

## Comments against the Aquind Interconnector

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Aquind have recently lost on appeal the decision to remove them from the Union's list of Projects of Common Interest. It is not in the gift of the Commission to dictate to member states.

It would seem from this that France does not want Aquind.

The merits of leaving the EU aside there is growing recognition that we move quickly toward energy self-sufficiency.

The Aquind interconnector is a costly and unwanted distraction from that goal.

There is scant support within the communities that will bear the brunt of the disruptions this project will cause.

Portsmouth has been particularly vociferous including rare agreement across the floor from local MPs.

Since the previous appeal the egregious links between the sponsors, oligarchs, and politicians have been further illuminated.

Others 'Stop Aquind' and PCC have done the research.

As a regular walker along the shoreline, I notice the ongoing erosion of the soft low-lying cliffs on my path. The shoreline is characterised by exposures of terrace gravels, gabions bereft of their original purpose lie stranded on the foreshore and broken drainage pipes protrude from the cliff all attest to a degrading coastline.

Earlier this century a report on anthropogenic climate change apocalyptically suggested that left to nature both Hull and Portsmouth would be largely inundated. Unsurprisingly then that risk is being mitigated by PCC and the Environment Agency has been a high priority.

The Portsea coastline has been split into seven flood cells each with a unique strategy. Once reaching the shore the proposed route quickly traverses through Flood Cell 3 for which the strategy is to monitor and maintain and where funding is unlikely, and contributions will be required.<sup>i</sup>

To the north the already funded 'hard defences' of Flood Cells 4 and 5 will transfer pressure to the soft low-lying cliffs to the south.

Given the life span of the project this route is unsustainable.

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<sup>i</sup> [www.portsmouth.gov.uk/services/environmental-health/safety/flooding/local-flood-risk-management-strategy](http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/services/environmental-health/safety/flooding/local-flood-risk-management-strategy) pg66