

Atkins, Caelan

From: Russell Bowie <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 21 July 2023 18:45
To: Aquind Interconnector
Subject: Objection to Aquind interconnector

Categories: Consultation Response

Sir,

We would like to again place on record our objection to this unwanted and unwarranted national infrastructure scheme. From the start of this application process, Aquind has played fast and loose with facts and figures relating to numerous aspects of the scheme.

However, our principal objection continues to be the clear and unassailable fact that much of the construction route ploughs up large swathes of Portsmouth for an infathomably long time causing predicted travel and environmental chaos in a vitally important and protected wildlife region.

Coupled with this is the impact on the ongoing construction and part completion of the nationally important coastal defences which are vital to securing flood protection for a major part of the Portsmouth population living at or close to sea level.

We believe that the interconnector scheme is flawed technically, environmentally and financially with very little support for it either in this country or in France.

Everything was closely scrutinised by the previous Secretary of State whose original decision to refuse should be the only one for the current Secretary of State to announce at the soonest possible date.

He will have seen viable alternatives but the unequivocal opposition to an interconnector taking a wrecking ball so close to one of Britain's most congested cities defies logic along with huge disturbance to our nationally important marine and migratory birds in and around Farlington Marshes.

The entire route appears to drive a coach and horses through this part of Hampshire and Portsmouth with Aquind's arrogant, self-serving application flying in the face of outright and total opposition from its citizens, its politicians including Penny Mordaunt MP and Leader of the Commons and countless community groups – mirrored also on the French side of the Channel.

We respectfully ask the Secretary of State to make a clear decision on this Aquind interconnector after full and proper consideration of the facts and emphatically refuse it giving robust planning reasons for doing so.

Thank you.

Russell and Debbie Bowie, [REDACTED]

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