From:
Aquind Interconnector

Subject:Aqund/Aquind project proposalDate:29 September 2021 11:52:20Attachments:1632910197882blob.jpg

Dear Sirs,

I am writing in response to a recent communication reference AQUI-001.

Your web-site labels recent items AQUND rather than AQUIND.

My response below assumes that we are still discussing the Aquind proposal which has been opposed by both Portsmouth MPs (Labour and Conservative) and the Portsmouth City Council (Liberal Democrat) in addition to thousands of Portsmouth, Havant and Waterlooville and Winchester residents and public bodies.

1. I wish to point out that further proposals have been published in the local press concerning Enso Energy plans for an 87 hectare Solar Farm surrounding the proposed Aquind interconnector at Denmead which is opposed by the residents of Catherington and Lovedean. (Attached).

It seems clear that these two proposals (Aquind and Enso) should be considered in conjunction by the planning authority since the latter plan assumes the acquisition of land for the Aquind installation.

2. Regarding the response to your request for elaboration of specific alterations to the proposed project I wish to point out that the inclusion of the fibre optics channel alongside the high voltage power cables under the conurbation of Portsmouth and Waterlooville raises multiple problems.

While the respondents address the construction and access to the optical regeneration stations this avoids the subject of future needs to access the underground optic fibre channel (and the high voltage cables) when this is required for service or repairs. The proposed route is under heavily used roads, allotments parkland and playing fields which should not be disturbed initially and which would cause considerable inconvenience to business and leisure activity in the city and hinterland if requiring access later. It appears from the Aquind response at para. 2.10 that there is a possibility of failure or damage to the ORS buildings or apparatus or both cable circuits.

It is apparent from para. 2. 13 that since it is anticipated that high voltage cables ducts would also have 16 bundles of 12 fibres, the possibility of any one of the 192 fibres needing access is not inconsiderable. This should be borne in mind when routing such technology underground as we already have inconvenience with roads being frequently dug up for access to the existing telecommunications network.

Yours faithfully Patrick A Whittle Portsmouth

