



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Order

ABP-317757-23

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Louth County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 23/258

Appeal by Emerald Tower Limited care of Entrust Limited of Unit 1D, Deerpark Business Centre, Oranmore, County Galway against the decision made on the 14th day of July, 2023 by Louth County Council to refuse permission.

Proposed Development: Removal and replacement of an existing 11.3-metre wooden pole with an 18-metre monopole carrying antennas, dishes, associated equipment, together with ground-based equipment cabinets and all associated site development works. The development will provide for wireless data and broadband services, all at Bawntaaffe, Monasterboice, Drogheda, County Louth.

Decision

REFUSE permission for the above proposed development for the reasons and considerations set out below.

Reasons and Considerations

The proposed development would be contrary to policy objectives IU 45 and NBG 37 of the Louth County Development Plan 2021-2027, as varied, in that, by reason of its excessive height and scale and lack of screening at this elevated and prominent location, it would have a serious negative impact on the visual amenity of this area of high scenic quality (AHSQ 2) and the Tentative World Heritage Site of Monasterboice when viewed from the surrounding roads, particularly the R132 to the south-east, Kieran's Cross Road to the north and the local public road to the east. The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

The Board considered that the proposed development is a project for the purposes of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive. However, the Board concluded that the proposed development does not fall within a class of development set out in Part 1 or Part 2 of Schedule 5 to the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, and, therefore, no preliminary examination, screening for environmental impact assessment, or environmental impact assessment is required.



Stephen Bohan

Member of An Bord Pleanála

**duly authorised to authenticate
the seal of the Board.**

Dated this 20th day of May 2024.