

Visualisation of the impacts of the Aquind Interconnector

Many people have expressed to the previous SoS their deep concerns about the route of the Aquind Interconnector - along highly congested, polluted and at times very narrow roads. The impact during construction is unimaginable. It will affect residents in many ways: gridlock, congestion, pollution, parking, delays of traffic and bus services, delays of ambulance services, schooling of young and older children, business loss and interference.

We regularly drive along the route many times, as this is the nearest access road for those of us residents living on the east side of the island. The decision about this project will be made in London, far away from the city of Portsmouth. Councillors, MPs and residents have repeatedly explained and highlighted the issues we are facing in our city and beyond. The Aquind Interconnector has been the subject of statements in the House of Common, was discussed in the press many times as a controversial issue. The Aquind Interconnector was refused by the previous SoS because he felt that “alternatives have not been thoroughly explored as the harms outweigh the benefits. “

We invite the current SoS to, Grant Shapps, to visit Portsmouth to fully understand why we are against the Aquind Interconnector, why this route is WRONG, what it will do to the residents and environment. We spent the last two and a half years trying to raise awareness about the Aquind Interconnector. We do this because we know of the problems we face here in our local area, because we take our commitment for the environment seriously. We assure you that many residents here feel the same and are deeply concerned.

We have never understood how the ExA could have given a recommendation for this project. Was it because it was given NSIP status in 2018? The examination process was carried out at the Height of the COVID pandemic. This allowed no real engagement (just virtual Hearings) by the public. Many Interested parties/affected Persons did not participate, particularly the hundreds of allotment holders and elderly people living along the route as the increased levels of fear induced by the COVID pandemic stifled their voice. They felt paralysed by circumstance. Their voices MUST be heard.

The climate and biodiversity emergency has changed everything. Your government recognises the urgent need to reverse nature’s decline in the recent update of the Environmental Improvement Plan.

Please look at the photos below, to understand the negative impacts this project will have on Portsmouth and surroundings.

This visualisation helps to understand what impact the construction of the Aquind Interconnector would have on the second most densely populated city of UK and through Hampshire, a 13 miles route along some of the busiest roads in the UK with high rates of air pollution.

We include a link to a video made specifically to show the proposed route through Portsmouth and Hampshire.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DcShlkMOT_E&t=19s

Another link to our website where you can find more detailed information.

<https://stopaquind.com/route/>

There is only one decision to make. This project should be rejected.





















