From: Holmes, Jon

To: <u>Aquind Interconnector</u>

Subject: Response to Request for Information letter dated 3 March 2023

 Date:
 28 April 2023 12:06:11

 Attachments:
 image001.png

Appendix A Lovedean Solar Farm Plan.pdf

Appendix B Plan showing Aguind and Enso application sites..docx

Further Information Response letter.docx

Dear Sir or Madam

Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.

In response to your letter of 3 March 2023, I attach comments on behalf of East Hampshire District Council as an 'interested party'.

Your sincerely

Jon Holmes

Principal Planning Officer

Planning Services, Development Management

East Hampshire District Council Penns Place Petersfield GU31 4EX

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W. www.easthants.gov.uk



If you have a query in respect of a current planning application that is not in response to a direct request from the Case Officer, please contact our dedicated Planning Information Officer, who will be able to assist you. Contact details are:

Phone Number:

Email: PlanningInfo@easthants.gov.uk

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Secretary of State for Energy Security & Net Zero

1 Victoria Street

London

SW1H 0ET

United Kingdom

28 April 2023

Dear Sir

Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure)
Rules 2010

Application by AQUIND Limited for an Order granting Development Consent for the proposed AQUIND Interconnector ("the AQUIND Interconnector project")

Secretary of State Re-determination of Application: Request for Information

Unique Reference: EN020022

I refer to your letter dated 3 March 2023 seeking further information from 5 named parties on 4 specific issues. Your letter also indicates that responses from interested parties will also be taken into account and it is in that capacity that East Hampshire District Council wishes to make the following comments.

Update on the site around the proposed Converter Station (Lovedean)

The following is brought to your attention.

A planning application has been submitted for a proposed solar farm with a battery storage facility on land that lies to the north, west and south of the Lovedean Sub Station. The application was received on 18 February 2022. The EHDC application reference number is 58038/003 and full details of the application can be seen online through this link:

https://planningpublicaccess.easthants.gov.uk/online-applications/

Attached to this letter as appendix A is a copy of a plan that shows the extent of the application site.

The solar farm scheme relates to land that falls within both the Winchester City Council and the East Hampshire District Council areas.

At the present time the Council is not in a position to indicate a timescale for the determination of this application.

The solar farm scheme developer has sought to avoid any overlap between the two schemes and has intentionally drawn their red line inside the Aquind application site boundary to avoid such an overlap. This is most readily apparent on the field boundaries where the solar farm boundary has been drawn several metres inside the hedgerows. For assistance, attached as appendix B is a copy of a plan that shows the two application sites. Notwithstanding the above intention, the Enso proposed solar farm scheme does overlap the proposed Aquind scheme in the following regards:

HGV Traffic movements.

The Hampshire County Council Highway Engineer proposed a maximum number of HGV movements associated with the Aquind project at Lovedean substation area. In the event that both Aquind and the solar farm scheme gained approval and that their construction periods coincided, then there is the possibility that the maximum number of HGV movements on the local roads is exceeded.

All parties are aware of this possibility and have recognised that this scenario needs to be avoided by some form of arrangement that caps the maximum number of HGV movements in the event of both sets of traffic running at the same time. To this end, EHDC are satisfied with the latest proposed wording for Requirement 17 and in the event the solar farm project is approved, a condition to achieve the same effect through a detailed Construction Traffic Management Plan is recommended.

Cumulative impact

The Aquind submission regarding cumulative landscape impact assessment (ES Vol 1 Chapter 29) (APP-144) does need updating to reflect the potential presence of the proposed solar farm around the proposed Converter Station.

