From: Martin Grice
Sent: Friday, November 20, 2026 12:09
To: Aquind Interconnector
Subject: Fw: AQUIND Interconnector – Formal Supplementary Objections and Conditions – Original Objection Submitted in 2024

To whom it may concern

I write further to my original objection (below this email) to the proposed AQUIND Interconnector, submitted in 2024, which remains outstanding and, to date, unresolved.

Almost two years have elapsed since the submission of my original objection, and no decision has yet been communicated by the Secretary of State in respect of the approval or rejection of the proposed development.

In view of this prolonged period without determination, and having undertaken further consideration of the matters arising from the proposal, I have compiled an additional document setting out further objections, concerns and conditions which I consider material to the proper and lawful consideration of the application.

Please find attached my formal supplementary objections and conditions, which I expressly submit as an addition to, and continuation of, my original objection.

I wish to make clear that this supplementary submission is intended to be considered alongside my original representations and not in isolation or as a replacement for them.

I respectfully but firmly request that:

1. Formal incorporation: The attached supplementary objections and conditions are formally recorded against my original objection and included within the material available to the Secretary of State for consideration.

2. Full and substantive consideration: Each of the additional objections and proposed conditions is given proper and meaningful consideration before any decision is reached.

3. No omission from the decision-making process: The matters raised in both my original objection and this supplementary submission are taken into account in the determination of the application, with particular regard to those matters which may have a material bearing upon its acceptability.

4. Acknowledgement: Written confirmation is provided that this supplementary submission has been received, recorded and placed before the appropriate decision-maker.

5. Update on determination: Given the considerable time which has already elapsed, I request a substantive update on the present status of the application, the outstanding matters requiring determination, and the anticipated timetable for a decision.

I consider it essential that the additional matters now raised are properly addressed and not overlooked in the determination of an application which has remained unresolved for such a significant period.

For the avoidance of doubt, I reserve my position in respect of all objections and concerns previously raised, together with those contained in this supplementary submission. Nothing in this correspondence should be construed as withdrawing, diminishing or superseding any part of my original objection.

I look forward to receiving written confirmation of receipt and a response addressing the matters set out above.

Yours faithfully,

Martin Grice
[redacted]

Sent from Outlook for iOS

From: Martin Grice[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2024 5:08 pm
To: Aquind Interconnector <aquind@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: Objection to the implementation of the AQUIND interconnector between France and the city of Portsmouth

To whom it may concern ,

I vehemently object to the implementation of this Aquind Connector project due to the following reasons:-

Margaret Thatcher did the U.K. a massive disservice by putting the U.K. energy sector into the hands of private enterprises to be run on a “for profit” basis. These companies are now publishing profits of eye watering proportions, whilst our citizens struggle to keep warm, and pay their bills. This connector will facilitate third part supply of french energy filling the coffers of the French treasury rather than the UK’s . This is totally unacceptable the UK needs to be self sufficient not dependent on any third parties.

The lack of investment in our networks and power stations, the alleged asset stripping, now leave us we are told with an inadequate supply, and no future-proofing at all, all this mainly based on the myopic focus on the need for infrastructure to support the use of inadequate unfit for purpose, electric vehicles that have just a 300-mile battery range only, but are still considered as a route to solving our pollution issues. These cars amongst other things have been used to artificially exaggerate the future power capacity requirements and infrastructure needs for the U.K. leading to the U.K. government making some ill-founded decisions to implement additional third-party supply via massive construction projects. This being one of them, and it’s totally unacceptable.

The cost of this project will of course be passed on to customers and lead to massive disruption of the City of Portsmouth during implementation. Lack of access to the city as we have learned to our dismay from the rupture of a sewage pipe which closed one of only the three main access toad to the city. Will cause gridlock of the M27 and all roads through out the city as residents struggled to get home and get to work. Visitors to Portsmouth plummeted businesses lost money. People in ambulances lives put at considerable risk. Fire engines delayed, as was emergency police attendance. This would be repeated by this project. For months not just weeks. People's property and land subjected to compulsory purchase orders. In order to implement it. All totally unacceptable.

The government needs to look to alternative technology like hydrogen powered vehicles that emit steam rather than CO2 which would ease our electrical capacity requirements and air pollution. These Could utilise existing infrastructure rather than new. We should invest in more smaller nuclear generation or emission controlled coal powered generation, or geomthermic wells.

The whole government zero emissions concept is flawed and is totally unacceptable. National Grid PLC are responsible for the backbone Electricity supply network in the U.K.. They already have interconnections with other EU countries, that introduced based on them being used as a two-way transaction with the U.K. buying and selling energy. There are already sufficient interconnectors existing or planned. They add up to 19.5 GW when the government in their paper asked for 18 GW by 2030 this additional project is already surplus to requirements.

