders, tenants, occupiers and people who may have rights over the land. If you hold any interest in, or rights over, the land outlined in red on the attached plan, please contact WSP, who are working on AQUIND's behalf and quote reference: 20165.

A public consultation on the developing proposals for AQUIND Interconnector is proposed to take place in the first quarter of 2019. Further information regarding the proposals for AQUIND Interconnector and the public consultation events to be held will be published early 2019.



Tel: 020 3116 9389

Write to: WSP Land Team, PO Box 74664, London WC1A 9PB

Or aquindinterconnector@wsp.com

Further information about the scheme can be found on our website www.aquindconsultation.co.uk.

Should you require further details or have any queries relating to the proposed project please do not hesitate to email the project team on aquindinterconnector@wsp.com.

AQUIND INTERCONNECTOR

SECTION 48, PLANNING ACT 2008

REGULATION 4, THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (APPLICATIONS: PRESCRIBED FORMS AND PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS 2009

NOTICE OF PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE A HIGH VOLTAGE DIRECT CURRENT SUBSEA AND UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC POWER TRANSMISSION LINK BETWEEN ENGLAND AND FRANCE

- Notice is hereby given that AQUIND Limited of OGN House, Hadrian Way, Wallsend, NE28 6HL (hereafter referred to as "AQUIND") intends to apply to the Secretary of State under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (the "Act") for a Development Consent Order ("DCO") to authorise the construction and operation of a new High Voltage Direct Current ("HVDC") marine and underground electric power transmission link between the south coast of England and Normandy in France, with the capacity to transmit up to 2,000 MW of electricity between France and Great Britain ("AQUIND Interconnector").
- 2. AQUIND is seeking a DCO to, amongst other things, licence and authorise those elements of the AQUIND Interconnector that are located within the UK, which include:

UK onshore elements:

- a. works at the existing National Grid Lovedean substation near Lovedean in Hampshire where AQUIND Interconnector will connect to the existing Great Britain electricity grid;
- b. high voltage alternating current ("HVAC") underground cables, connecting the Lovedean substation to a new converter station;
- c. the construction of a converter station located to the west of Lovedean village, comprising a mix of buildings and outdoor electrical equipment;
- underground high voltage direct current ("HVDC") cables together with a fibre optic cable from the converter station near Lovedean to the proposed landfall site in Eastney (near Portsmouth), approximately 20 kilometres in length; and

UK offshore elements:

e. four submarine cables approximately 100 kilometres in length between England and the border of the Exclusive Economic Zone with France, which can be bundled in pairs, and small diameter fibre optic cables for data transmission.

(hereafter referred to as the "Proposed Development").

- 3. The Proposed Development is not of a type that is detailed within either Schedule 1 or Schedule 2 to the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. However, due to the environmental and human sensitivities within and surrounding the Proposed Development, AQUIND has decided to voluntarily undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA").
- 4. A Preliminary Environmental Information Report ("PEIR") has been produced based on information compiled to date on the likely environmental impacts of the Proposed Development and is being consulted as part of the suite of consultation documents. AQUIND will submit an Environmental Statement ("ES") and a Non-Technical Summary in support of its application for a DCO to set out the findings of the EIA in due course.
- 5. The documents, plans and maps showing the nature and location of the Proposed Development, including the PEIR (with a non-technical summary) ("Consultation Documents") are available to view free of charge during the consultation, which will run from Wednesday 27 February 2019 until midnight on Monday 29 April 2019 at the locations and times set out below:

Venue	Opening Times
Beddow Library, Milton Road, Milton, Portsmouth, PO4 8PR	Mon, Tue & Fri: 09:30 – 17:00 Wed & Thu: 09:30 – 18:00 Sat: 10:00 – 15:30
Waterlooville Library, The Precinct, Waterlooville, PO7 7DT	Mon, Tue, Wed & Sat: 09:00 – 17:00 Thu & Fri: 09:00 – 19:00
Horndean Library, 12 Fiveheads Road, Horndean, Waterlooville, PO8 9NW	Mon & Thu: 14:00 – 17:00 Wed: 10:00 – 13:00 & 14:00 – 17:00 Friday: 14:00 – 19:00

