



An
Bord
Pleanála

Memorandum ABP-318180-23

To: Board
From: Elaine Sullivan PI
Re: Construction of a Data Centre comprising three buildings with associated site works at Cruiserath Road, Dublin 15.
Date: ~~12th January 2024~~.

- 1.0** This is a third-party appeal against a decision by Fingal County Council to grant planning permission for a period of seven years for the construction of a Data Centre comprising three buildings with a gross floor area of 1,425 sqm, 20,582 sqm and 20,582 sqm respectively. The development includes, emergency generators and associated flues, a diesel tank and two filling areas, two MV buildings, water storage tanks and three bin stores. Ancillary works such as internal roads and landscaping are also included. The application is accompanied with an EIAR.
- 2.0** The planning authority granted the development and attached 24 planning conditions. The decision of the Planning Authority is subject to five separate appeals, one of which has requested an Oral Hearing.
- 3.0** The grounds of this appeal may be summarised as follows.
- Compliance and alignment with national and policy and the Climate Act 2021.
 - Compliance with EU policy and EU climate law.
 - Compliance with commitments in the 2023 Climate Action Plan.

- Emissions from diesel generators.
- Inadequacy of information in the EIAR regarding emissions.
- Lack of plans to decarbonise the site.

4.0 A detailed response to the grounds of appeal was submitted by the applicant. The response includes a Technical Response in a report format which addresses the issues raised in the appeal under the following headings,

- Corporate Power Purchase Agreement as Mitigation
- Corporate Power Purchase Agreement and Assessment of Renewable Projects
- Cumulative Assessment of other Data Centre Projects
- Accuracy of Climate Assessment, Conclusions on Climate Assessment and Consideration of Reasonable Worst Case
- The EU, ETS and National Carbon Budget / Sectoral Emission Ceilings
- Consistency with Section 15 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015, as amended.
- Carbon Emissions During Construction
- Impact of Generators and Operating Hours of Generators
- Use of Renewable Diesel

5.0 Having regard to the plans and particulars submitted with the application, including the EIAR, the submission made by the applicant in response to the appeal and the third-party submissions, I conclude that the matters that arise in this case can be assessed based on the application documentation and the written submissions and that an oral hearing is not required.