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From: James Veryard [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 March 2023 20:08
To: Aquind Interconnector
Subject: Aquind Interconnector application – Why it should be rejected

Categories: Consultation Response

Aquind Interconnector application – Why it should be rejected.

Yet again I find myself writing to object to Aquind's proposed cable route.

I consider the cable route (which can carry 5 % of the united Kingdom's electricity) through Portsmouth to Waterlooville totally irresponsible, especially as it only 8 metres from my home and only 0.9 metre deep (Measured to the concrete surround).

Has not the country which will be providing the power to the United Kingdom shown that they can not be trusted? Consider the following issues:-

France :-

1. Has threatened to disrupt power supplies to the Channel Islands on numerous occasions, what would stop them in the future from disputing UK power supply via Aquind's proposed cable link – Disrupting 5% of the UK power supply would have significant economic effect.
2. Withheld the deactivation codes for Exocet missiles used by Argentina when they illegally invaded the Falklands when we needed it.
3. Sank the Rainbow Warrior owned by Greenpeace who were totally nonhostile, killing one of their members.
4. Have not prevented cross channel illegal immigration from France to England, without insisting the United Kingdom paid their costs of enforcement.

Other points to note: -

As I have previously pointed out, there is a large amount of domestic services to be expected in the road along the cables route⁽¹⁾ – every house/business:- Electric, Gas, Cable – Internet, Foul Water, Surface Water, Water, plus general services which include Telephone cables, Street Lighting, School warning lights, Traffic light sensors and tree roots. I note in Herbert Smith Freehill's reply dated 6th December 2021 on behalf of Aquind, they states "**the area in question (Bolney substation) was "too congested to accommodate the proposed 1800MW or 2000MW connection"**". I would have thought this statement could easily be applied to Aquind's application for their chosen cable route.

I had a conversation with Councillor Simon Boucher who stated Aquind expect to excavate as little as 10 metres a day (I have not seen the programme of works to verify this), I stated from my experience in laying gas pipelines in Brighton and Croydon this slow progress could be about right due to the number of services under our road network. It is easy to appreciate why there is so much concern regarding inevitable and considerable traffic disruption.

In previous correspondence with Aquind and at the open floor hearing last December (2020) there are questions which I raised still unanswered by Aquind:-

1. The effect on property prices ⁽²⁾.
2. Cable noise in operation ⁽²⁾.
3. Risk of Cancer ⁽²⁾. – Aquind have made reference to a letter from Public Health England that stated they were completely satisfied with the methodology and conclusions of the above report. I have found one letter from Public Health England to confirm this (<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/projects/EN020022/EN020022-001256-Public%20Health%20England.pdf>) but would point out that the letter also states "the development is unlikely to present a significant risk to public health". Importantly how unlikely and how significantly is not stated. Should such serious health issues be dismissed in such a dismissive way.
4. Loss of trees and their replacement (Farlington Avenue)⁽³⁾.

5. Failure to clarify with a medical electronic device manufacturer, whether the cables magnetic field will effect it's function ⁽²⁾.
6. Effect on future development/redevelopment ⁽³⁾
7. The Width of the lower part of Farlington Avenue and impact on BT & Mercury (Virgin) cables contained within both footpaths.

Planning inspectorate also blanks out relevant and important information from correspondence which makes such correspondence impossible to understand, for instance an NHS information leaflet I enclosed with one of my submissions ⁽⁴⁾.

It looks as if Aquind have been trying to influence the Government – Donating to the Conservative party, yes planning gains are usual with local government planning which benefit the local community but donating to a party in government (where there is no gain for the communities effected) is totally unacceptable.

Russia has disrupted gas supplies to Europe, thus increasing the wholesale price of Gas & Electricity for the UK's domestic and commercial users – no company or country should be allowed to build these cables if there is the slightest risk of disruption to our supply.

Conclusion

The UK should be self-sufficient not relying on others – If capitalism is to be a good thing, commercial greed and the economic benefit have to be controlled.

Aquind are proposing to transmit the 5% of Great Britain's Electricity Consumption 8 metres from our home and through the residential streets of Portsmouth, even if commercially acceptable, it is socially irresponsible.

There have not been any reliable studies on the long-term effect of High Voltage Direct Current, only CNIRP 2009 guidelines on which Aquind are relying.

We would suggest that Aquind make its landfall and install their cable corridor well away from residential areas, they know, the government know, we know there are far more suitable alternatives.

Thank you.

James Veryard

References

Note: (1) <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020022/EN020022-002902-James%20Veryard%20-%202.0%20Representation%20-Scope%20of%20the%20Environment%20Impact%20Assessment.pdf>

Note: (2) <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020022/EN020022-001665-James%20Veryard%20-%201.0%20Representation%20-Socio-Economic%20Effects.pdf>

Note: (3) Recording 13:00 -17:45 [https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020022/EN020022-003185-Recording%20of%20Open%20Floor%20Hearing%201%20\(Session%202\)%20-%202007%20December%202020.html](https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020022/EN020022-003185-Recording%20of%20Open%20Floor%20Hearing%201%20(Session%202)%20-%202007%20December%202020.html)

Note (3) Transcript 13:07-16:21 [https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020022/EN020022-003186-Open%20Floor%20Hearing%201%20\(Session%202\)%20-%20Transcript%20-%202007%20December%202020.pdf](https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020022/EN020022-003186-Open%20Floor%20Hearing%201%20(Session%202)%20-%20Transcript%20-%202007%20December%202020.pdf)

Note (4) <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020022/EN020022-001666-James%20Veryard%20-%201.1%20Letter%20to%20Aquind%20dated%202021-03-19.pdf>