Portsmouth City Council, Civic Offices, Guildhall Walk, Portsmouth, PO1 2AL	Mon – Fri: 09:00 - 16:00
Havant Borough Council, Public Service Plaza, Civic Centre Road, Havant, PO9 2AX	Mon – Fri: 09:00 – 17:00
Winchester City Council, City Offices, Colebrook Street, Winchester, SO23 9LJ	Mon – Thu: 08:30 – 17:00 Fri: 08:30 – 16:30
Hampshire County Council, The Castle, Winchester, SO23 8UJ	Mon – Fri: 08:30 – 18:00
Central Library, Portsmouth City Council, Guildhall Square, Portsmouth, PO1 2DX	Mon & Fri: 09:30 – 17:00 Tue, Wed & Thu: 09:30 – 18:00 Sat: 10:00 – 15:30
Cosham Library, Spur Road, Cosham, Portsmouth, PO6 3EB	Mon, Tue & Thu: 09:30 – 18:00 Wed & Fri: 09:30 – 17:00 Sat: 10:00 – 15:30
Petersfield Library, 27 The Square, Petersfield, GU32 3HH	Mon, Tue, Thu & Sat: 09:00 – 17:00 Wed & Fri: 09:00 – 19:00

6. The Consultation Documents are also available to view at public exhibition events to be held as follows:

Date	Venue	Time
07/03/2019	Broad Oak Sports & Social Club, Airport Service Road, Portsmouth, PO3 5PB	16:00 - 20:00
08/03/2019	Eastney Community Centre, Bransbury Park, Bransbury Road, Eastney, Portsmouth, PO4 9SU	16:00 – 20:00
14/03/2019	Jubilee Hall, Crouch Lane, Horndean, Waterlooville, Hampshire, PO8 9SU	16:00 – 20:00
16/03/2019	The Drayton Centre, 238 Havant Road, Portsmouth, PO6 1PA	10:00 – 14:00
21/03/2019	Waterlooville Community Centre, 10 Maurepas Way, Waterlooville, PO7 7AY	16:00 - 20:00
22/03/2019	Acorn Community Centre, 3 The Kestrels, Wecock Farm, Waterlooville, Hampshire, PO8 9UX	16:00 – 20:00
23/03/2019	Deverall Hall, 84 London Road, Purbrook, Waterlooville, PO7 5JU	10:00 – 14:00
30/03/2019	Milton Village Community Hall, 182 Milton Road, Southsea, PO4 8PR	11:30 – 15:30
05/04/2019	Denmead War Memorial Hall, Hambledon Road, Denmead, PO7 6PW	16:00 – 20:00

- 7. Copies of the Consultation Documents are also available to view and download on the consultation website at www.aquindconsultation.co.uk and may be requested from the e-mail or postal addresses below or by phone on 01962 893869. Where copies of the Consultation Documents are requested, they can be provided free of charge on a USB Memory Stick. Hard copies of the consultation documents can be provided on request (subject to printing and delivery costs).
- 8. Responses or other representations in respect of the Proposed Development should be sent in writing to AQUIND by email to aquindconsultation@becg.com or via freepost to 'AQUIND CONSULTATION'.
- 9. All responses must (i) be received by AQUIND on no later than midnight on Monday 29 April 2019, (ii) be made in writing (e-mail or letter format), (iii) state the grounds of the response or representation, (iv) indicate who is making the response or representation, and (v) give an address to which correspondence relating to the response or representation may be sent. Postal responses will be accepted up to three working days after this deadline and responses received after this date will not be taken into consideration. Please note that responses or other representations may be made public.

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF AN APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER FOR AQUIND INTERCONNECTOR (PLANNING INSPECTORATE REFERENCE: EN020022)

SECTION 56 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008

AND

REGULATION 9 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (APPLICATIONS: PRESCRIBED FORMS AND PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS 2009

AND

REGULATION 16 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2017

 Notice is hereby given that the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy ('Secretary of State') has accepted an application for a Development Consent Order ('DCO') made by AQUIND Limited ('Applicant') of OGN House, Hadrian Way, Wallsend, Tyne and Wear, NE28 6HL under the Planning Act 2008. The application was submitted to the Secretary of State (via the Planning Inspectorate) on Thursday 14 November 2019 and accepted for examination on Thursday 12 December 2019. The Planning Inspectorate's reference number for the application is EN020022.

SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT

- 2. AQUIND Interconnector ('Project') is a new 2,000 MW subsea and underground High Voltage Direct Current ('HVDC') bi-directional electric power transmission link between the South Coast of England and Normandy in France. By linking the British and French electric power grids it will make energy markets more efficient, improve security of supply and enable greater flexibility as power grids evolve to adapt to different sources of renewable energy and changes in demand trends such as the development of electric vehicles. The Project will have the capacity to transmit up to 16,000,000 MWh of electricity per annum, which equates to approximately 5% and 3% of the total consumption of the UK and France respectively.
- 3. The Application seeks development consent for those elements of the Project located in the UK and the UK Marine Area ('**Proposed Development**'). The Proposed Development includes:
 - HVDC marine cables from the boundary of the UK exclusive economic zone to the UK at Eastney in Portsmouth;
 - jointing of the HVDC marine cables and HVDC onshore cables;
 - HVDC onshore cables from Eastney to Lovedean;
 - a Converter Station and associated electrical and telecommunications infrastructure;
 - High Voltage Alternating Current ('HVAC') onshore cables and associated infrastructure connecting the Converter Station to the Great Britain electrical transmission network, the National Grid, at Lovedean Substation; and
 - smaller diameter fibre optic cables to be installed together with the HVDC and HVAC cables and associated infrastructure.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

4. Schedules 1 and 2 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 set out the types of development for which an Environmental Impact Assessment ('EIA') is required to be undertaken. The Proposed Development is not development of a type listed within either of these schedules. However, due to the potential for significant environmental effects to arise in connection with the Proposed Development, the Applicant has opted to voluntarily undertake an EIA and provide an Environmental Statement ('ES') in support of the DCO application.

COPIES OF THE APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

5. An electronic copy of the Application Form and its accompanying documents including the draft DCO, ES, plans and maps ('Application Documents') is available for inspection using publicly available computers and/or the laptops provided, free of charge, at the following venues (opening days and times vary as listed, and are subject to change). The Application Documents will be available to view from Thursday 2 January 2020 until Wednesday 19 February 2020.

Venue	Opening Times
North End Library, Glays Avenue, Northend, Portsmouth,	Mon - Wed: 09:30 – 18:00
PO2 9AX	Thu & Fri: 09:30 – 17:00,
	Sat: 10:00 – 15:30
Central Library, Portsmouth City Council, Guildhall	Mon & Fri: 09:30 – 17:00,
Square, Portsmouth, PO1 2DX	Tue, Wed & Thu: 09:30 – 18:00,
	Sat: 10:00 – 15:30
Cosham Library, Spur Road, Cosham, Portsmouth, PO6	Mon, Tue & Thu: 09:30 – 18:00,
3EB	Wed & Fri: 09:30 – 17:00,
	Sat: 10:00 – 15:30
Havant Library, Havant Meridian Centre, Havant, PO9	Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri: 09:30 – 17:30,
1UN	Wed: 09:30 – 13:00
	Sat: 09:30 – 17:00
Horndean Library, 12 Fiveheads Road, Horndean, PO8	Mon & Thu: 14:00 – 17:00,
9NW	Wed: 10:00 – 13:00 & 14:00 – 17:00,
	Fri: 14:00 – 19:00
Petersfield Library, 27 The Square, Petersfield, GU32	Mon, Tue, Thu & Sat: 09:00 – 17:00,
3HH	Wed & Fri: 09:00 – 19:00
Southsea Library, 19-21 Palmerston Road, Southsea,	Mon - Thu: 09:30 – 17:30
Portsmouth, PO5 3QQ	Fri: 09:30 – 17:00
	Sat: 10:00 – 17:30
	Sun: 10:00 – 16:00
Waterlooville Library, The Precinct, Waterlooville, PO7	Mon, Tue, Wed & Sat: 09:00 – 17:00,
7DT	Thu & Fri: 09:00 – 19:00
Winchester City Council, City Offices, Colebrook Street,	Mon – Thu: 08:30 – 17:00,
Winchester, SO23 9LJ	Fri: 08:30 – 16:30
Winchester Discovery Centre, Jewry Street, Winchester,	Mon – Fri: 09:00 – 19:00,
SO23 8SB	Sat: 09:00 – 17:00,
	Sun: 11:00 – 15:00

- 6. The Application Documents are also available to view online at http://aquindconsultation.co.uk/ and on the Planning Inspectorate's website at https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/aquind-interconnector/?ipcsection=docs
- 7. Electronic copies of the Application Documents will be made available free of charge on a USB upon request to the Applicant. A paper copy of the complete set of Application Documents is available to be purchased at the cost of £4,250. Please email <u>aquindconsultation@becg.com</u> or phone 01962 893 869 if you would like to request copies of the Application Documents.

