

The Secretary,  
An Bord Pleanála,  
64 Marlborough Street,  
Dublin 1.

23rd June 2022

Dear Sir / Madam,

**RE: PLANNING APPLICATION FOR PROPOSED SUBSTATION AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION LINE CONNECTIONS AT THE TOWNLANDS OF TOOREEN, CAHERNALOUGH, KNOCKANEAN, BALLYMACAHILL, MUCKINISH AND ROSSLEVAN TO THE NORTH EAST OF ENNIS, ON THE TULLA ROAD (R352), CO. CLARE.**

- 1.1 On behalf the applicant, Art Data Centres Ltd, and further to a determination received from An Bord Pleanála (see Appendix 1) confirming the proposed development constitutes Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) pursuant to Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), we hereby submit this planning application in respect of a new 110 kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation, two 110 kV underground transmission cables connecting to existing 110 kV overhead lines to the north of the proposed substation, and two 110kV underground transmission cables connecting to the existing Ennis 110kV substation, along with associated and ancillary works.
- 1.2 The proposed development is located within the townlands of Tooreen, Cahernalough, Knockanean, Ballymacahill, Muckinish and Rosslevan to the north east of Ennis, on the Tulla Road (R352), Co. Clare. The application site has a total area of c. 9.0 hectares.
- 1.3 The following documentation accompanies this SID planning application:
- 3 no. copies of the planning application form;
  - 3 no. copies of the site notice;
  - 1 no. original copy and 2 no. scanned copies of newspaper notices (published in the Clare Champion on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June 2022<sup>1</sup> and in the Irish Examiner on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June 2022);
  - 3 no. copies of this cover letter;
  - 7 no. electronic copies provided on CD ROM;
  - Application Fee of €100,000 (confirmation of payment via EFT);
  - 3 no. copies of a Planning Report prepared by John Spain Associates;

<sup>1</sup> Page from the Clare Champion notes date of 17<sup>th</sup> June, but this edition of the paper was published and available for purchase on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June (in accordance with the publication date noted in the notice)

Managing Director: John P. Spain BBS MRUP MRICS ASCS MRTPI MIPI

Executive Directors: Paul Turley BA MRUP Dip Environmental & Planning Law MIPI Rory Kunz BA (MOD) MScERM MAT&CP Dip EIA Mgmt. MIPI

Stephen Blair BA (Mod) MRUP MIPI MRTPI Blaine Cregan B Eng BSc MSc

Senior Associate Directors: Luke Wymer BA MRUP Dip Plg & Env Law Dip PM Prof Cert Env Mgmt MIPI

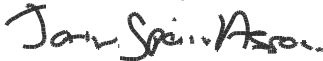
Meadhbh Nolan BA MRUP MRTPI Kate Kerrigan BA MSc MRTPI

Associate Director: Ian Livingstone MA (Hons) Town & Regional Planning, MSc. Spatial Regeneration. MRTPI

- 3 no. copies of the Engineering Drawings and Schedule prepared by Clifton Scannell Emerson Associates (CSEA);
  - 3 no. copies of an Engineering Services Report prepared by CSEA;
  - 3 no. copies of an Outline Construction and Environmental Management Plan prepared by AWN Consulting Engineers;
  - 3 no. copies of the Architectural Drawings and Schedule of Drawings prepared by ArcMC Architects;
  - 3 no. copies of an Appropriate Assessment Screening Report and a Natura Impact Statement prepared by Scott Cawley;
  - 3 no. copies of an Electrical Engineering Report and appendices prepared by HDR Consulting Engineers.
- 1.4 The application is also accompanied by 3 no. copies of an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and a Non-Technical Summary prepared by AWN. The EIAR comprises of the following chapters:
- Chapter 1: Introduction
  - Chapter 2: Description of the Site and Proposed Development
  - Chapter 3: Planning and Development Context and Alternatives
  - Chapter 4: Human Health and Population
  - Chapter 5: Land, Soils Geology & Hydrogeology
  - Chapter 6: Hydrology
  - Chapter 7: Biodiversity
  - Chapter 8: Air Quality & Climate
  - Chapter 9: Noise and Vibration
  - Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
  - Chapter 11: Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage
  - Chapter 12: Traffic and Transportation
  - Chapter 13: Material Assets
  - Chapter 14: Waste Management
  - Chapter 15: Interactions – Interrelationship between the Aspects
  - Non-Technical Summary
- 1.5 The planning application, including the Environmental Impact Assessment Report, has been made available for inspection at the following locations:
- The Offices of An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 (or online at [www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie)).
  - Clare County Council, Aras Contae an Chlair, New Road, Ennis, County Clare.
- 1.6 The application may also be viewed/downloaded on the following website: <http://sid.artdatacentres.com>
- 1.7 The public notices were published and erected on the **16<sup>th</sup> of June (Clare Champion) and 22<sup>nd</sup> June (Irish Examiner and Site Notices)** and which advise that the application will be available for viewing for a period of seven weeks commencing on the **30<sup>th</sup> June** and that submissions / observations must be made in writing directly to An Bord Pleanála (at An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1) not later than 5:30 pm on the **18<sup>th</sup> August 2022**.