If any clarification on the above matters is required, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully

Natalie Meagher

Director or Regulation and Enforcement

New native hedgerow running along northern boundary, within the site Proposed woodland with scattered trees to replicate surrounding character and enhance visual enclosure of development New perimeter hedgerow to be implemented where needed, with infill trees where space allows, to increase visual enclosure of development Location of tree and woodland planting to respect the required offset of electricity New scattered tree and hedgerow planting along development edges to increase visual enclosure Native hedgerow provides visual enclosure to proposed Location of tree planting to development respect the required offset of electricity pylons ----Proposed scattered tree New, native hedgerow with planting to replicate scattered trees to supplement surrounding character and the existing hedgerows aligning Old Mill Lane enhance visual enclosure of development New tree and hedgerow planting along development edge to increase visual enclosure New native hedgerows to reflect the historical pattern of the landscape while providing visual enclosure Area associated with attenuation basin to be left unseeded Retained agricultural land New native woodland planting to provide visual enclosure to battery storage area Proposed swale Native hedgerows to reflect the historical pattern of the landscape and to break up the massing of the solar panels New, mature-stock tree and nrover hedgerow planting along development edge to increase visual enclosure Proposed soakaway located adjacent to public right of way

INDICATIVE PLANT LIST

Euonymus europaeus

Tree species	Specifications	Appro
Alnus glutinosa	8-10cm diam.; 250-300cm ht.; 2x; feathered; 5 breaks; B	5%
Betula pendula	8-10cm diam.; 250-300cm ht.; 2x; feathered; 5 breaks; B	6%
Populus tremula	8-10cm diam.; 250-300cm ht.; 2x; Standard; clear stem 175-200cm; 3 breaks; B	6%
Prunus avium	8-10cm diam.; 250-300cm ht.; 2x; Standard; clear stem 175-200cm; 3 breaks; B	6%
Quercus robur	8-10cm diam.; 250-300cm ht.; 2x; feathered; 5 breaks; B	45%
Salix fragilis	8-10cm diam.; 250-300cm ht.; 2x; Standard; clear stem 175-200cm; 3 breaks; B	
Sorbus aria		5%
	8-10cm diam.; 250-300cm ht.; 2x; Standard; clear stem 175-200cm; 3 breaks; B	12%
Sorbus aucuparia	8-10cm diam.; 250-300cm ht.; 2x; Standard; clear stem 175-200cm; 3 breaks; B	15%
Tree species		
mature stock	Specifications	%
Alnus glutinosa	14-16cm diam.; 400-450cm ht.; 3x; large feathered; 7 breaks; B	5%
Betula pendula	14-16cm diam.; 400-450cm ht.; 3x; large feathered; 7 breaks; RB	6%
Populus tremula	14-16cm diam.; 425-600cm ht.; 3x; extra heavy standard; clear stem 175-200cm; 5 breaks; B	
Prunus avium		6%
Quercus robur	14-16cm diam.; 400-450cm ht.; 3x; extra heavy standard; clear stem 175-200cm; 5 breaks; B	6%
27/200 mm - 100 mm -	14-16cm diam.; 400-450cm ht.; 3x; large feathered; 7 breaks; RB	45%
Salix fragilis	14-16cm diam.; 400-450cm ht.; 3x; extra heavy standard; clear stem 175-200cm; 5 breaks; RB	5%
Sorbus aria	14-16cm diam.; 400-450cm ht.; 3x; extra heavy standard; clear stem 175-200cm; 5 breaks; B	12%
Sorbus aucuparia	14-16cm diam.; 400-450cm ht.; 3x; extra heavy standard; clear stem 175-200cm; 5 breaks; B	15%
Native woodland buffer mix	Specifications	%
Alnus glutinosa	60-80cm ht.; 1+1; Transplant - seed raised; B	
Betula pendula		5%
	60-80cm ht.; 1+1; Transplant - seed raised; B	5%
Prunus avium	60-80cm ht.; 1+1; Transplant - seed raised; B	5%