This new Aquind interconnect to Portsmouth from France has been muted as a solution to a non-existent capacity problem, in that it will facilitate additional energy supply from the well invested French government owned National Grid. However, The French have already refused this project, in 2021 that refusal is still valid, so there's no source of supply. The UK should stand by its decision to refuse it too.

UK needs to become self-sufficient in energy, this money needs to be invested here in the UK not in foreign run for profit companies and not a Russian backed company that currently doesn't appear to have the capability to deliver.

As previously stated this huge inter-connector project will constitute massive disruption. This high profile and controversial proposal by Russian backed AQUIND for an Electrical and Data Cable Inter-connector between France and Portsmouth highlights the environmental and community impact of any large energy transmission project.
This and many other large projects are at the core of this governments net zero target, and it appears there's scant regard for the damage the implementation of these project will have on people, property, the environment, and flora and fauna. Recent legislation being implemented by Labour gives them the ability to railroad large infrastructure projects regardless of any objections. Which is totally unacceptable. The objections to this AQUIND project are not on a nimby basis they are well researched and evidence based. They need to be recognised and the whole project re-refused by the planning directorate.

The whole premise of the placement of this connector could be flawed anyway. There was a feasibility study by NGET in 2014 to find a connection point into the grid. This feasibility study has not been seen by anyone but Aquind. The Judge during the High Court Judicial Review and the Secretary of State had asked for access. This is an out- dated study even now,

10 years later nobody else has had access to it, why has it not been scrutinised in detail to check if this is in fact the only available solution? Why have the minutes of any meeting between Aquind Ltd, NGET and any other party involved not been made available?

This project includes fibre data cable installation too. Surely any unmonitored Russian fibre data cables access to the UK's backbone data network is a major risk to national security. The people of Portsmouth and affected surrounding areas have woken up to what's planned by Aquind and strongly objected on well justified grounds and had Aquind's planning application refused once already. Portsmouth's own "Stop AQUIND" campaigners were ecstatic in January 2022, when the then Secretary of State turned down AQUIND Limited's application for a Development Consent Order. The project being proposed would and still will be (if granted) hugely damaging to their city and beyond.

This project in Portsmouth illustrates how much foreign money rather than U.K. money is involved in these projects, which wrong why is there no U.K. centric solutions. Why are we feeding good business abroad and not in country. It's wrong especially as it will have such massive impact on so much and so many. The UK government handing power and profit to privately owned foreign energy companies that turn up cause chaos and disappear out without consequence at taxpayers' expense is totally unacceptable.

In the light of the recent Russian power hold over EU gas supplies why would the UK want to embark on a quest for more reliance on a Russian supplier control of our vital energy supplies? It's absolute madness.

The proposed route of the Aquind cables includes tunnelling under important community facilities and protected habitats, plus deep and disruptive trenches gouging through vital road links, through dense urban areas, as well as areas for recreation and nature. There is also the temporary but deeply disruptive long-term use of carparks and other public spaces during the years of installation.

For this incredibly disruptive project, an entire main road will be dug up, land will be compulsorily- purchased, farmland, allotments, and countryside trenched and contaminated. Traffic disrupted and stationary causing masses more pollution, to a city already badly polluted, with some particulates so small they can transport through lung tissue and into the bloodstream.

Businesses will suffer, visitors will avoid Portsmouth like the plague. It's already gridlocked most of the day, this will exacerbate the problems for years not weeks!

AQUIND launched a judicial review to overturn the original planning refusal decision.AQUIND Ltd v Secretary of Statemfor BEIS hearings were held at the High Court on 22-23
November 2022. On 25 January, judgement was made in favour of AQUIND. I believe the judgement was flawed based on the objections provided and the original planning refusal justified.

Please uphold the original decision to reject this project for once and for all. To summarise. The harm and damage to Portsmouth's local environment this project will constitute

far outweighs the benefits. This is totally unacceptable. We don't want our city disrupted on such a massive scale for years, we don't want the infrastructure, implementing it is a risk to us, and a massive cost to us in terms of business lost, and loss of leisure facilities for years. There will be risk to health from additional pollution, risk to life caused by traffic congestion hampering ambulances and fire trucks from attending incidents and moving very poorly patients to hospitals. Loss of green space, trees, loss of use of allotments, potential soil contamination the list is endless.

This project will not reduce the cost of energy, customers will bear the cost over time, it will be sold to us on a "for profit" basis. It will also hand control of supply to foreign powers. This alone is enough justification not to embark in this project!
Best regards
Martin Grice
[redacted]

Sent from Outlook for iOS