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**Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022**

**Planning Authority: South Dublin County Council**

**Planning Register Reference Number: SD21A/0217**

**APPEAL** by John Conway and Louth Environmental Group care of BKC Solicitors of 252 Harold's Cross Road, Harold's Cross, Dublin against the decision made on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2022 by South Dublin County Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to Digital Netherlands VIII B.V. care of Brian Coughlan of West Pier Business Campus, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, County Dublin, in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

**Proposed Development:** 10 year permission for development consisting of removal of an existing unused waste water treatment facility on site and the erection of two data centre buildings, gas powered energy generation compound, and all other associated ancillary buildings and works; the two data centre buildings, DUB 15 and DUB 16, will comprise a total floor area of circa 33,577 square metres over two storeys; the first two-storey data centre building (DUB15), located to the southwest of the site, will comprise 16,865 square metres data storage use, ancillary office use and associated electrical and mechanical plant rooms, loading bays, maintenance and storage space; a second two-storey data centre building (DUB16), located to the southeast of the site, will comprise 16,712 square metres data storage areas, ancillary

office use and associated electrical and mechanical plant rooms, loading bays, maintenance and storage space; both data centre buildings will reach a height of 20 metres; emergency generators and associated emission flues and plant are proposed in compounds adjacent to each data centre building; gas powered energy generation is proposed to the north east corner of the site to provide electricity for the proposed development; the application proposes to re-route and widen an existing watercourse constructed following an earlier planning permission; it is proposed to reroute this watercourse along the eastern and southern boundary of the site; landscaping is proposed to the south of the site to screen the buildings; fencing and security gates are proposed around the site; new access roads within the site are proposed along with 71 number car parking spaces and 26 number cycle spaces, bin stores, site lighting, and all associated works including underground foul and storm water drainage attenuation and utility cables and all other ancillary works, at Profile Park, Nangor Road, Clondalkin, Dublin.

## **Decision**

**REFUSE permission for the above proposed development in accordance with the reasons and considerations set out below.**


## Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to

- (a) the existing constraints in capacity in the electricity network (grid),
- (b) the lack of significant on-site renewable energy to power the proposed development,
- (c) the lack of a fixed connection agreement to connect to the grid and the lack of evidence provided in relation to engagement with EirGrid, and
- (d) the lack of evidence provided in relation to the applicant's engagement with Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) in Ireland,

the Board is not satisfied that the applicant has demonstrated the proposed use, on EE zoned (that is industrial, enterprise and employment) lands, is in accordance with EDE7 objective 2 and section 12.9.4 of the South Dublin County Development Plan 2022-2028.

The proposed development is, therefore, considered contrary to national, regional and local policy on energy and climate resilience and adaptability and would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.



**Mick Long**

**Member of An Bord Pleanála  
duly authorised to authenticate  
the seal of the Board.**

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.