

Atkins, Caelan

From: Susan Caffrey [REDACTED] >
Sent: 28 March 2023 21:14
To: Aquind Interconnector
Subject: PROPOSED INTERCONNECTOR

Categories: Consultation Response

I am vehemently opposed to the proposed interconnector. No doubt you have received several objections to this project which has already been refused permission, which was the correct decision. I will try to keep this as short as possible.

After Aquind won at the judicial review, they stated they would try to reconnect with people who would be affected by this project. In my case this has not happened & neighbours are in the same situation. All they ever did at the outset was to send a questionnaire wanting to know if I was the homeowner. If so, they wanted to know if I had a mortgage & if so, name & address of mortgage company. Like other neighbours I ignored this as it is an intrusion of my privacy & they had no right whatsoever to ask such questions.

This Company has no proven track record & to my knowledge have not demonstrated where their funds are coming from. The people concerned are known for donating funds to the Conservative Party, including MP's. This would raise questions of conflict of interest.

They also want to lay telephone cable as well. Why is this so? I would have thought that knowing the situation regarding Russia & their threats towards us for providing assistance to Ukraine we should not even be considering allowing Russians to undertake any kind of project in this country. Our whole national security would be at risk. One of these individuals stated after this proposal was rightly rejected, that Penny Mordaunt was a dangerous individual who was a threat to our national security. Obviously deluded. Both MP's of our City, together with our City Council are united in their opposition to this project.

Portsmouth is an over populated Island with only 3 busy routes in & out of the City. They will cause gridlock for the City. Also, this project goes against Govt plans to reduce emissions in the City. It will increase emissions. The proposed route will go through local allotments, destroying everything the allotment holders grow, including their own vegetables. The route along Milton Common will decimate one of the few green spaces in the City. It will affect all householders & there is also a Primary School in the vicinity. Milton Common used to be a landfill site. Underneath it is toxic waste & no doubt an asbestos threat. You would be putting residents & schoolchildrens health at risk unnecessarily. Wildlife habitate the area & people come to the Common to walk & exercise their dogs. People have a right to lead a peaceful life & this project puts that at risk. To lay telecommunications cable alongside their pipes would mean they will need to dig up the width of the road & utilities supplying all the houses & School will have to be moved to accommodate this unwanted project. I assume the Govt will take full responsibility for providing residents with compensation for such an upheaval. I doubt whether Aquind have factored this into their badly thought out plans. They will be running pipework along the Eastern Rd, one route in & out of the City. There will be gridlock around the City. How are Emergency Ambulances going to be able to negotiate a way through the traffic. It could end up being a matter of life or death, probably the latter. They will be digging up a Sports Ground in the process. Looking at the route leading out the City they will be looking to compulsory purchase of peoples homes. This is a total disgrace in this day & age. They will be destroying hedges & all sorts in the process.

There is also the fact that this project is not welcome in France either & at this point in time they have said no to it. The French have backbone & this seems to be sorely lacking here.

This is an ill thought out project, opposed by both of our MP's & Council. Perhaps you should come to Portsmouth & walk the whole route. You will then see why there is strong opposition. There is no necessity for a telecommunications cable to be laid. We all have our thoughts as to why!! It is Russians behind this scheme & we should not be entertaining any kind of business dealings with Russians, one directly linked to Putin. There is also the

aspect of cronyism due to substantial donations made to the Conservatives. This project has been rejected once & nothing has changed so it should be rejected once & for all. You cannot allow the destruction of parts of our City.

Susan Caffrey