Prunus avium	60-80cm ht.; 1+1; Transplant - seed raised; B	5%
Quercus robur	60-80cm ht.; 1+1; Transplant - seed raised; B	35%
Sorbus aria	60-80cm ht.; 1+1; Transplant - seed raised; B	10%
Sorbus aucuparia	60-80cm ht.; 1+1; Transplant - seed raised; B	10%
Acer campestre	60-80cm ht.; 1+1; Transplant - seed raised; B	5%
Corylus avellana	60-80cm ht.; 1+2; Transplant - seed raised; branched; 3 breaks; B	10%
Crataegus monogyna	60-80cm ht.; 1+1; Transplant - seed raised; B	5%
Ilex aquifolium	60-80cm ht.; 3L; leader with laterals	1%
Malus sylvestris	60-80cm ht.; 1+1; Transplant - seed raised; B	2%
Rosa canina	60-80cm ht.; 1+1; Transplant - seed raised; branched; 3 breaks; B	2%
	,,,,,,,,,, -	270
Notice weedlend buffer with		
Native woodland buffer mix		
mature stock	Specifications	%
Alnus glutinosa	150-175cm ht.; 2x; Feathered; 3 breaks; B	5%
Betula pendula	150-175cm ht.; 2x; Feathered; 3 breaks; B	5%
Populus tremula	150-175cm ht.; 1+2; Transplant - seed raised; B	5%
Prunus avium	150-175cm ht.; 2x; Feathered; 5 breaks; B	5%
Quercus robur	150-175cm ht.; 2x; Feathered; 3 breaks; B	35%
Sorbus aria	150-175cm ht.; 2x; Feathered; 3 breaks; B	10%
Sorbus aucuparia	150-175cm ht.; 2x; Feathered; 4 breaks; B	
Acer campestre		10%
and the second s	150-175cm ht.; 2x; Feathered; 3 breaks; B	7%
Corylus avellana	100-125cm ht.; branched; 4 breaks; RB	10%
Crataegus monogyna	150-175cm ht.; 2x; Feathered; 4 breaks; B	5%
Ilex aquifolium	100-125cm ht.; leader with laterals; RB	1%
Malus sylvestris	150-175cm ht.; 2x; Feathered; 4 breaks; B	2%
Native mixed hedgerow	Specifications	%
Acer campestre	40-60cm ht.; 1+1; Transplant - seed raised; B	
Corylus avellana		15%
	40-60cm ht.; 1+1; Transplant - seed raised; branched; 2 breaks; B	20%
Crataegus monogyna	40-60cm ht.; 1+1; Transplant - seed raised; B	25%
llex aquifolium	40-60cm ht.; 2L; leader with laterals	5%
Ligustrum vulgare	40-60cm ht.; 0/1; cutting; branched; 2 breaks; B	5%
Malus sylvestris	40-60cm ht.; 1+1; Transplant - seed raised; B	5%
Prunus spinosa	40-60cm ht.; 1+1; Transplant - seed raised; branched; 2 breaks; B	10%
Rosa canina	40-60cm ht.; 2L; branched; 3 breaks	5%
Salix caprea	40-60cm ht.; 2L; cutting; branched; 3 breaks	5%
Sambucus nigra	40-60cm ht.; 1+0; seedling; branched; 2 breaks; B	5%
Native mixed hedgerow		
mature stock	Specifications	0/
		%
Acer campestre	150-175cm ht.; 2x; Feathered; 3 breaks; B	15%
Corylus avellana	100-125cm ht.; branched; 4 breaks; RB	20%
Crataegus monogyna	125-150cm ht.; 2x; Feathered; 3 breaks; B	25%
llex aquifolium	100-125cm ht.; leader with laterals; RB	5%
Ligustrum vulgare	80-100cm ht.; 0/2; cutting; branched; 3 breaks; B	5%
Malus sylvestris	125-150cm ht.; 2x; Feathered; 4 breaks; B	5%
Prunus spinosa	100-125cm ht.; 1+2; Transplant - seed raised; branched; 4 breaks; B	
Rosa canina		10%
	60-80cm ht.; 1+1; Transplant - seed raised; branched; 3 breaks; B	5%
Salix caprea Sambucus nigra	150-175cm ht.; 0/1/2; Transplant; cutting raised; 3 breaks; B 80-100cm ht.; 1+1; Transplant - seed raised; branched; 3 breaks; B	5% 5%
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	370
Native Scrub Mix	Specifications	0/
Viburnum opulus	40-60cm ht; 1+1;Transplant -seed raised; branched; 2 breaks; B	% 150/
VIDUITUIT	To obtain the intransplant roccu raiseu, prancheu; z preaks; b	15%
	40-60cm ht: 1+1. Transplant, good raised, hranched, 2 hardles B	1501
/iburnum lantana	40-60cm ht; 1+1;Transplant -seed raised; branched; 2 breaks; B	15%
/iburnum lantana Cornus sanguinea	40-60cm ht; 1+1;Transplant -seed raised; branched; 2 breaks; B	20%
Viburnum lantana Cornus sanguinea Rosa canina Ligustrum vulgare		

