

Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP Secretary of State for BEIS Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy 1 Victoria Street London SW1H 0ET

24 January 2023

Dear Secretary of State,

AQUIND INTERCONNECTOR PROJECT

I am writing to you following today's ruling by the High Court to overturn the government's decision to block the £1.2bn AQUIND electricity link between Portsmouth and France.

The people of Portsmouth are united in our opposition against AQUIND and have been clear from the outset that this project would bring untold disruption to our daily lives and natural environment, with no clear benefits.

The government was right to finally arrive at the correct decision last year to not approve the AQUIND interconnector project. AQUIND's desperate attempt to re-run the argument through the High Court doesn't change the facts, and it shouldn't change the outcome.

Today's news comes as a bitter blow to Portsmouth people and we must do everything in our power to ensure this project does not go ahead.

Will you therefore meet with me and local campaigners as a matter of urgency to discuss what steps can be taken to ensure this damaging project is stopped once and for all?

I look forward to receiving your swift response on this matter of concern to my constituents.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Morgan MP

Member of Parliament for Portsmouth South | Shadow Minister for Schools

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