

**From:** [FLEUR ANTOINE-WILLMOTT](#)  
**To:** [Aquind Interconnector](#)  
**Subject:** Objection to AQUIND Interconnector Planning Proposal  
**Date:** 19 June 2023 20:42:26

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you, once again, to register my formal objection to the Aquind Interconnector proposal which has already been refused once by the previous Secretary of State.

Again, I urge you to fully examine the effects this project will have on the City of Portsmouth and the surrounding villages, towns and natural environment. This project, if approved, would have an immeasurable and devastating effect. Having read through the environmental statements and reports there is still not a strong enough argument that demonstrates that the benefits of this project outweigh the costs. The environmental damage and disrepair this project would cause is disgusting, especially at a time where we have recognised, as a nation, that we are one of the most depleted in biodiversity. We are not in a position to cause more environmental disruption and destruction and yet further delay our biodiversity recovery journey to 2030. I, of course, agree we should be exploring greener and more sustainable energy, but we should be looking at what is possible within our own country and our own remit, and looking to those projects which have the local environment at its core agenda.

Again, I urge you to truly consider the logistical nightmare this proposal will inflict upon the residents of the most densely populated city outside of London. Severely disrupting one of the three entry/exit routes to the island will cause untold havoc and be detrimental to the wellbeing of the thousands of people using these routes. I ask again, has the transport management plan been sufficiently scrutinised? Can you assure the businesses along the route (of which there are many) that they will suffer no financial and customer losses as a result of this multi-year disruption?

What further information has been provided about the addition of a data cable being added to the proposal? Do you think this company has a good and suitable track record for similar projects and robust finances? I am struggling to find compelling information on the company that gives me confidence that this project will be delivered sustainably, within budget and on time. Let's face it, their stakeholder management with the people of Portsmouth has been abhorrent.

I would also like to see their hazardous substances and environmental management plan. Are you aware that the proposed route ploughs through an old landfill site? A landfill site which was used by the Royal Navy and has been identified as containing asbestos along with other hazardous and toxic substances.

I do hope that the proper due diligence is paid to reviewing this proposal and that the people in Hampshire, the Portsmouth City Council and the City's businesses and representatives are listened to. This project will cause untold devastation and cannot go ahead.

Yours Faithfully,

Fleur Antoine-Willmott