COMMENTING ON THE APPLICATION

- 8. Any representations (giving notice of any interest in, or objection to, the Application) must be made on the Planning Inspectorate's Registration and Relevant Representation Form, which is available through the project page of the Planning Inspectorate's website at: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/aquind-interconnector/
- 9. If you would like to request a paper copy of the Planning Inspectorate's Registration and Relevant Representation Form, please telephone the Planning Inspectorate on 0303 444 5000.
- Completed forms should be returned to: The Planning Inspectorate, National Infrastructure Directive, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN. The Planning Inspectorate's reference number for the Application (EN020022) should be quoted in any correspondence.
- 11. The Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 8.2: How to register to participate in an Examination (December 2016) provides further guidance on how to register and make a relevant representation. It is available online at: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Advice-note-8-2v3.pdf
- 12. Please note that representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 23:59 on **Wednesday 19 February 2020**. All representations will be made public by the Planning Inspectorate.
- 13. Further information about the Project may be obtained from the Applicant at:

Address: FREEPOST AQUIND CONSULTATION

Email: aquindconsultation@becg.com

Website: http://aquindconsultation.co.uk/

Telephone: 01962 893 869

Dear allotment holder,

Re: Aquind Interconnector Examination - Land Questionnaire from Aquind to ensure that your allotment is included in the Book of Reference

Further to earlier correspondence about allotment holders being represented in the Aquind development consent order examination, please find enclosed the following documents from Aquind Ltd, forwarded to you by Portsmouth City Council:

- Plan
- Land Interest Questionnaire
- WSP Cover Letter
- FAQ sheet

The Council encourages you to complete the Land Interest Questionnaire and **return it to Aquind at the FREEPOST ADDRESS they provide by** <u>15 December 2020</u>. **Please do not return these questionnaires to the Council as your response may not be forwarded.** Aquind have also made alternative arrangements for completion of the questionnaire detailed in the WSP cover letter.

Aquind will use the questionnaire answers to record you and your allotment in 'the Book of Reference' (the official record of landowners affected by the Order), which will ensure that your allotment is considered as land affected by the development. Inclusion in the Book of Reference will allow you to speak at Compulsory Acquisition hearings and mean that you may be eligible for compensation.

Please pay careful attention to the enclosed plan when completing the Land Interest Questionnaire because the numbering of plots on these plans is out-of-date and your allotment plot number may be differently numbered 'on-the-ground' than in the plan. If you are in doubt, draw your plot on the plan as the questionnaire asks you to.

If you have any questions about completing the Land Interest Questionnaire, please contact Aquind on the contact details provided in the WSP cover letter.

Yours faithfully,

Tom Southall
<u>Assistant Director of Property and Investment</u>



26 November 2020 CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Sir/Madam,

AQUIND Interconnector DCO: Land Information Request

We are writing to you on behalf of AQUIND Limited (the 'Applicant') in connection with the proposals for AQUIND Interconnector (the 'Project') and the application for a Development Consent Order for the Project (the 'Application') which is currently being examined by the Planning Inspectorate.

As you may be aware, the proposals for the Project include the installation of electrical cables at depth beneath the Eastney and Milton Allotments and the adjacent Milton Locks Nature Reserve via a process known as Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD), which will take place between the car park located west of the Thatched House Pub and the grassed area east of Kingsley Road. This approach allows the cables to be installed deep underground with no impact at surface level.

We confirm on behalf of the Applicant that no allotment plots will be cleared, and no works of construction will be undertaken on any allotment plots as part of the construction, operation or maintenance of the Project.

To allow for inspections during construction and operation, AQUIND is seeking access rights over the existing paths and internal roads of the allotments site but not over any of the allotment plots. AQUIND is also seeking rights to install the cables beneath the allotments and restrictions in relation to their continued presence during the operation of the Project. In addition, it is necessary for temporary rights to be sought over the allotment plots for in the unlikely event it is necessary to clear any break out of bentonite, which is a clay-based drilling lubricant used in connection with the HDD. Further information in this regard is included within the FAQ document enclosed with this letter.

Further to representations that have been made by Portsmouth City Council and by allotment tenants during the course of the examination, the Examining Authority with the responsibility for examining the Application issued a procedural decision on 11 November 2020 requesting the Applicant to update the Book of Reference for the Application to include the interests of the holders of allotments within the Order limits (PD-021). The Book of Reference (REP4-003) is a document which is required by law to submitted with an application for a Development Consent Order and lists the land interests that are to be affected by the proposals.

