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## Comment Submitted to Sefton Planning – 28th February 2026

### Comments for Planning Application DC/2025/01324

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Submitted by:** Mrs Eileen O'Connor

**Date/Time Submitted:** 28/02/2026, 10:51 AM

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#### Application Summary

- **Address:** 51 Bridle Road, Netherton, L30 4XE
- **Proposal:** Demolition of all existing buildings and construction of a new building, comprising two two-storey data centre halls (Use Class B8 / Sui Generis), connected by a central three-storey block housing ancillary office floorspace and associated amenity and storage floorspace, alongside the construction of a new substation, relocation of the existing 11kV substation, and the formation of new internal access roads, parking, landscaping, boundary treatments, and other ancillary works.
- **Case Officer:** John Kerr

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#### Customer Details

- **Name:** Mrs Eileen O'Connor
- **Address:** Radiation Research Trust, Charity Chairman Brian Stein CBE, Chetwode House, Leicester Road, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, LE13 1GA
- **Commenter Type:** Amenity Group
- **Stance:** Customer objects to the Planning Application

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#### Comments Submitted

I formally object to the proposed data centre based on energy, environmental, and EMF exposure concerns. The facility will operate 24/7 with high-capacity servers and what appears to be extensive roof-mounted cooling systems and chimneys, generating substantial electricity demand, raising questions about where the heat discharged will go and how it may affect the

local environment. This continuous energy use may strain local electricity infrastructure, affect microclimates, increase energy demand for surrounding buildings, and contribute to cumulative environmental stress. The expansion of underlying digital and wireless infrastructure, including the largest local 5G Standalone deployment in Europe (according to Liverpool 5G), raises questions about long-term exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMFs). Combined with the data centre's energy use, this represents a significant impact on the local environment. Increasing demand for high-speed data transmission, associated with 5G networks and AI applications, is likely to support the development of large-scale data centres. Independent scientists have criticised current exposure guidelines (e.g., ICNIRP) as inadequate for multi-source, chronic exposures, particularly for children, older adults, and vulnerable groups. The scale of energy draw, rooftop heat discharge, and associated EMF exposure in a residential area raises legitimate concerns. The Council has discretion under planning guidance to require a full Environmental Impact Assessment, including energy, heat, and EMF effects, before approval, and I respectfully request the Council refuse this application in its current form, require an independent assessment, and hold a public consultation or hearing. The precautionary approach is essential to safeguard the community, local infrastructure, and environmental wellbeing.