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# **SECTION 131 FORM**

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# **Planning Appeal Online Observation**

### Online Reference NPA-OBS-001370

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Contact Name Lisa Keogh Lodgement Date 03/10/2022 15:19:42

Case Number / Description
Dublin Airport North Runway

### **Payment Details**

Payment Method Online Payment Cardholder Name Lisa Keogh Payment Amount €50.00

# **Processing Section**

S.131 Consideration Required

Yes — P.T.O. N/A — Invalid

Signed



The Secretary
An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough St
Dublin 1

October 3, 2022

Re: Observation on Dublin Airport North Runway Planning Conditions

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of Aer Lingus, I wish to submit the following as observations in respect of the Dublin Airport North Runway Planning Conditions (Fingal County Council's reference F20A/0688)

Aer Lingus supports the recent decisions of Fingal County Council, and of the Aircraft Noise Competent Authority in respect of the North Runway. Whilst the operating constraints associated with the North Runway are not ideal from an airline planning perspective, we recognise their alignment with the ICAO balanced approach.

The national economic considerations associated with the original constraints have been well documented as part of the planning application process to date.

The revised decision made by Fingal County Council takes into account the substantial improvement in aircraft noise performance over the last 15 years and introduces a Noise Quota System to further incentivise investment in noise efficient aircraft by based carriers. The Fingal County Council decision importantly applies the ICAO Balanced Approach as incorporated in European Union Legislation (Regulation (EU) No 598/2014). This was unanimously endorsed by ICAO's Assembly in 2001 and provides a transparent process for managing demonstrated noise problems on an airport-by-airport basis and identifying the most suitable solutions to noise issues.1

By way of demonstrating such improvements in noise efficiencies, Aer Lingus is investing in new technology aircraft.

The latest renewal of the Aer Lingus short haul fleet commenced in 2022 and is planned to continue over the coming years. The transition to new technology improves the operational, economic and environmental performance of Aer Lingus due to the efficiencies brought about by the latest airframe and power plant design of the A320neo. Compared to its existing A320ceo fleet the new aircraft deliver a significant improvement in sustainability with a 15%-20% reduction in fuel burn, a 20% reduction in CO2 emissions and significant reduction in noise footprint.

The North Atlantic fleet has also seen the transition to new efficient technology which began in 2019, with 8 Airbus 321 NEOs LRs already in service, bringing unrivalled fuel efficiency and noise reduction

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ICAO Assembly Resolution A39-1, Appendices C and E.



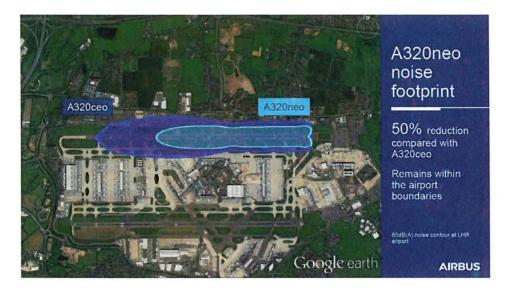
benefits. The transition to new technology will continue with further narrowbody transatlantic units, Airbus 321XLRs, with six units expected to join the fleet across 2024-2025 period.

Airbus 320neo noise margin demonstrates improvement across the whole aircraft family.

- The A320 NEO noise footprint shows a 50% reduction compared with its predecessor.
- Aer Lingus is using CFM engines on our A321 NEOs and the first of our A320 NEOs which maximise the noise efficiencies of the aircraft illustrated in the below chart.

# Cumulative noise margin vs. ICAO Chapter 4 noise Standard (EPNdB) -2.8 -10.0 -12.9 -14.9 CEO status NEO target NEO certified values Data as of May 2019 Highest certificated design weights A320ceo A320neo target A321ceo A321neo PW CFM A321ceo A321neo Target A320 A321

For illustration the 85-decibel noise contour at LHR airport is shown comparing the A320 NEO to its predecessor the A320 CEO and shows its noise contours remaining within the airport boundaries.



Aer Lingus believe that the decision of Fingal County Council should be upheld by An Bord Pleanála. This is critical to: enabling the economic sustainability of existing operations at Dublin Airport;

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maintaining the investment in new technology noise efficient aircraft by airlines; and facilitating sustainable future growth at Dublin to the benefit of the Irish economy

Aer Lingus requests that An Bord Pleanála progress their deliberations swiftly to provide the necessary certainty to the Dublin Airport, airport operators, and the wider community.

Yours sincerely,

Niall Timlin

**Director of Corporate Affairs** 

Nisa Z.C.