

From: [Catherine Thomas](#)
To: [Aquind Interconnector](#)
Subject: Aquind interconnector
Date: 11 August 2024 15:57:21

The Rt Honorable Ed Milliband
Secretary of State for Energy Security & Net Zero

Dear Secretary of State

I am writing **again** to express my concern about the Aquind project and I would ask you to very carefully consider the following;

This project will undermine the government's target of 100% renewable energy it is nuclear power – which is not green.

Portsmouth is the second most densely populated city after London and has high levels of pollution and poor air quality at the best of times. The trench to carry the cables will be up to 23m wide. There are only 3 roads in and out of the city – it is an island and digging this trench will close at least one lane of a very busy road, the Eastern Road, which will result in gridlock at busy times and an increase in emissions. This was recently demonstrated when this very road had to be closed for emergency sewer repairs.

The proposed route also cuts through an area of scientific interest at Langstone Harbour, a feeding ground for rare Brent geese that fly thousands of miles to arrive here every year, and the only inner-city nature reserve. It also cuts through a seagrass meadow at Farlington Marshes, another area that is supposed to be protected.

Going north from Portsea Island the route goes along the busy London Road, passing through Purbrook and Waterlooville - the clue is in the name – once the main road from Portsmouth to London – it is still busy! It then goes along the Hambledon Road, a main road through a densely populated built up area, I can only imagine the disruption that will occur.

Aquind want compulsory purchase powers to acquire land along the route, including 25,000 sq m of woodland near Lovedean, on the edge of the Southdowns National Park, which celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2020 – although those celebrations were subdued due to Covid restrictions, but during that time, we have become more aware of the need to protect our countryside and I really hope you will consider this when making your decision.

This has now been going on for 4 years and still we have no definitive answers. I sincerely hope that you will see that this project is completely unnecessary particularly as the focus is now on wind turbines and self sufficiency.

I hope that you will reject this application very soon.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Catherine Thomas