

Electronic copy

Mr. David O Connor
On behalf of Amazon Data Services Ireland Limited



24 July 2025

Reg. No. P1181-02

Re: Appropriate Assessment Screening for a licence review from Amazon Data Services Ireland Limited in respect of the installation located at Drogheda IDA Business And Technology Park, Donore Road, Drogheda, Meath, A92VX98

Dear Sir or Madam,

I refer to your licence review in respect of the installation located at Drogheda IDA Business And Technology Park, Donore Road, Drogheda, Meath, A92VX98.

I am to advise you in accordance with Regulation 42(8)(a) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended, that the EPA has made a determination that an Appropriate Assessment is required as the project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, is likely to have a significant effect on a European sites. Notification of this determination is attached for your reference. Please note the EPA shall request a Natura Impact Statement in due course.

In carrying out an Appropriate Assessment the EPA shall take into account each of the matters specified in Regulation 42(12) of the European Communities (Birds and Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended, where applicable.

The EPA shall publish a Notice for Public Consultation on Appropriate Assessment under Regulation 42 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended.

Submissions or observations on a licence application can be made to the Agency in relation to Appropriate Assessment as set out in the notice for public consultation.

The application and all associated including the notice for public consultation are available to view on the EPA website at www.epa.ie. You are advised to refer to the website for information on the progress of the application.

If you have any further queries, please contact licensing@epa.ie.

Yours Sincerely,

Barry O'Connor

Water, Energy & Business Support Programme

Office of Environmental Sustainability

Tel: 053 – 9160600

Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

In accordance with Regulation 42(1) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended, the Agency has undertaken Appropriate Assessment screening to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of the site, if the activity/activities, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on European Sites. In this context, particular attention was paid to the European Sites listed below.

Consent Details:

Reg. No.	P1181-02
Applicant Name:	Amazon Data Services Ireland Limited
Type of Consent Sought:	Industrial Emissions Licence (IEL)
Location of installation:	Drogheda IDA Business And Technology Park, Donore Road, Drogheda, Meath, A92VX98
Licence Review Application Date:	24 September 2024
European Site(s) assessed:	River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC (Site Code: 002299)
	Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC (Site Code: 001957)
	Clogher Head SAC (Site Code: 001459)
	River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA (Site Code: 004232)
	Boyne Estuary SPA (Site Code: 004080)
	River Nanny Estuary and Shore SPA (Site Code: 004158)
	North-west Irish Sea SPA (Site Code: 004236)
Date of AA Screening Determination:	23 July 2025

AA Screening Determination:

That the activity is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site and that it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the activity, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on any European site and accordingly determined that an Appropriate Assessment of the activity is required, and for this reason determined to require the applicant to submit a Natura Impact Statement.

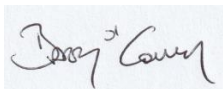
This determination has been made in light of the following reasons:

- Due to the nature and scale of the activity (operation of 52 no. 6.82 MWth back-up generators and 2 no. 2.19 MWth back-up generator) and the proximity to European Sites. The closest European Site is the River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC approximately 1km to the north of the installation. There will be combustion emissions to air from the generation unit stacks. The emissions to air may give rise to ambient air concentrations that could adversely affect qualifying interest habitats and species at European Sites. There is also the potential for effects on sensitive habitats within European Sites due to deposition.
- The Proposed Development is located within the hydrological catchment of the River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC, approximately 1km to the south of the river and on the outskirts of Drogheda town. There are proposed emissions to surface water and the potential effects of these proposed emissions on the receiving European site and its qualifying interests cannot be ruled out.

Taking the foregoing into account it is considered that potential effects on European Sites and their qualifying interests cannot be ruled out at the screening stage and this determination is that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is required.

Information in relation to European Sites is available on www.npws.ie

Documents relating to the licence review application are available on the Agency's website at www.epa.ie



Date: 24/07/2025

Inspector Name

Office of Environmental Sustainability