

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Aquind Interconnector](#)  
**Subject:** Additional document - Aquind Interconnector  
**Date:** 11 January 2024 18:44:17

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Dear Secretary of State,

I am writing to you today to consider new matters of fact regarding the refusal of the Aquind Interconnector. I have been following closely the latest development of the energy sector. The following issues should be considered:

1. The importance of a self reliant energy sector is a priority. In particular “strengthening our energy security means that Britain will never again be held to ransom over energy by tyrants like Vladimir Putin”. The MP for Portsmouth North, Penny Mordaunt, has highlighted this issue relentlessly over the past 3 and a half years.  
The UK must be vigilant in energy projects like this. You might be aware of the Panorama programme from October 2021 which questioned the financial sources for this project.
2. Energy security is one factor to consider but the proposal to include a high speed commercial data cable of huge capacity adds additional risk. Both MPs of Portsmouth, Penny Mordaunt and Stephen Morgan have highlighted this issue on numerous occasions and compared this to the HUAWEI threat.
3. In documents published by your department the involvement of local communities has been emphasised. In today’s document published by the DESNZ the roadmap on how to increase nuclear generation is clearly set out” Community engagement will remain critical to any decisions, alongside maintaining robust criteria such as nearby population densities “.

Portsmouth is the most densely populated city outside London with very high air pollution and huge traffic problems.

The recent severe weather had huge effects on the daily life of people. A sewage pipe was damaged, and the Southern route of Eastern Road was closed on and off for 2 weeks. Delays, gridlock, air pollution, long waiting times on motorway were reported in the local News.

Eastern Road, one of the 3 arteries to give access to Portsea Island, is Aquind’s chosen route for the Aquind Interconnector. The thought of this road to be partly closed for weeks or months is just inconceivable.

Submissions/objections over the past years explain very clearly why the MPs, PCC and the residents are so strongly opposing this project.

You must be aware of the huge opposition to the Aquind Interconnector. Councillors of all parties, all MPs and residents have made it very clear. The Route through Portsmouth and beyond is environmentally damaging and unnecessary. Kwasi Kwarteng, a previous SOS of the BEIS, in refusing the project because “the adverse effects outweigh the benefits”, looked at one alternative -Mannington. Our evidence suggests there are other, unexamined alternatives.

4. 3 and a half years later- economic and international affairs have changed. Is it not necessary to look at this project afresh ?

I trust you will give due consideration to my concerns. All other Interested Parties are urging you to come to a decision as speedily as possible. I, On the other hand, am more concerned that you make the right decision. That is REFUSE the DCO for Aquind Interconnector.

Viola Langley

Sent from [REDACTED] for Windows