



## **Application by AQUIND Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the AQUIND Interconnector Project**

### **List of questions to accompany the Examining Authority's Rule 17 Request and Progress Note**

**Issued on 11 May 2020**

Further to the [Rule 6 letter](#) dated 5 March 2020, setting out the arrangements for the Preliminary Meeting, and [our letter dated 26 March 2020](#) confirming the postponement of the event, we have decided to issue a Progress Note as an update to all Interested Parties. We have also prepared the table of questions below, which is intended to supplement the Note, in order to seek information to help make fresh arrangements for the Preliminary Meeting and to build an effective Examination Timetable. Your responses will help the Examining Authority (ExA) to decide:

- the format and arrangements for the Preliminary Meeting;
- which Hearings will be held; and
- what the arrangements and preparations for those Hearings will be.

**Given current circumstances related to COVID-19, people may need to access events from their home, rather than their workplace or a public place. Please assume this to be the case. Could each person who may wish to speak at, or observe, the Preliminary Meeting and any Hearings complete the table of questions.**

Whilst there may appear to be a lot of questions, please be assured of the importance of obtaining your answers. We consider it crucial to hear your views on the way in which the application should be examined, and they will help us to finalise our arrangements in due course.

Please return a completed copy of the table by email to [aquind@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:aquind@planninginspectorate.gov.uk). Please contact the case team at that same email address, or by telephone at 0303 444 5000, if you require any assistance completing the form.

Please note that it is not our intention to publish the responses to the questionnaire; these relate to practical matters around the timing and organisation of the Preliminary Meeting and any Hearings that might take place during the Examination that will follow. They do not constitute submissions on the merits of the Proposed Development. Any such, submissions made in response to this questionnaire at this stage will not be taken into account when our recommendations and ultimately the decisions about the substantive merits of the application are made.

**Responses to be provided by 1 June 2020 please.**

#### **Useful link:**

Privacy Notice: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/ni-privacy-statement.pdf>

## Part 1 – Your details

Please provide details for each person who may wish to speak at or observe the Preliminary Meeting and/or a Hearing. If you are answering on behalf of multiple people, it is important that each person's individual reference number is provided confirming their status as an Interested Person.

We recognise that many people have adjusted their home and working arrangements as a result of COVID-19, so this is an opportunity for you to let us know about any changes to your contact details. It is also important, if possible, for all those that we currently contact by post, to provide us with an e-mail address for future contact.

<b>1.</b>	Your name		
<b>2.</b>	<b>Your contact details</b> To participate in the Preliminary Meeting and/or a Hearing you will need to provide the Planning Inspectorate with an email address and/or telephone number that are easily accessible to you and that we can contact you on before and during the Preliminary Meeting and any Hearing. It will be helpful if you could please provide both.  By providing these details you and any person or organisation that you represent authorise their use for the Planning Inspectorate to contact you for the purposes of the Examination.  <i>Please type your responses in the shaded boxes</i>	Email address	
		Telephone number	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Representation</b> <i>Please put an X in one shaded box</i>	I am representing myself	
		I am an employee, a professional representative or a friend acting for another organisation or person	
<b>4.</b>	Please name the organisation or other person that you are representing, if any  <i>Please type your response in the shaded box</i>		

5.	<p><b>Interested Party reference number</b></p> <p>Please confirm your Interested Party reference number, or the reference number of the organisation or other person that you are representing.</p> <p>This is a reference number provided to you by the Planning Inspectorate in our communications to you and will start with "AQUI" or "2002"</p> <p><i>Please type your responses in the shaded box</i></p>		
<p><b>Part 2 – Your participation in the Preliminary Meeting</b></p> <p>Please give us an indication of your anticipated level of participation during the Preliminary Meeting. This information will help us to plan appropriately.</p> <p>Please note that, while we aim to meet all expectations, it may be necessary to limit the numbers of interactive participants. All Interested Parties are able to provide Written Representations to us, and these will carry equivalent weight in our considerations to any oral representations made at the Preliminary Meeting.</p>			
6.	<p><b>How much do you anticipate participating in the Preliminary Meeting?</b></p> <p><i>Please put an X in one or more of the shaded boxes</i></p>	I may access the recording and note of the Preliminary Meeting after the event.	
		I would like to follow the Preliminary Meeting in real time.	
		I would like to reserve the right speak at the Preliminary Meeting, if possible, in relation to matters previously outlined in the Rule 6 letter as being on the agenda.	
		I would like to speak at the Preliminary Meeting in relation to matters previously outlined in the Rule 6 letter as being on the agenda.	
<p><b>Part 3 – Your participation in the Examination</b></p> <p>Please give us an indication of your anticipated level of participation during the Examination. This information will help us to plan appropriately. Formal notifications of a request to speak at or observe any Hearings that we decide to hold will be requested later, but an early indication will be of great assistance.</p>			
7.	<p><b>How much do you anticipate participating in the Examination?</b></p> <p><i>Please put an X in one or more of the shaded boxes</i></p>	I am unlikely to make any further submissions	
		I may look at written submissions made by others	
		I may make further written submissions	

