

Atkins, Caelan

From: anita bell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 31 March 2023 14:04
To: Aquind Interconnector
Subject: Aquind

Categories: Consultation Response

I am writing to object to this project going ahead.

The construction of this project would mean many months of disruption and untold damage to the fabric of the city and along the route. Toxic material long-buried safely in landfill sites might be unearthed, further harming the environment in a city already suffering severe congestion and this will be going on for 5-7 years.

Eastern Road is one of the main routes into the city and we already see daily traffic congestion on this route at peak times, especially around the junction with the A27. Traffic chaos, causing much pollution, would negatively affect the people who live in, and those who would want to visit, Portsmouth. Portsmouth is the 2nd most densely populated city outside London.

'From the allotment holders whose plots are vulnerable to drilling chemicals, to the businesses whose livelihoods will be threatened by gridlock from construction chaos, from the children who will be exposed to the pollution from years of tearing up our city, to the sports teams whose pitches will be closed for building sites, from the property owners whose homes are blighted by the route, to the dog walkers who will see Portsmouth's precious green spaces dug up and fenced off... we reject the vandalism of our city for private profit.

Aquind's plan would be devastating for our delicate marine and shoreline wildlife, such as 20 species of waders and the Brent Geese that winter here from Siberia. Laying the cables would also disturb significant amounts of toxic waste buried under Milton Common, threatening families living alongside the route with asbestos. The previous Secretary of State found that the damaging impacts on our city and environment could not be justified by any benefits, so what reason can there be to change his decision?'

We live close to part of the proposed route which is going to cause severe disruption and pollution in the area and I am very concerned that few green spaces and wild areas on the eastern side of the city will be devastated by the pipework, including the Langstone harbour and the nature site at Farlington Marshes.

Yours faithfully

Anita and David Bell