So as to ensure no issues arise in connection with data protection where information in relation to the allotment tenancies is provided by Portsmouth City Council to the Applicant, Portsmouth City Council have requested that the Applicant issues a request to obtain this information. Accordingly, the Applicant encloses with this letter a Land Interest Questionnaire, which requests the information that is necessary for an interest in an allotment plot to be included in the Book of Reference. Further information regarding the Land Information Questionnaire and in respect of

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what the information may be used for if provided is included within the FAQ document enclosed with this letter.

We should be grateful if you could please complete the Land Interest Questionnaire and return this to the Applicant to the address stated below.

The Applicant recognises that during this time of the COVID-19 Pandemic there may be reasons why persons are unable or unwilling to leave their home to return copies of the Land Interest Questionnaire. If you wish to respond but are unable or unwilling to leave your property given the current Government restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic you are invited to contact the Applicant by telephone, who will be grateful to complete the form on your behalf.

The Applicant can be contacted at:

Address: FREEPOST WSP

Email: aquindinterconnector@wsp.com

Website: http://aquindconsultation.co.uk/

Telephone: 020 3116 9389

To assist the Applicant with making the required updates to the Book of Reference at the earliest possible opportunity, we should be grateful if you could please complete and return the Land Information Questionnaire to the Applicant, or contact the Applicant so that they may complete this on your behalf, by no later than 15 December 2020.

Yours faithfully,

WSP Lands Team on behalf of AQUIND Limited

Encl.

Land Information Questionnaire

Land Information Questionnaire FAQ Document

Plan showing the Order limits in relation to the Eastney and Milton Allotments

Freepost envelope

Any personal data collected by WSP in connection with AQUIND Interconnector will be dealt with by WSP in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR). For more information about AQUIND Limited's Privacy Policy please visit http://aquind.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/AQUIND-Privacy-Policy-20190919.pdf.

1. Your interest – The nature of the interest you hold over the allotment plot shown on the attached plan.

Please indicate below the location of your allotment plot within the Eastney and Milton Allotments.

Eastney Lake
Hope Cottage
Milton Piece

I don't know

Please specify your allotment plot number (as shown on the attached plan):.....

Please indicate in the box below your interest in the land. If you have a joint or shared interest please note this and provide details of other interested parties.

Please confirm that you hold an allotment tenancy, or otherwise inform us of any other interest you hold in relation to the land.	
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What is the term (length) of the tenancy (if known)?	
What date did the tenancy commence (if known)?	
Does the tenancy (or other interest) include any land or rights outside of the boundary of your allotment plot? If so, please describe here and identify on the attached plan.	

2. Extent of the land

Yes

Does the allotment plot as shown on the attached plan correctly show the area of your interest?

No (if no, please amend attached plan to show the outline of the correct area)

3. Your details

Please provide the details of the person(s) or organisation that has an interest in the land shown on the attached plan. Please check/complete the details:

If the interest is held by you, what is your name?	Title & full name (in company number)	case of company list the registered name and
Address (if a compan	ny, this should be the	registered address)
Telephone		
Email address		
Would you like to rec correspondence by e check the tick box		Yes, send my correspondence by email.
Alternative postal add like information sent well as the one given	to an address as	

4. Are there any additional details about the property that you want us to be aware of?

The information is both complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge

Name (please print):....

Tel. No: Date:

