CIRQL-DC Sustainable data centres — Requirements for siting, construction and operation

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Foreword

This document was prepared by Multicert Sp. z o.o. This document is subject to review at least once every 3 years; changes are introduced by means of a new edition. This document does not replace obligations arising from legal provisions or from decisions, permits and approvals issued by the competent authorities.

Introduction

This document specifies requirements relating to the impact of a data centre on its surroundings, in particular with regard to site selection in relation to residential development, water abstraction, noise, including low-frequency noise, back-up power supply and fuel storage, waste heat utilization and disclosure of operational data.

The requirements supplement the scope of the data centre assessment in the CIRQL programme (criteria DC1–DC3). This document provides for the publication of operational data in a public facility sheet (Clause 6), prepared on the basis of the same data that the operator submits to the European database on data centres.

1 Scope

1.1 This document specifies requirements and recommendations for a data centre assessed in the CIRQL programme in three phases:

a) design — requirements designated by the letter P;

b) construction and acceptance — requirements designated by the letter B;

c) operation, assessed annually — requirements designated by the letter E.

1.2 This document applies to data centres with an installed information technology power demand (3.2) of at least 100 kW.

1.3 This document applies to new facilities, facilities undergoing extension and facilities in operation. In an existing facility, phase P requirements are assessed on the basis of an inventory survey and as-built documentation. A phase P requirement may be excluded from the assessment of an existing facility, with justification, only where it concerns design decisions that cannot be changed in an existing facility, subject to 4.3.1, 5.1.1 and 5.1.2.

1.4 This document does not cover:

a) cybersecurity and information security;

b) assessment of IT service management;

c) assessment of conformity with the EU taxonomy, with financing conditions or with public procurement requirements.

1.5 The result of an assessment according to this document has no official (administrative) status. It does not replace a decision on environmental conditions, a building permit, an occupancy permit, emission permits or measurements required by legal provisions.

1.6 The following verbal forms are used in this document:

- "shall" — requirement;
- "shall not" — prohibition;
- "should" — recommendation;
- "may" — permitted deviation or choice.

Present-tense statements (e.g. "is assessed", "is determined", "applies", "is deemed") that specify the scope of application of the requirements and the activities of the assessment body (3.30) are binding on that body.

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2 Normative references

The following documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies. The editions of standards referred to in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364 are adopted as specified in that Regulation.

European Union legal acts

- Directive (EU) 2023/1791 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 September 2023 on energy efficiency and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/955 (recast), Article 12, Article 26(6) and (7), Annex VII and Annex XI.
- Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364 of 14 March 2024 on the first phase of the establishment of a common Union rating scheme for data centres, Articles 2, 3 and 5 and Annexes I–IV.
- Commission Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472 of 21 September 2026 supplementing Directive (EU) 2023/1791 and amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364 as regards the establishment of a common Union rating scheme for data centres.

Polish legal acts

- Regulation of the Minister of the Environment of 14 June 2007 on permissible noise levels in the environment (Dz.U. 2014 item 112), Annex, Table 1.
- Regulation of the Minister of Climate of 24 September 2020 on emission standards for certain types of installations, fuel combustion sources and waste incineration or co-incineration plants (Dz.U. 2020 item 1860).
- Regulation of the Minister of Infrastructure of 15 July 2021 on the adoption of the Drought Effects Counteraction Plan (Dz.U. 2021 item 1615).

Standards

- PN-EN 50600-4-2 Information technology — Data centre facilities and infrastructures — Part 4-2: Power Usage Effectiveness.

- PN-EN 50600-4-3 Information technology — Data centre facilities and infrastructures — Part 4-3: Renewable Energy Factor.
- PN-EN 50600-4-6 Information technology — Data centre facilities and infrastructures — Part 4-6: Energy Reuse Factor.
- PN-EN 50600-4-9 Information technology — Data centre facilities and infrastructures — Part 4-9: Water Usage Effectiveness.
- PN-EN 15978:2026-08 Sustainability of construction works — Assessment of environmental performance of buildings — Requirements and guidance.
- CLC/TR 50600-99-1:2021 Information technology — Data centre facilities and infrastructures — Part 99-1: Recommended practices for energy management.

Other documents

- European Code of Conduct on Data Centre Energy Efficiency, Joint Research Centre of the European Commission.
- CIRQL Programme. Programme rules (https://cirql.build/program.html).
- Scope of the data centre assessment in the CIRQL programme (https://cirql.build/centrum-danych.html).

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3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1
data centre
building, group of buildings or separated part of a building housing information technology equipment intended for the storage, processing and transmission of data, together with the power supply, cooling and environmental control installations

Note 1 to entry: The corresponding term in Directive (EU) 2023/1791 is "data centre".

