

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Aquind Interconnector](#); [REDACTED]
Subject: Aquind interconnector
Date: 30 September 2021 15:28:52

Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP
Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

Dear Mr Kwarteng

I am writing to object to the Aquind interconnector project (including associated fibre optic cable and optical regeneration station) on a number of grounds.

1. Loss of greenspace. The proposed route runs through valuable green spaces including parks, allotments and wildlife habitats. Damage and disruption to these areas will have a huge impact on the health and well-being of Portsmouth residents. It also goes against government policy and guidance regarding climate change and access to green spaces.
2. Disruption to the road network during installation and future maintenance. Portsmouth is a densely populated island with only 3 main roads on and off. Any disruption to just one of these results in near-gridlock on the rest of the island. The proposed route runs along one of them (Eastern Road) and is due to take 2-3 years. The result would be 2-3 years of traffic misery for Portsmouth residents and visitors and, consequently, an increase in air pollution.
3. Nationally, this is not in our best interests as an independent country. Increasing our reliance on foreign-generated nuclear energy is not the way forward. Our country should be looking to generate it's own cleaner, renewable energy rather than buying it from a Russian-owned private company, generated in a country that has recently threatened the supply of electricity to Jersey in a row over fish.
4. This project is surplus to requirements as other interconnectors are already planned and approved, providing up to 7.5GW of capacity by 2025 (Aquind's estimated completion date).
5. The process of this application is undemocratic. Portsmouth does not want the Aquind interconnector. Thousands of residents have made it known to you via petitions or personal communication such as this. Our elected MPs and Council leaders have also made it known to you that the Aquind interconnector is not wanted. Even our counterparts in France do not want this project to go ahead.

I'm sure there are several individuals who have lobbied in favour of this project (and donated generously to the Conservative Party) but I would politely request that you uphold your democratic and moral obligations to the people of Portsmouth and their elected representatives by
REFUSING THE AQUIND INTERCONNECTOR.

Yours sincerely,
Lucy Stones