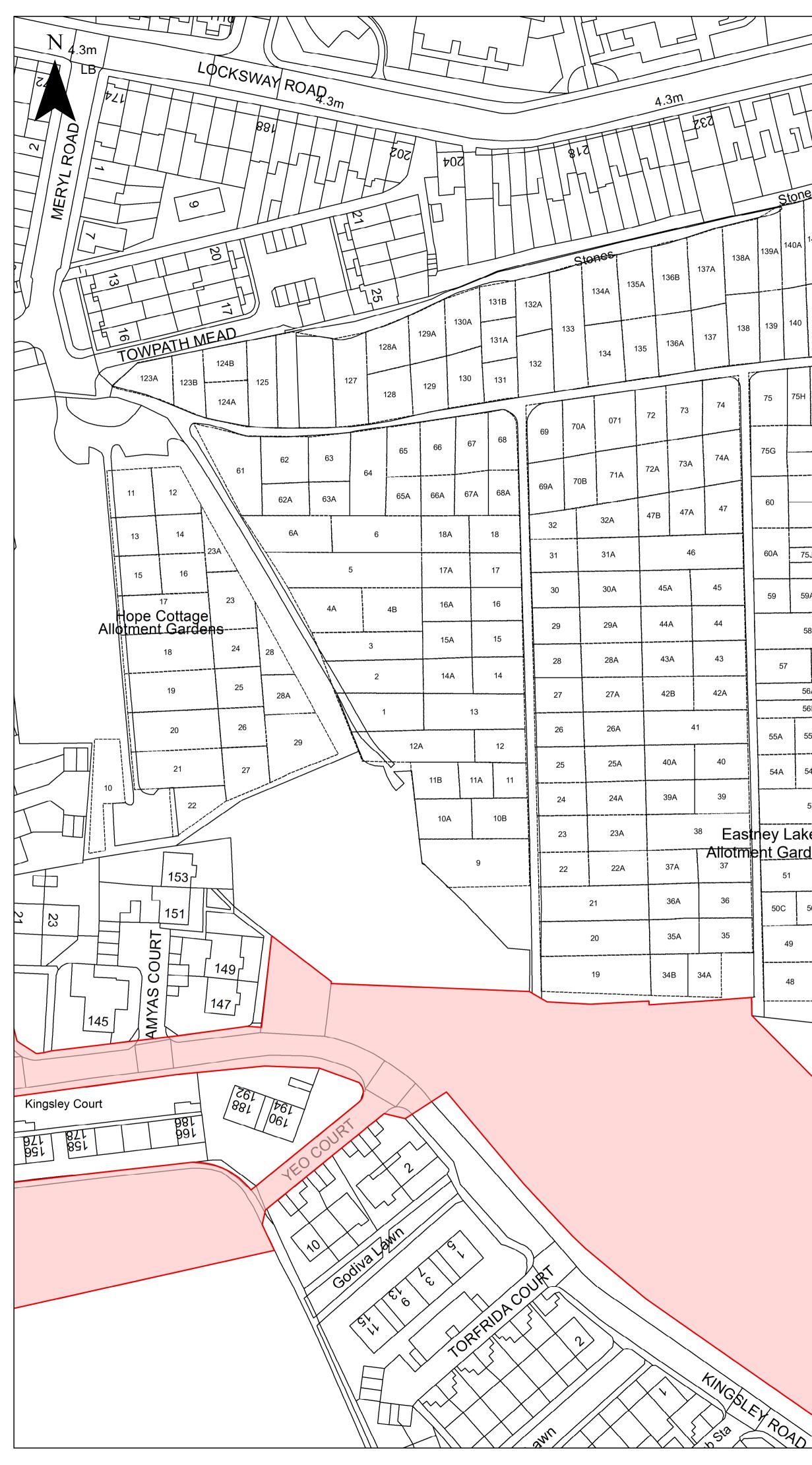
Signed: Email:

Any personal data collected by WSP in connection with AQUIND Interconnector will be dealt with by WSP in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR). For more information about AQUIND Limited's Privacy Policy please visit <u>http://aquind.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/AQUIND-Privacy-Policy-20190919.pdf</u>.

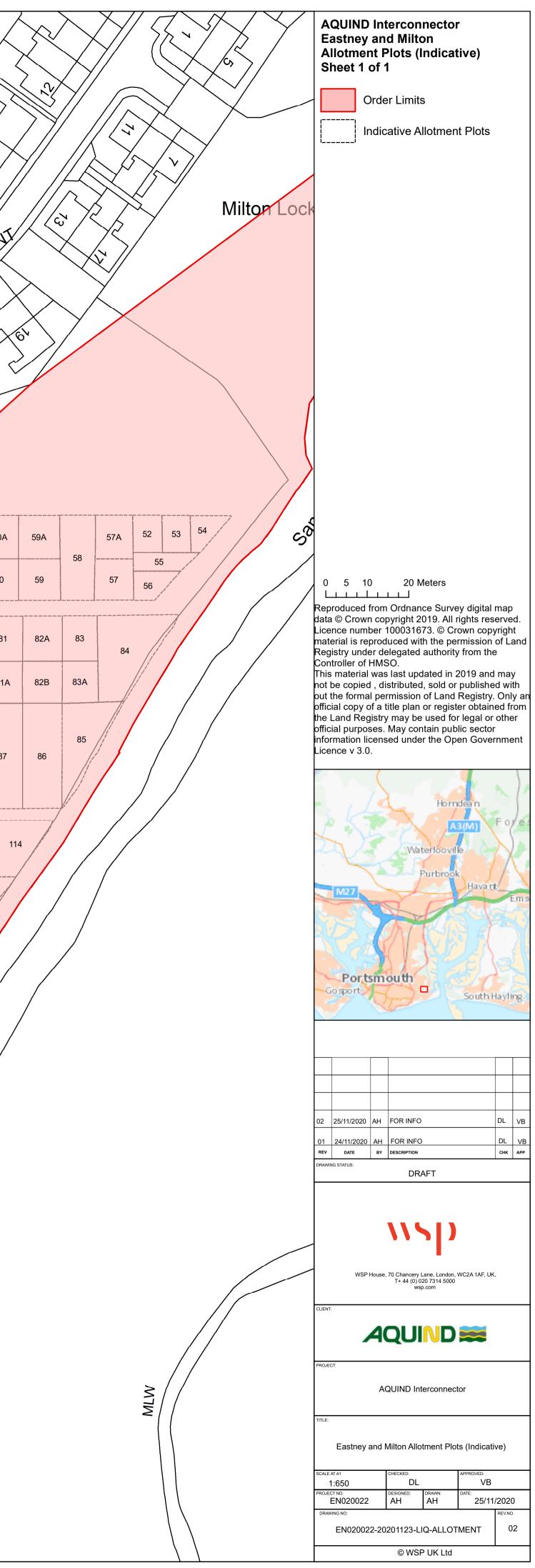
Should you require any assistance completing this form, please contact a member of the WSP team at 020 3116 9389 or <u>aquindinterconnector@wsp.com</u> and they will be happy to assist.