3.2
installed information technology power demand
installed IT power demand
PD_IT
electrical power demand of the installed information technology equipment, equal to the sum of the nominal power demand of the installed network equipment, servers and storage equipment, reported in accordance with Article 2(14) and Annex II, point 1(a), of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364

3.3
total rated energy input
power of a data centre within the meaning of Article 26(6) of Directive (EU) 2023/1791

Note 1 to entry: Total rated energy input is not equated with installed IT power demand (3.2).

3.4
power usage effectiveness
PUE

ratio of the total energy consumed by the data centre (E_DC) to the energy consumed by the information technology equipment (E_IT), calculated in accordance with Annex III(a) to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364 and PN-EN 50600-4-2

3.5
water usage effectiveness
WUE
ratio of the quantity of water input to the data centre to the energy consumed by the information technology equipment (E_IT), calculated in accordance with Annex III(b) to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364 and PN-EN 50600-4-9

Note 1 to entry: According to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364 in its original wording, the numerator is the total water input (W_IN) in cubic metres and the denominator is E_IT in megawatt-hours; the result is expressed in m^3/MWh (equivalently l/kWh). The quantity of potable water (W_IN-POT) is a separate reporting field.

Note 2 to entry: According to Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472, the numerator is the quantity of freshwater (W_IN-FRE) in cubic metres, within the meaning of the national definition or, in the absence thereof, of the definition in Article 2(17) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364 as amended; E_IT is expressed in kilowatt-hours. The potable water field is replaced by the freshwater field.

3.6
energy reuse factor
ERF
ratio of the energy reused outside the data centre boundary (E_REUSE) to the total energy consumed by the data centre (E_DC), calculated in accordance with Annex III(c) to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364 and PN-EN 50600-4-6

3.7
renewable energy factor
REF
ratio of the energy from renewable sources (E_RES-TOT) to the total energy consumed by the data centre (E_DC), calculated in accordance with Annex III(d) to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364 and PN-EN 50600-4-3

3.8
facility site boundary
boundary of the plot or plots covered by the investment or, in an existing facility, boundary of the land held by the operator, as indicated in the facility qualification documentation

3.9
measurement boundary
boundary of the data centre within which energy and water are measured for the purpose of calculating PUE, WUE, ERF and REF, established during facility qualification in accordance with PN-EN 50600-4-2 and Annex II to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364

3.10
residential development
existing residential buildings and areas designated for residential development in the local spatial development plan or in a zoning decision issued before the qualification date

3.11
neighbourhood zone
area located within 300 m of the facility site boundary

3.12
noise assessment point
location at the façade of a residential building or in an area designated for residential development at which the predicted or measured level of noise originating from the facility is the highest

Note 1 to entry: The noise assessment point is determined by the highest noise level, not by the distance from the facility.

Note 2 to entry: The definition serves the assessment according to this document. It does not replace the method of determining noise measurement and assessment locations specified in legal provisions that relate permissible noise levels to types of areas.

3.13
low-frequency noise
noise whose significant components occur in one-third-octave bands with centre frequencies from 10 Hz to 160 Hz

3.14
infrasound
sound at frequencies below 20 Hz

3.15
tonal component
clearly audible tone in the spectrum of noise emitted by facility equipment, such as fans, compressors and transformers, identified by spectral analysis in one-third-octave bands

Note 1 to entry: The criterion for the prominence of a tonal component is given in 5.1.5.

3.16
low-frequency noise assessment period
evening and night period from 18:00 to 07:00 or daytime period from 07:00 to 18:00

Note 1 to entry: These periods are not equated with the daytime (from 06:00 to 22:00) and night-time (from 22:00 to 06:00) specified in the regulation on permissible noise levels in the environment.

3.17
back-up power supply
sources of electrical energy intended to operate in the event of a mains power failure, including generating sets with internal combustion engines, gas turbines, fuel cells, rotary power supply units and energy storage systems, together with the fuel store

3.18
generator operating hours
total operating time of generating sets in a year, broken down into operation during mains power failure, tests and operation for other reasons

3.19
non-excludable requirement
requirement that is not assessed as "not applicable" and is not excluded from the assessment

3.20
public facility sheet
document containing the operational data of the facility within the scope specified in Clause 6

3.21
draft public facility sheet
document containing design data within the scope specified in 5.1.2

Note 1 to entry: The draft public facility sheet is not subject to third-party verification.

