

Atkins, Caelan

From: Mick Johnson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 30 March 2023 20:31
To: Aquind Interconnector
Subject: Aquind interconnector

Categories: Consultation Response

Dear Team,

I feel I must voice my concerns with regard to Aquind's decision to make Portsea Island their preferred landing site for their Cross Channel cable. Portsea Island is the most densely populated Island in the UK and is part of Portsmouth which is the most densely populated City. There are only three access roads into Portsea Island and if one of them is compromised then the whole City is at risk if gridlock and one of them is Aquind's proposed route through Portsea Island.

At the landfall site Eastney the cable will have to travel through many areas of historic landfill which were filled when the maxim was dig a hole and bury everything with unrecorded waste from Portsmouth Dockyard in its heyday forming a major customer.

It is my belief that Aquind has chosen Portsea Island because the cable will travel through brownfield sites without the need for costly and time consuming ecological studies and they have too eagerly discounted the other potential sites citing innumerable problems.

Hayling Island a mainly rural Island just to the East of Portsea Island was deferred because of perceived problems Langstone Channel between Hayling Island and the mainland yet no such problems seemingly exist in the longer crossing of Port Creek between Portsea Island and the mainland less than two miles away and sharing the same harbour.

The decision to make landfall at Eastney Beach is one that is suitable to Aquind alone and really should be labelled the least preferred rather than the preferred site, it will cause untold problems to the residents of Portsea Island with traffic congestion and the disturbance of contaminated ground two major contributors to unnecessary pollution to the residents of a congested Island.

There is no good reason to make landfall at Eastney Beach with the cable passing by numerous potential sites before it arrives at Portsea Island and Aquind need to rethink their decision without using their preference as the major factor and making everything else fit.

Best regards,
Michael Johnson

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