

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Aquind Interconnector](#)
Subject: Aquind Interconnector Project
Date: 09 August 2021 20:06:01

Dear Mr Kwarteng

I am writing to ask you to reject the Aquind Interconnector Application.

I have lived in and around Portsmouth all my life and I know the area well. About 40 years ago we lived on the island, yes island - which is something you need to consider carefully - the access on islands and peninsulas are restricted, there can only be a limited number of roads in and out, I wonder if you have ever been to Portsmouth or even actually looked at maps of it in detail. I think if you had you would see that the only option is to reject this application. Portsea Island is the third most populous island after Great Britain & Ireland and has the highest population of any of the UK islands. The laying of these cables will increase pollution because the disruption to the traffic flow will result in gridlock and effect air quality, which is already at unhealthy levels. Another point that is of concern is the laying of data cables alongside the electricity, which was not a part of the original application. I also wonder why this route has been Aquind's preferred option as it is not the easiest route, other less disruptive routes have been suggested, why have these not been considered?

I no longer live in the city, but I now live near to [REDACTED] where the substation is now to be expanded to accommodate this huge interconnector, I'm sure you are aware that this area is within a stones throw of the Southdowns National Park and is countryside. The building that was originally planned I gather has grown somewhat and Aquind wish to compulsorily purchase woodland to enable them to build the interconnector here, they have put plans forward to replace the trees - but that is a joke - it would take 50 plus years for the new trees to mature, and of course old trees clean the air much more efficiently than little saplings, all a part of reducing co2. I imagine the plant that will be needed will be huge, you really need to have a look at the country lanes it will need to pass through.

Further to my above points I would like to ask if you think that this company can actually meet it's plans, they seem to be in debt already and there's nothing started yet! Furthermore, I understand that the people associated with Aquind are donors to the conservative party - large donors as I understand it. You surely cannot allow this application to go through with a clear conscience.

I realise that we need electricity and I realise following from today's news about the climate emergency that we as a nation need to rethink how we power our country, but this electricity is nuclear and that is not renewable, it will not help us meet the targets that we need to. We need to invest in sustainable renewable energy produced by us.

I strongly urge you to reject this application.

Yours sincerely

Catherine Thomas