3.22
operator
entity responsible for the operation of the data centre, including the submission of data to the European database on data centres

3.23
third party
person or entity, independent of the operator, owner and designer of the facility, that has not provided advisory services to the facility within the scope covered by the verification

3.24
facility qualification
activity of the assessment body preceding the assessment, in which the facility site boundary, the measurement boundary, the facility class, the siting modifiers, the facility phase, the list of documents and the feasibility of the assessment are determined (7.1)

3.25
qualification date
date on which the written result of the facility qualification is delivered to the applicant

3.26
assessor
person appointed by the assessment body to carry out an assessment according to this document, meeting the competence requirements referred to in 7.8 d) and the independence condition given in 7.2

3.27
European database on data centres
European database on data centres referred to in Article 12(3) of Directive (EU) 2023/1791

3.28
Union rating scheme for data centres
common Union rating scheme for data centres established in Article 1 of Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472

3.29
Union label
electronic data centre label generated by the European database on data centres on the basis of Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472

3.30
assessment body
Multicert Sp. z o.o. as the entity conducting facility qualification and assessment according to this document

3.31
working day
day from Monday to Friday, excluding statutory public holidays

3.32
emergency condition
failure of facility equipment or installations, or mains power failure, causing the cooling or power supply instal-

lation to operate in a manner other than that provided for in the design for normal operation

3.33
noisy works
construction works and related activities that cause noise in the surroundings of the construction site, in particular pile driving and vibrating of elements, chiselling, cutting and crushing of concrete, operation of heavy construction equipment and deliveries by heavy transport

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4 Facility classes and siting conditions

4.1 Size classes

4.1.1 The facility class is determined during facility qualification on the basis of the installed IT power demand (3.2) in the final stage of extension, taking the higher of the values specified in the design documentation and in the connection conditions.

Table 1 — Facility size classes

Class	Installed IT power demand (PD_IT)
S	below 1 MW
M	from 1 MW to 10 MW
L	above 10 MW

4.1.2 A facility extended in stages is assessed in the class corresponding to the final stage. The current and final installed IT power demand shall be given in the public facility sheet.

4.2 Siting modifiers

4.2.1 Siting modifiers are determined during facility qualification on the basis of the documents listed in Table 2. The types of residential development areas are determined according to Table 1 of the Annex to the regulation on permissible noise levels in the environment. Several modifiers may be assigned to a facility simultaneously. The assigned modifiers, together with the basis for their determination, are entered in the qualification report; they shall be given in the public facility sheet in accordance with 6.2 a).

Table 2 — Siting modifiers

Modifier	Assignment condition	Documents forming the basis for determination
H — proximity to residential development	residential development (3.10) is located in the neighbourhood zone (3.11)	base map or map for design purposes with the neighbourhood zone marked; extract and map excerpt from the local spatial development plan or zoning decisions for areas located in the zone; list of residential buildings from the land and building register

Modifier	Assignment condition	Documents forming the basis for determination
W — water scarcity area	at least one of the following conditions is met: a) the facility site lies in an area of severe or extreme drought hazard on the combined drought hazard map (map 8) of the Drought Effects Counteraction Plan; b) the facility site lies in an area indicated on map 21 of that plan as recommended for action No 25 (review of permits); c) the water supply and sewerage company or the water management authority has indicated restrictions on water availability in the technical connection conditions, in approvals or in the water-law permit	maps of the Drought Effects Counteraction Plan or, if an updated plan is in force on the qualification date, maps of that plan; technical conditions for connection to the water supply network; water-law permit
G — restricted connection to the electricity grid	the connection conditions provide for phasing of power, limitation of the connection capacity or conditional connection, or the system operator has refused connection due to lack of technical conditions	connection conditions or connection agreement issued by the distribution or transmission system operator; correspondence with the system operator
DH — district heating network available	a district heating network is located within 2 km of the facility site boundary	information from the heat supply company; assumptions for the municipal plan for the supply of heat, electricity and gaseous fuels; utility network map
R — agricultural or undeveloped land	the facility site includes agricultural land according to the land and building register, is previously undeveloped or is located in a rural area	extract from the land and building register; orthophotomap from before the start of the investment; extract from the local spatial development plan

4.2.2 In a facility to which modifier H has not been assigned, the requirements apply according to columns S, M and L of Table 3 (5.4).

4.3 Requirements with modifier H

4.3.1 If modifier H has been assigned to a facility, the following are non-excludable requirements (3.19) in all classes:

a) 5.1.1 Site and alternatives analysis (P1);

b) 5.1.2 Information for neighbours before submission of the application (P2);

c) 5.1.5 Acoustic prediction (P5) and 5.2.2 Acoustic acceptance testing after commissioning (B2);

d) 5.1.6 Back-up power supply and fuel store (P6);

e) 5.3.6 Operation of generating sets (E6) and 5.3.7 Verification measurement of noise (E7).

