



Energy for
generations

Commission for Regulation of Utilities
By email: electricityconnectionpolicy@cru.ie

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CRU proposed Direction to the System Operators related to Data Centre grid connection

ESB Generation and Trading (ESB GT) welcomes the opportunity to respond to the above consultation. ESB GT agrees that connection measures offer the best mitigation option.

General Comments

- A. We agree that each new data centre should be fully self-contained with respect to back-up generation. ESB GT believes that over-procurement of additional generation capacity for the expected growth in data centre demand is best managed by requiring the data centres to install their own on-site generation.
- B. There should be distinct short-term and long-term solutions to this issue.
- C. ESB GT believes that the only solution to this issue should not be just new fossil fuelled generation on data centre sites. We suggest that the long-term plan should be for low- or zero-carbon on-site generation at data centres, for example batteries or hydrogen-fuelled generation, in order facilitate achievement of the Government's RES-E targets and decarbonisation in general.
- D. ESB GT agrees that preference should be given to data centres that could guarantee that they would be able to cut their demand when the system is tight.
- E. It is obvious that clear rules for all types of hybrid connections are urgently needed.