



Department for  
Business, Energy  
& Industrial Strategy

1 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0ET

Web: [www.gov.uk/beis](http://www.gov.uk/beis)

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To:

Our Ref: EN020022

Portsmouth City Council  
Coastal Partners  
NGET  
Interested Parties

cc: AQUIND Limited

Date: 1 December 2021

Dear Sir or Madam,

**Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010**

**Application for Development Consent (“the Application”) by AQUIND Limited (“the Applicant”) for an Order granting Development Consent for the proposed AQUIND Interconnector (“the AQUIND Interconnector project”)**

1. On 4 November 2021, the Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (“the Secretary of State”) issued a request for further information to the Applicant. The Applicant provided its response on 18 November 2021.
2. The Secretary of State now invites comments from **Interested Parties** on the information submitted by the Applicant.
3. The Secretary of State would, in particular, like to request responses from specific parties on certain topics, details of which are set out below.

**North Portsea Island Coastal Defence Scheme**

4. The Secretary of State requests that **Portsmouth City Council** and **Coastal Partners** provide their comments on the information submitted by the Applicant regarding the North Portsea Island Coastal Defence Scheme, including their views on the proposed Co-Operation Agreement.

## Converter Station at Lovedean

5. The Secretary of State requests that **NGET** provides its comments on the information submitted at Section 5 of the Applicant's response regarding the agreement for the Applicant to purchase land rights over Plot 1-27 which is linked to the location of the converter station at Lovedean.
6. **Comments should be submitted by email only to:**  
[aquind@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:aquind@planninginspectorate.gov.uk) by **23.59 on 15 December 2021**.
7. Responses will be published on the AQUIND Interconnector project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website:  
<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/aquind-interconnector/> as soon as possible after **15 December 2021**.
8. This letter is without prejudice to the Secretary of State's consideration of whether to grant or withhold development consent for the AQUIND Interconnector or any part of the project. Nothing in this letter is to be taken to imply what the eventual decision might be or what final conclusions the Secretary of State may reach on any particular issue which is relevant to the determination of the application.

Yours faithfully

*Gareth Leigh*

Gareth Leigh

Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning