

Dublin City Council

Drainage Division Statement to An Bord Pleanála

**Metro North
02/12/2009**

Introduction

My name is Fiona Craven and I am an Executive Engineer in the Dublin City Council working in the Planning and Development Control Section of the Drainage Division. I graduated with an honours degree in Engineering from Trinity College in 1997 and with a Master's degree in Engineering from Trinity College Dublin in 1999. I am a member of the Institute of Engineers of Ireland. I have worked in the Drainage Division of Dublin City Council for 6 years. This submission was drafted on behalf of the Dublin City Council, Environment and Engineering Department, Drainage Division.

Metro Project - General Overview of Drainage Works

The drainage works required to facilitate METRO North are on a significant scale and involve the diversion of trunk sewers serving large catchments. Dublin City Council require that the RPA demonstrate that the drainage proposals have a negligible impact on the flow characteristics and hydraulic capacity of the sewers in question, and that future accessibility and maintenance of the sewer network will not be compromised. Because the information available to date from the RPA is of a preliminary design nature, it is not possible to determine whether these requirements will be met. Notwithstanding, DCC Drainage Division anticipate that through the agreements reached between DCC and the RPA in the 'Agreed Position Document' as read into evidence by Mr. Rory O'Connor on the 22nd of April 2009, it will be possible to ensure that the RPA meet the requirements of the Drainage Division with respect to all sewer diversion works. Conditions numbered 25-34 of this document relate specifically to drainage issues.

Sewer Diversions:

Condition 26 of the RPA and DCC 'Agreed Position Document' states that "*details will be submitted as requested by DCC Drainage Division of cross-sections of foundations in relation to all affected sewers, for written approval of the Drainage Division of Dublin City Council. RPA agrees that works that affect public sewers cannot proceed without the written permission of DCC Drainage Division*". The RPA must therefore ensure that written approval is obtained from DCC Drainage Division for all proposed sewer diversions prior to the diversion of any public sewers.

Flood Risk Assessment & Surface-Water System Accommodation:

In Condition 34 of the 'Agreed Position Document', the RPA have confirmed that the works will be:

RPA will confirm in writing to the Drainage Division that the scheme has been designed such that the risk of flooding to or by the scheme has been reduced as far as is reasonably practicable, and that the proposals do not increase the risk of flooding to any adjacent or nearby area.

The Drainage Division of DCC will work with the RPA in ensuring that this agreement is met.

As the Drainage Division code of practice requires that all new developments separate foul and surface-water, and as a program for separation of foul and surface-water is ongoing in city council lands, the Drainage Division have requested that where combined sewers are to be diverted, they are replaced with separate foul and surface-water sewers where feasible. This will result in increased capacity in the public drainage network, which, if correctly designed should result in improved provision for extreme flood events in the permanent scenario.