Please return this Land Interest Questionnaire using the envelope provided or send your response to:

	FREEPOST WSP	or	aquindinterconnector@wsp.com
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Allotment Holders LIQ FAQ (November 2020)

AQUIND Interconnector

What is AQUIND Interconnector?

AQUIND Interconnector is a new subsea and underground High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) electricity power transmission link between the South Coast of England and Normandy in France. By linking the British and French power grids it will make energy markets more efficient, improve security of supply and enable greater flexibility as power grids evolve to adapt to different sources of renewable energy and changes in demand trends such as the development of electric vehicles.

With the capacity of 2,000 MW, AQUIND Interconnector will transmit up to 16,000,000 MWh of electricity each year between the two connected countries, which is 5% and 3% of the total consumption of Great Britain and France respectively. More information on the project benefits can be found in Needs and Benefits Report (APP-115) and its Addendum (REP1-136). Both documents are available to view on the AQUIND Interconnector project page on the Planning Inspectorate's website - https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/.

Why does the cable corridor include the allotments?

Cables are to be installed under the allotments and Milton Locks Nature Reserve via a process known as Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD), which will take place between the car park located west of the Thatched House Pub and the grassed area east of Kingsley Road. This approach allows cables to be installed deep underground with no impact at surface level.

To allow for inspections during construction and operation, AQUIND is seeking access rights only over existing paths within the allotments site to enable inspections during construction and the operation of the underground cables. However, as set out below, these maintenance activities will not result in any impact to the allotments.

The types of maintenance to be undertaken during the operation of AQUIND Interconnector can be classified into two categories; (1) scheduled maintenance and (2) unscheduled maintenance.

(1) Scheduled Maintenance – This would consist of walk over inspections of the cable route to ensure activities are not taking place above the cable route which could impacts its operation (e.g. deep excavation or piling). The frequency of the walk over surveys would typically be once per quarter. In the allotments, this would consist of a short walk over the existing paths to undertake a visual inspection of the areas which will sit above the cables.

Other **scheduled** maintenance activities in relation to the cable route include taking readings from a number of underground links, none of which are going to be located on the allotments



as they are located at the joint bays, which are proposed at the car park located west of the Thatched House Pub and the grassed area east of Kingsley Road.

(2) Unscheduled Maintenance – This would consist of repairing a cable in the extremely rare event of a cable fault and would involve removing the section of cable in which the fault was present and replacing it with a new section of cable. In areas where HDD is used to install cables, the replacement would take place by removing the section of cable between the two joint bays either side of the section of cable in question. Then a new section of cable would be pulled through the underground duct already installed and the new section of cable would be jointed to the existing cables at the two joint bays in question. This means that, in the very unlikely event there was a cable fault along the section of cables to be installed under the allotments, the repair of that section would be undertaken from joint bays located off the allotments.

Will the construction or operation of the project impact any allotments?

There should be no impact on any allotment plots during the construction or operation of AQUIND Interconnector.

The documents submitted in support of the application identify bentonite as a core drilling fluid and although the risk of a bentonite breakout has been assessed as small to negligible, it cannot be completely ruled out. Bentonite is a clay-based product commonly used in the HDD process to maintain viscosity, and it also works to seal permeable soils thereby preventing fluid invasion into any surrounding rock or soil. It is approved by the Government's Centre for Environmental Fisheries and Aquatic Science (CEFAS) and is included on the Pose Little Or No Risk (PLONOR) list.

