

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Aquind Interconnector](#)
Cc: langleyviola1@hotmail.com
Subject: Representation to Secretary of State and Planning Inspectorate
Date: 02 August 2021 18:30:26

Dear Sir or Madam,
Re Aquind's proposed interconnector and application for a DCO.

As a resident of Portsmouth I now wish to register my opposition to this unnecessary and damaging proposal. Having seen Aquind's responses to the Secretary of State's questions, I am not reassured. I object to the evident lack of consideration of alternatives to this particular route. It is also evident that environmental impacts haven't been fully assessed, each one in turn, and dealt with properly. In fact I suggest that much of the damage cannot be mitigated, that this scheme is ill-conceived and should not go ahead.

Please would you take a moment to read this copy of the email I sent to the Secretary State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy? Thank you very much.

Yours truly,
Janet Dennis

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www.stopaquind.com

Dear Mr Kwarteng,

I am writing to tell you why I and countless others vehemently oppose Aquind's Interconnector project.

All of our councillors and both MPs in Portsmouth and along the proposed route are opposed to the unnecessary Aquind Interconnector. It will not benefit our area at all, only cause untold damage and disruption.

The scheme contradicts and undermines the government's stated target of 100% renewable energy by 2030. Aquind have applied for an extension for the construction of their scheme from five years to seven, meaning it would not be completed until 2028, just two years before the government's own target date on renewables, so it makes no sense to even consider this proposal.

Aquind claim that electricity from the nuclear power station in Normandy is green but it is not. Nuclear waste cannot be disposed of safely. As long as nuclear power stations are still in use we are, literally, storing up problems for future generations. Also, in the event of a nuclear accident the results would be catastrophic, as we know from what happened in Chernobyl and in Japan. Therefore, not only will this interconnector be unnecessary and contrary to government energy policy, but it will also pose a danger.

Aquind added a data cable after their original submission. Under the terms of a DCO this is not allowed.

It is simply ridiculous to consider routing this interconnector through the east side of Portsmouth, which is the second most densely populated city after London with already high levels of pollution and very poor air quality.

The trenches will be huge. This will mean that at least one lane of the Eastern Road will have to be closed. We have only three main roads in and out of the city and this is one of them. The result will be gridlock. It will do untold damage to residents' lives and to businesses, not only along the route but throughout our city. Yet in 2018 the decision was taken out of the hands of the people who will have to live with the consequences for years to come.

The proposed route cuts through an area of scientific interest at Langstone Harbour, a feeding ground for rare Brent geese that fly thousands of miles to arrive here every year, and also our only inner-city nature reserve, where groups of children are taken to learn about the natural world. And it cuts through a seagrass meadow at Farlington Marshes, another area that is supposed to be protected.

In response to fierce opposition from allotment holders Aquind now propose to tunnel beneath these cherished allotments but this raises troubling questions about the possible toxicity of lubricants used when drilling and the risk of contaminating the fruit and vegetables people grow there.

Off Portsea island the route is along the busy London Road and Hambleton Road, through a densely populated built up area. This will cause huge disruption.

Aquind want compulsory purchase powers in order to acquire swathes of land along the route, including 25,000m of woodland near Lovedean where the route ends. There is intense local opposition to this.

In short, this interconnector will cause massive disruption in our already congested city. It is bad enough already, especially on match days when Pompey are playing at home; the tailback often extends the length of the Eastern Road and off the island too. It will lead to even more air and noise pollution, loss of wildlife habitats, disruption to residents and businesses, loss of precious green spaces and sports facilities.

We in Portsmouth know that you have already been publicly endorsing Aquind ahead of the Inspectorate's recommendations, which you received on 7th June 2021. Surely you are not claiming to be impartial? We also know the Conservative Party has received at least £1m in donations from Ukrainian-born Alexander Temerko and a further approximately half a million pounds from the other co-owner, Russian-born Viktor Fedotov. We know a great deal about Mr Temerko. All this is well documented in the Press. If he gets his way it will not reflect well on you and your Party at a time when your government has been charged with cronyism and has just been defeated in the high Court by the Good Law Project.

I therefore call on you to choose the only honourable course of action and reject Aquind's proposals. To approve this scheme would further damage public trust in your own Party and do untold damage to our city.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Dennis

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