



The countryside charity
Hampshire

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The Planning Act 2008, Section 89, and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010, Rules 8, 9 & 13

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

**Written Representation on behalf of
CPRE HAMPSHIRE
(Reference 20024996)**

SUMMARY

CPRE Hampshire considers that a Development Consent Order (DCO) should be refused, as approval would be contrary to the terms of NPS EN-1 paragraphs 5.9.9, 5.9.12 and 5.9.15 in that the Significant Adverse Effects on landscape character, visual amenity and tranquillity of the Converter Halls, as identified in the LVA;

- (a) would compromise the purposes for which the South Downs National Park (SDNP) was designated, in that their development would not
 - (i) conserve or enhance the natural beauty and tranquillity of the national park, or
 - (ii) promote public enjoyment of the special qualities of the national park,and would not comply with the strategic planning principles designed to further those purposes, as set out in South Downs National Park Local Plan 2014-2033

And

- (b) would be so damaging to the landscape, visual amenity and tranquillity outside the SDNP, within the 3 kilometre study area, that they:
 - (i) would not be offset by the benefit of the project, and
 - (ii) would not accord with core planning principles of the Winchester District Local Plan Part 1 - Joint Core Strategy 2013

If, nevertheless, a DCO should be approved

- (a) there is potential for the loss of trees and hedgerows in Hambledon Road and Anmore Road to install the cables, vehicle access point and cable circuits. Details need to be submitted before any work is undertaken which demonstrate that loss will be kept to the absolute minimum and all gaps replanted as soon as practical, and



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(b) the use of BS4142 underlying the assessment of noise and vibration in the Environmental Statement does not properly reflect the requirement of NPS EN-1 paragraphs 5.11.1, 5.11.4, 5.11.6, and 5.11.19. The impact of the Converter Station on the local community and sensitive environment needs to be revisited.

Overall, it is the view of CPRE Hampshire that the Converter Station ought be located in a more industrial location away from the SDNP. That there appear to be alternative sites available in more industrial locations is pertinent to the planning balance as between the benefit of siting the Converter Halls at Lovedean and the consequent Significant Adverse Effects, especially on the nationally designated landscape which is the South Downs National Park.