To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you to register my objection to the proposed Aquind plans in Portsmouth.

This project will destroy our local environment, we'll lose precious green spaces, allotments and outdoor areas. All of which are important at all times, but never more than now during this pandemic where people's only solace is a daily walk in nature. People's mental health is in grave danger at the moment, and I don't see it getting better any time soon. Have you seen the increased rate of suicides during the pandemic? An increase on an already alarming rate of suicide in UK. I'd give you some statistics, but it seems the ONS is slow to release the data for 2020.

As the UK's most densely populated city outside of London any outdoor space is precious. My heart weeps for those in the high rises, think how many children are in there, no outdoor space, not going to school, when a walk in nature would be the best they can hope for. Reducing these spaces makes it less likely they'll get outside.

It seems also that the access roads used for the build might destroy residents' forecourts and may block access to their houses entirely. I would hazard a guess that the heavy machinery could cause structural damage to properties too.

Another thing about being such a densely populated city is the air pollution, which will be worsened by this. Not only from the building sites themselves, but also from traffic that will be gridlocked as some roads will be effected, key roads such as Eastern and London, Farlington Ave, and I'm sure you know it doesn't take much to cause a gridlock on our islands city. We'll lose a third of the Fort Cumberland Carpark forever, a key car park for access to the beaches. There was a parking shortage last summer even with this car park in action.

The distance of the plant to houses in Lovedean is unacceptable? A matter of a few meters away. The plant in France has had a site chosen with a large space around it due to wanting to protect people from the radiation that will be produced. Is this not a consideration for Lovedean's residents?

Then we have our nature reserves, Farlington Marshes and Milton Common, the endangered species and migratory birds that need our protection, the contamination on Milton Common that will be unleashed...the list goes on. I find it incredible that this is moments from being signed off. Why on earth do we need a power connection to France anyway?? I thought we wanted to be separate which is why we're going through the painful Brexit processes! Surely we can create enough power for our needs.

Thank you for your consideration of my points.

Kind regards,

Ella

