From:

To: Aquind Interconnector; enquiries@beis.qov.uk

Cc:
Subject: Objection to Aquind Interconnector

Date: 12 August 2021 14:45:19

To Mr Kwasi Kwarteng and other people involved,

I am writing to you to strongly object against the Aquind Interconnector Project.

I live in Portsmouth since 2012 and I love this city, despite it being the 2nd most dense city in UK, being polluted, facing traffic congestion, and having lack of green spaces.

Thus I have learnt to appreciate its few green spaces and cherish them deeply, being involved in Wilder Portsmouth group, doing litter picker, and teaching children about wild spaces across the city by being a Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trusts and Portsmouth and Southsea Wildlife Watch volunteer. I have so many wonderful memories of children learning about wildlife and taking time to appreciate what's at their doorstep. I also have a son, with whom I spend so many quality moments learning and appreciating nature around us. These are moments that are unique and only brought by nature, that can't be replaced by anything else. Green spaces in Portsmouth bring us joy, happiness, relaxation, curiosity.

Our favourite places are Milton Locks Nature Reserve, St James Green, Eastney Beach and Milton Common. Have you been there yet? Did you manage to spend one whole day in Milton Locks, the smallest nature reserve in Hampshire (the **only one** in Portsmouth), learning about seashore, grassland, woodland? Have you ever had a grasshopper in your hands? Searched for a crab under a rock? Saw a kestrel flying above the Milton allotments? Because we did and it felt wonderful.

However, the Aquind Interconnector Project is planning to deeply damage these green spaces and wildlife for many many years. Thus we won't be able to live these moments any more.

So I am asking you: Why would you do it? Why damaging so many houses, allotments, roads, and especially our so rare and precious wild places across the city? How do you feel about it and being responsible of damaging our lives, our children's ones and so many wildlife as well?

I feel so sad that because of you and your project, I won't be able too appreciate my city and my green spaces any more. What will I tell my son when I see bulldozers destroying Milton Locks if you go ahead?

Don't do it, STOP AQUIND, save our children and our wildlife.

Mathilde