

Attachment-6-3-7 Project and Thresholds for Planning

Planning was required for the data storage facilities at the site. The planning history of the site is set out in Attachment 6.1 Stakeholder-Engagement. The installation received Final Grant of permission on 3rd September 2020 by South Dublin County Council (SDCC) under SDCC Planning Ref. SD20A/0121 for a 10-year permission, to develop a 16.5-hectare site for three data storage buildings.

All planning permissions for the data storage facilities that are relevant to the Licence application under Class 2.1 of the EPA Act 1992 (as amended) have been granted on site.

Schedule 5 Activities

Ireland's list of Projects for which an EIA is required are set out in Part 1 and Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2018. This list was developed from Annex I and Annex II of the EIA Directive. The proposed activity is not directly listed under Annex I of the EIA Directive, or Part 1, Schedule 5, or Part 2, Schedule 5.

It is considered that most relevant development class in the context of the proposed Project under Part 2, Schedule 5 is Class 10(a):

“Industrial estate development projects... where the area would exceed 15 hectares”

The development is within an Industrial Estate and as the total site area is c. 16.5 hectares and so exceeds the limit, quantity or threshold set out in Part 2, Schedule 5 is Class 10(a).

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) relating to this activity, prepared by Marston Planning Consultancy et. al. dated April 2020, which has been previously submitted to SDCC has been submitted to the Agency as part of this application (Attachment 6-3-6 of the IE Licence application). The IE Licence application has been accompanied by an Appropriate Assessment Screening (AAS) which has been previously submitted to SDCC (Attachment 6-3-4 of the IE Licence application).