		I am likely to make further written submissions	
		I may access the recordings of any Hearings	
		I would like to follow any Hearings in real time	
		I may want to speak at a Hearing	
		I am likely to want to speak at a Hearing	
<b>8.</b>	<p>Are you able to help and work with other members of a group?</p> <p>People who are members of the same group, or who know each other and have similar views, are encouraged to work together and help each other.</p> <p>Are you able to help people in your group whose circumstances make it difficult for them to participate by raising their issues for them?</p> <p>Technical and management considerations may result in the ExA limiting the number of speakers at any Hearings. The ExA is likely to prioritise Interested Parties and those speaking on behalf of a group of people. The ExA will give the same consideration to any matter, whether it is raised once or several times.</p> <p><i>Please put an X in one shaded box</i></p>	<p>Yes</p>	
		<p>No</p>	
<b>9.</b>	<p>If you can work with and help other members of a group, please could you identify the name of the group and the names of the people nominated to speak for that group at any Hearings that may be held?</p> <p><i>Please type your response in the shaded box</i></p>		
<b>10.</b>	<p>Would you like to speak at an Open Floor Hearing?</p> <p><i>Please put an X in one shaded box</i></p>	<p>Yes</p>	
		<p>No</p>	

<b>11.</b>	If you have answered 'yes' to question 10, at what time of day would you prefer to attend? <i>Please put an X in one shaded box</i>	Morning	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Evening	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>12.</b>	Which topics at an Issue Specific Hearing, if held, are you likely to want to observe? <i>Please put an X in one or more shaded box</i>	Air quality	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Draft Development Consent Order	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Flood Risk	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Habitats and Ecology	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Landscape and Visual Amenity	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Marine Environment	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Noise	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Onshore Water Environment	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Planning Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Scope of the Environment Impact Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Socio-Economic Effects	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Shipping and Navigation	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Transport	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Trees	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>13.</b>	Which topics at an Issue Specific Hearing, if held, would you or your nominated speaker(s) like to participate in as a speaker? <i>Please put an X in one or more shaded box</i>	Air quality	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Draft Development Consent Order	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Flood Risk	<input type="checkbox"/>

		Habitats and Ecology	
		Heritage	
		Landscape and Visual Amenity	
		Marine Environment	
		Noise	
		Onshore Water Environment	
		Planning Policy	
		Scope of the Environment Impact Assessment	
		Socio-Economic Effects	
		Shipping and Navigation	
		Transport	
		Trees	
<b>14.</b>	<p>If you added one or more 'X' to a shaded box in the previous question, why do you feel that your oral submission(s) are more relevant to Issue Specific Hearing(s) as opposed to an Open Floor Hearing, and why do you consider you require to present your evidence to us orally rather than in writing?</p> <p><i>Please type your response in the shaded box</i></p>		
<b>15.</b>	<p>Would you like to participate in an Issue Specific Hearing on the draft Development Consent Order, if one is held?</p> <p><i>Please put an X in one or more shaded box</i></p>	Yes	
	No		

<b>16.</b>	<p>If you have ticked 'yes' to question 15, please confirm why you would like to participate in an Issue Specific Hearing on the draft Development Consent Order?</p> <p><i>Please type your response in the shaded box</i></p>		
<b>17.</b>	<p>If you are an Affected Person, would you like to participate in a Compulsory Acquisition Hearing, if one is held?</p> <p>An Affected Person is a person with a legal interest in the land, or any part of the land, affected by the Proposed Development. It is defined in Section 59(4) of the Planning Act 2008. They should also be listed in the Applicant's <a href="#">Book of Reference</a>.</p> <p><i>Please put an X in one shaded box</i></p>	<p>Yes</p>	
		<p>No</p>	
<b>18.</b>	<p>If you are an Affected Person, and have ticked 'yes' to question 17, why would you like to participate in a Compulsory Acquisition Hearing?</p> <p><i>Please type your response in the shaded box</i></p>		
<p><b>Part 4 – Your facilities</b></p> <p>Please give an indication of the facilities that you have available to you. This information will help us to decide what arrangements should be made for the Preliminary Meeting and any Hearings that we decide to hold. When answering, please assume that the Planning Inspectorate will provide you with reasonable advice and support.</p>			
<b>19.</b>	<p>Do you have access to a computer or tablet connected to the internet, or to a smart phone?</p> <p><i>Please put a X in the shaded box of any that apply, or in 'none of the above'</i></p>	<p>A computer running Microsoft Windows 10</p>	
		<p>A computer running Macintosh OSX Catalina</p>	
		<p>An Apple iPad</p>	
		<p>An Android tablet</p>	
		<p>An Android smart phone</p>	
		<p>An Apple iPhone</p>	