40-60cm ht; 0/1; Cutting; branched; 2 breaks; B

40-60cm ht; 1+1;Transplant -seed raised; branched; 3 breaks; B

10%

20%

KEY

Application area

• • • • • Public Right of Way

Existing hedges, trees, woodland & tree groups

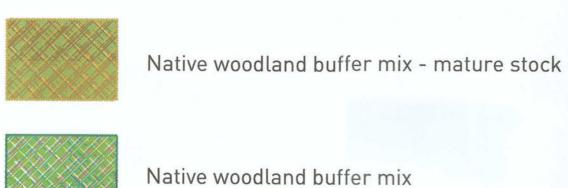
Overhead line offset

Retained agricultural land

PROPOSED

Emorsgate EM6 – Meadow Mixture For Chalk & Limestone Soils (outside the security fence)

Emorsgate EG27- Special Old Fashioned Grazing Mixture, or similar & approved (within the security fence)



Native scrub mixed New native mixed hedgerow - mature stock

New native mixed hedgerow

Hardstanding

Proposed swale, refer to outline SuDS design

Proposed tree planting - various sizes

Н	09.11.22	KA	Adding SuDS
G	28.10.22	KA	Landscape amends
F	18.08.22	VR	Landscape amends
Ε	01.08.22	VR	Changes to layout
D	08.02.22	VR	Minor changes
С	08.02.22	VR	Minor changes
В	07.02.22	VR	Minor changes
Α	04.02.22	VR	Changes to layout
Rev	Date	Ву	Note

FIGURE 6.6 LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN - Sheet 1

DENMEAD SOLAR FARM

Client: Lovedean Green Ltd. REV: H DRWG No: P21-0899.009 Approved by: HS Drawn by : VR Date: 02/02/2022 Scale: 1:2500 @ A0

Pegasus

APPENDIX B

EXTRACT FROM ENSO ENERGY DOCUMENT: LANDSCAPE DESIGN EVOLUTION REPORT

PLAN SHOWING EXTENT OF AQUIND SCHEME AND SOLAR FARM

Plan in two parts:



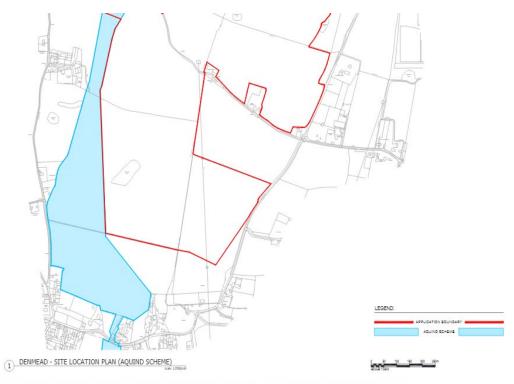


Figure 3: AQUIND Interconnector project boundary in relation to the site boundary