In order to minimise the risk, the HDD has been designed at a suitable depth within a single geological layer beneath the allotments (2.5 metres depth as it crosses into the allotments at the north and south boundaries and significantly deeper (circa 10 metres) where it passes beneath the main area of the allotments).

In addition, a number of monitoring measures designed to minimise a risk of bentonite breakouts have been set out in the HDD Position Statement submitted with the application (REP1-132). These include the preparation of a drilling fluid design plan, the implementation and certain drilling techniques and monitoring requirements. All documents are available to download on the Planning Inspectorate's webpage for the project under the 'Documents' tab: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/aquind-interconnector/?ipcsection=docs.



In the unlikely event of a bentonite breakout, drilling will immediately halt to carry out monitoring. Any breakout will be cleaned by the specialist contractor performing HDD works. Contact information for the contractor will be provided to allotment holders in advance of the start of HDD operations.

How will the cables be installed?

Cables are to be installed under the allotments and Milton Locks Nature Reserve via a process known as Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD), which will take place between the car park located west of the Thatched House Pub and the grassed area east of Kingsley Road. This approach allows the cables to be installed deep underground with no planned impact at surface level.

The cables that AQUIND will install along the Onshore Cable Route will be delivered and laid in sections between joint bays at different locations along the route. The locations of the joint bays will be determined as part of the detailed design process and will depend on physical characteristics such as space availability, as well as minimising impact when maintenance is required. However, there will not be any joint bays located on the allotments or the adjacent Milton Locks Nature Reserve, with the joint bays located at the drilling locations at the car park located west of the Thatched House Pub and the grassed area east of Kingsley Road.

This installation method is tried and tested on numerous other cabling projects around the world.

Why are you requesting information relating to my allotment(s) now?

Information in relation to the interests of allotment holders was sought prior to the application for development consent for the UK elements of AQUIND Interconnector being submitted, including by way of site notices erected at the allotments. No response was received to these requests at that time.

Further to representations that have since been made by Portsmouth City Council and by allotment tenants during the course of the examination of the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for the UK elements of AQUIND Interconnector, the Examining Authority with the responsibility for examining the Application has requested that AQUIND update the Book of Reference for the application to include the interests of the holders of allotments within the Order limits, on the understanding that the allotment tenancies grant interests in land that is to be affected by the proposals.

The Book of Reference is a document which is required by law to submitted with an application for a development consent order and lists the land interests that are to be affected by the proposals. As the onshore cables will be installed beneath the allotments via HDD, there should be no impact on any allotment plots during the construction or operation of AQUIND Interconnector.

The Examining Authority's request is contained in their letter dated 11 November 2020 (PD-021) which available to on the Planning Inspectorate's webpage for the project under the 'Documents' tab:



https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/aquindinterconnector/?ipcsection=docs.

So as to ensure no issues arise in connection with data protection where information in relation to the allotment tenancies is provided by Portsmouth City Council to AQUIND directly, Portsmouth City Council have requested that AQUIND issues a request to obtain this information, and AQUIND is complying with this request by issuing the Land Information Questionnaire to obtain this information.

How will my information be used? Is my personal data secure?

Your information will be used for the purpose of fulfilling statutory obligations in connection with the Project.

Your personal data will be held securely by WSP, the appointed planning consultants for the project, in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. Your details will only be held in relation to the proposals for AQUIND Interconnector and will not be provided to any third parties, save for statutory bodies including the Planning Inspectorate where required. The information provided in the LIQ will be used to populate the Book of Reference, which is a public document.

Who can I contact if I have questions about the Land Interest Questionnaire (LIQ), or require assistance in completing it?

To request assistance in completing the LIQ please get in contact with WSP with any questions you may have. WSP may be contacted by e-mail at <u>aquindinterconnector@wsp.com</u> or by telephone on 020 3116 9389.

Where can I find out more information about the project?

You can view our website which contains our original application documents and FAQ's on our website at <u>www.aquindconsultation.co.uk</u>. Further information, including further documents submitted during the course of the examination of the application for development consent for the Project can be located on the Planning Inspectorate's webpage for the project at <u>https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/aquind-interconnector/?ipcsection=overview</u>.

For any questions or further information about the AQUIND Interconnector not related to the LIQ, please contact the project team on 01962 893869 or <u>aquindconsultation@becg.com</u>