- 1.8 5 no hard copies and 2 no. electronic copies have been lodged on the **23<sup>rd</sup> June** with the relevant planning authority, Clare County Council, who were also named in the list of prescribed bodies provided by the Board.
- 1.9 In accordance with the Board's determination on the pre-application consultations in respect of the proposed development, copies of the application and notification have been sent to the prescribed bodies listed below on the **23<sup>rd</sup> June**.
- Minister of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
  - Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications
  - Clare County Council (the Local Planning Authority)
  - Transport Infrastructure Ireland
  - Irish Water
  - An Chomhairle Ealaion / the Arts Council
  - Failte Ireland
  - An Taisce
  - Heritage Council
  - Commission for Regulation of Utilities, Water and Energy
  - Health Service Executive
  - Irish Aviation Authority
  - Health & Safety Authority
- 1.10 As an EIAR is submitted as part of this application, the application has been registered on the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government's EIA Portal. A copy of the EIA Portal confirmation is attached as Appendix 2 of this cover letter. The EIA Portal ID number for this application is **2022113**.
- 1.11 In accordance with the requirements of the SID application form, a .dwg file with the application site boundary georeferenced using the ITM system is provided within the soft copies of the application herewith.
- 1.10 If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,



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**John Spain Associates**

**APPENDIX 1: AN BORD PLEANALA DETERMINATION**

**Our Case Number:** ABP-310507-21  
**Your Reference:** Art Data Centres Limited



**RECEIVED**  
 27 JAN 2022

John Spain Associates  
 39 Fitzwilliam Place  
 Dublin 2  
 D02 ND61

**Date:** 26 January 2022

**Re:** Substation and associated grid connection  
 Site at Tulla Road, Ennis, Co. Clare

Dear Sir / Madam,

Please be advised that following consultations under section 182E of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the Board hereby serves notice that it is of the opinion that the proposed development falls within the scope of section 182A of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended. Accordingly, the Board has decided that the proposed development would be strategic infrastructure within the meaning of section 182A of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended. Any application for approval for the proposed development must therefore be made directly to An Bord Pleanála under section 182A(1) of the Act.

Please also be informed that the Board considers that the pre-application consultation process in respect of this proposed development is now closed.

Attached is a list of prescribed bodies to be notified of the application for the proposed development.

In accordance with section 146(5) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the Board will make available for inspection and purchase at its offices the documents relating to the decision within 3 working days following its decision. This information is normally made available on the list of decided cases on the website on the Wednesday following the week in which the decision is made.

The attachment contains information in relation to challenges to the validity of a decision of An Bord Pleanála under the provisions of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended.

If you have any queries in relation to the matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Board.

Please quote the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

<b>Tel</b>	<b>Tel</b>	(01) 858 8100
<b>Glasó Áitiúil</b>	<b>LoCall</b>	1890 275 175
<b>Facs</b>	<b>Fax</b>	(01) 872 2684
<b>Láithreán Gréasáin</b>	<b>Website</b>	www.pleanala.ie
<b>Riomphost</b>	<b>Email</b>	bord@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902

**APPENDIX 2: CONFIRMATION FROM EIA PORTAL**

## EIA Portal Confirmation Notice Portal ID 2022113



Housing Eiaportal <EIAportal@housing.gov.ie>  
To Luke Wymer



Mon 15:54

An EIA Portal notification was received on 20/06/2022 in respect of this proposed application. The information provided has been uploaded to the EIA Portal on 20/06/2022 under EIA Portal ID number **2022113** and is available to view at <http://housinggovie.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=d7d5a3d48f104ecbb206e7e5f84b71f1>.

**Portal ID:** 2022113

**Competent Authority:** An Bord Pleanála

**Applicant Name:** Art Data Centres Limited

**Location:** Townlands of Tooreen, Cahernalough, Knockanean, Ballymacahill, Muckinish and Rosslevan to the north east of Ennis, on the Tulla Road (R352), Co. Clare

**Description:** Provision of a new 110kV Gas Insulated Switchgear substation, associated 110kV transmission line connections, undergrounding of existing overhead 110kV transmission lines, and all associated development.

**Linear Development:** Yes

**Date Uploaded to Portal:** 20/06/2022

Regards  
Grace

EIA Portal team

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**An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht**  
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Teach an Chustaim, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 W6X0  
Custom House, Dublin 1, D01 W6X0

T +353 (0) 1 888 2000

[www.gov.ie/housing](http://www.gov.ie/housing)



**An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht**  
Department of Housing,  
Local Government and Heritage