

Atkins, Caelan

From: Rachel Hudson [REDACTED] >
Sent: 31 March 2023 13:13
To: Aquind Interconnector
Subject: Objection to Aquind Interconnector Portsmouth route

Categories: Consultation Response

Dear Planning Inspectorate Team,

I object to the planned route for the Aquind Interconnector through Portsmouth. In principle, I support inter-connectors and recognise that they have an important role to play in distributing energy across Europe and beyond as we move to renewable energy sources such as wind and solar.

There are three main reasons why object to the planned route through Portsmouth:

- The interconnector will cross reclaimed land created by landfill from waste and rubbish, which will include all sorts of nasty contaminants, including asbestos. Disturbing this would have significant health implications for local residents.
- There are only three main routes onto Portsea Island. According to Portsmouth City Council's Transport Strategy 2031 -2038, 40,000 people commute into the city and 30,000 people commute out on a daily basis. Most use cars and vans, only 3.7% use public transport. There were 237,802 freight movements through Portsmouth and International Port between March 2019 - March 2020 and 1,851,790 ferry and cruise passengers in 2019. Numbers are likely to have increased since then. It only takes one road traffic accident on one of the three main routes for traffic in our city to become gridlocked and grind to a halt. The disruption caused by the roadworks associated with the installation of the interconnector along one of these three main routes (A2030) would be immense. It would negatively affect the economy of the city and well beyond, as well as the everyday lives of Portsmouth residents.
- There is an alternative route that the Aquind Connector could follow that would cause far less disruption. This would follow the route of an old railway line, "the Hayling Billy line" on Hayling Island on the other side of Langstone Harbour.

Your sincerely

Rachel Hudson, [REDACTED]