

**From:** Greg Smith <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 28 March 2023 10:19  
**To:** Aquind Interconnector; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Jacqui Smith  
**Subject:** STOP AQUIND

**Categories:** Consultation Response

Further to our objection submitted in May 2021, I am writing again, now the Aquind decision has been overturned, to restate our concerns. My wife and I live in Farlington Avenue and so would be extremely affected by the works, however our objection includes our concern for our city, our neighbours and the local infrastructure.

I am a civil engineer, with 40 years' experience, 20 of which were in the utility sector.

A few years ago I assisted the company I worked for, tender for a scheme in Dorset where the overhead power cables on pylons were going to be taken down and replaced with cables below ground.

I also helped with a tender on the Gosport cable installation from France which was similar to the current Aquind scheme. This gave me an insight to what will happen here.

**No-one to date has said anything about the difficulty and consequences in laying these cables through the residential streets - I list the obvious ones:**

- The cables will be delivered and installed from huge drums and carousels weighing many tonnes, requiring extreme heavy-duty specialist handling equipment.
- The excavators will take up the full road width damaging and destroying the surface as they go - all traffic will need to be diverted around the local roads, affecting at least two schools situated in Solent Road and Eveleigh Road.
- The roads, the majority of which are already in a dreadful condition, will be wrecked and will need to be completely rebuilt.
- The trenches in the roads will need to be wide enough to keep the cables separate from each other. The trenches will need to be left open for the whole cable drum length, probably 100m long - this will cause huge health and safety issues to pedestrians and

local residents; with the required safety fencing installed, residents will feel as if they are imprisoned in their own homes presumably without access to their driveways for vehicles. How would emergency vehicles access homes in case of fire or health emergency etc.

- The cables **cannot** be bent or twisted to overcome the numerous other services in the highway- water, gas, electric, waste and storm-water, IT cabling and associated chambers and manholes.

Many of these services will need to be moved to give enough room for the trench line, resulting in regular loss of these services to the residents.

The regular and long-term disruption will be **massive** to everyone living on or near the Aquind route.

**This is not just another utility job where cables and pipes can be cut and re-joined to get around a problem. Standard water and gas pipes of any size can be cut to suit the road conditions, *these* cables cannot be cut 'at will', come in long lengths and need very careful laying to minimise curves and joints.**

**This is NOT a project that should be allowed to proceed in any residential street let alone in the densely populated area of Portsmouth.**

If the cables need to come through Portsmouth, then in my view, they need to come ashore at the end of the harbour, go up the hard shoulder of the A3M and then cross the fields over to Lovedean.

Greg Smith  
[REDACTED]