		Another type of smart phone (not Android or Apple)	
		None of the above	
<b>20.</b>	<p>If you have a computer running an operating system that is not Microsoft Windows 10 or Macintosh OSX Catalina (version 10.15), please tell us the manufacturer, type and version of the operating system, for example, 'Microsoft Windows 8', or 'Linux Debian 10:10.3'.</p> <p>This information is important to ensure that your device is compatible with any system used by the Planning Inspectorate if events were to be virtual.</p> <p><i>Please type your response in the shaded box</i></p>		
<b>21.</b>	<p>How confident are you that you could use your computer, tablet or smart phone to participate in a Preliminary Meeting and Hearings where you could see and be seen, speak and be spoken to, by participants in real time?</p> <p>Most internet connected computers or tablets or smart phones can connect participants to a video conference, provided they have a camera, microphone and speakers or headphones built in or connected to them.</p> <p><i>Please put an X in one shaded box</i></p>	<div>Highly confident</div> <div>Confident</div> <div>Reasonably confident</div> <div>Not at all confident</div> <div>I do not have a suitable computer, tablet or smart phone</div>	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>
<b>22.</b>	<p>How confident are you that you could use your computer, tablet or smart phone to participate in a Preliminary Meeting and Hearings where you could speak and be spoken to by participants in real time?</p> <p>Most internet connected computers or tablets or smart phones can connect participants to a teleconference, provided they have a microphone and speakers or headphones built in or connected to them.</p> <p><i>Please put an X in one shaded box</i></p>	<div>Highly confident</div> <div>Confident</div> <div>Reasonably confident</div> <div>Not at all confident</div> <div>I do not have a suitable computer, tablet or smart phone</div>	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>



## Part 5 – How the Planning Inspectorate can help you

Considering your current circumstances, please help us to identify how we can help you to engage with the rest of the Examination.

<b>23.</b>	Do you have access to a telephone that you could use? <i>Please put a X in the box of any that apply, or in 'none of the above'</i>	A land line telephone	
		A mobile phone other than a smart phone	
		None of the above	
<b>24.</b>	How confident are you that you could use your telephone or (non-smart) mobile phone to participate in a Preliminary Meeting and Hearings where you could speak and be spoken to by participants in real time? A land-line telephone or mobile telephone of almost any age or design can be used to dial in to a teleconference. <i>Please put an X in one shaded box</i>	Highly confident	
		Confident	
		Reasonably confident	
		Not at all confident	
		I do not have a suitable telephone or mobile phone	
<b>25.</b>	If your confidence in being able to participate in a Preliminary Meeting and Hearings is low, why is that? <i>Please put an X in one or more shaded box</i>	The internet in my area is slow or intermittent	
		The equipment available to me has performance issues	
		I am not confident with this type of technology	
		A video conference is not suitable for a Preliminary Meeting	
		A video conference is not suitable for Hearings	
		A teleconference is not suitable for a Preliminary Meeting	
		A teleconference is not suitable for Hearings	
		Not applicable: I am confident in being able to participate	

26.	<p>As applicable, please could you provide further details of why your confidence level is low or why you do not consider that a video conference or teleconference is suitable for a Preliminary Meeting or Hearings?</p> <p><i>Please type your response in the shaded box</i></p>		
27.	<p>How could the Planning Inspectorate help to increase your confidence level?</p> <p><i>Please put an X in one or more shaded box</i></p>	By providing written advice on the equipment that is supported and how to get the best out of it	
		By providing written information on the arrangements for the Preliminary Meeting and Hearings and how to participate in them	
		By providing a Frequently Asked Questions document with responses to issues that are commonly raised	
		By somebody responding to the issues that I set out in more detail in writing	
		By somebody calling me to take me through the arrangements and my options	
		By having a trial run before any Preliminary Meeting and Hearing	
28.	<p>Is there anything else that we should do help you to increase your confidence level or otherwise help you to engage with the Examination?</p> <p><i>Please type your response in the shaded box</i></p>		