4.3.2 If modifier H has been assigned to a facility, requirement 5.2.1 (B1) also applies in all classes and requirement 5.3.9 (E9) applies in class M.

5 Requirements

5.0 General

5.0.1 The scope of application of the requirements and recommendations in the individual classes and with the siting modifiers is specified in Table 3 (5.4).

5.0.2 A requirement whose fulfilment has not been documented is deemed not fulfilled. A design value does not constitute evidence of fulfilment of phase E requirements.

5.0.3 The values of PUE, WUE, ERF and REF shall be given for the measurement boundary (3.9), with the reference period and an indication of the meters that are the source of the data. These values shall be given in accordance with the data submitted to the European database on data centres if the facility is subject to the reporting obligation under Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364 or participates voluntarily in the Union rating scheme for data centres. For each WUE value, the definition applied (3.5, Note 1 or Note 2 to entry) and the unit of the result shall be given. WUE values are not converted between the definitions given in 3.5, Notes 1 and 2 to entry. WUE classes (Annex I to Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472) are not compared with a WUE value calculated according to 3.5, Note 1 to entry.

5.0.4 The relationship between the requirements and legal provisions and standards is given in Annex A, and the sources of reference values in Annex B.

5.1 Design phase (P)

5.1.1 Site and alternatives analysis (P1)

A site analysis shall be prepared covering the distance from residential development (from the nearest residential building and from the nearest area designated for residential development), the land use designation in the local spatial development plan, the availability of water and of connection capacity, and of a district heating network. The analysis shall be prepared irrespective of whether an environmental impact assessment has been carried out for the project.

The analysis shall compare the selected alternative with at least one alternative site or site layout according to the following parameters:

a) distance of the building, coolers, generating sets, exhaust outlets and fuel store from the nearest residential building;

b) predicted night-time noise level at the noise assessment point;

c) expected water abstraction and its source;

d) potential for a recipient to take the waste heat.

The choice of alternative shall be justified with reference to parameters a) to d).

If modifier H or R has been assigned to a facility, the alternatives compared shall include an alternative on previously developed land or on land designated in the local spatial development plan for production, storage or technical functions, if such land is available in the municipality. Land is deemed available if it is located in the same municipality, has an area not smaller than the facility site, is previously developed or designated in the local spatial development plan for production, storage or technical functions, and is not in use or is designated for redevelopment. The absence of such land shall be demonstrated by extracts from local spatial development plans or by information from the municipal office.

The facility should be located on previously developed land.

In an existing facility, the analysis shall be prepared for the existing state and, instead of comparing alternatives, the existing arrangement of equipment shall be compared with an arrangement that could be introduced.

The requirement applies in classes S, M and L. With modifier H it is a non-excludable requirement.

Evidence of conformity:

- site analysis with a map of the neighbourhood zone;
- extract and map excerpt from the local spatial development plan;
- table comparing the alternatives according to parameters a) to d);
- with modifier H or R — extracts from local spatial development plans or information from the municipal office on the absence of available land.

5.1.2 Information for neighbours before submission of the application (P2)

Before submitting the first application for a decision on environmental conditions, a zoning decision or a building permit, the following shall be carried out:

a) publication of the draft public facility sheet (3.21);

b) an open information meeting in the municipality in which the facility is located, announced at least 14 days before its date on the website of the operator or the investor; the announcement should also be posted at the municipal office, if the municipality consents;

c) acceptance of questions and comments for at least 21 days from the date of publication of the draft sheet, and publication of a summary of responses before submission of the application.

The draft public facility sheet shall be prepared covering: current and final installed IT power demand, connection capacity demand, water source and quantity (average and peak, in m³/d), cooling method, predicted noise level at the noise assessment point, number and power of generating sets, type and quantity of stored fuel, planned waste heat utilization and construction schedule. If the operator participates in the Union rating scheme for data centres as a facility before commissioning (Article 3(6) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364 as amended by Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472), the same design values of PUE and WUE shall be given in the draft sheet.

In an existing facility, instead of the activities listed in items a) to c), the first public facility sheet (5.3.1) shall be published and an information meeting shall be held before the first assessment.

The requirement applies in classes M and L; in class S it is a recommendation. With modifier H it is a non-excludable requirement in all classes.

Evidence of conformity:

- published draft sheet with date of publication;
- announcement of the meeting;
- minutes of the meeting;
- summary of questions and responses with date of publication.

5.1.3 Water balance (P3)

A water balance shall be prepared covering:

a) water source (water supply network, own intake, rainwater, recovered water);

b) breakdown into potable and non-potable water and the quantity of freshwater (3.5, Note 2 to entry);

c) design WUE with an indication of the definition applied;

d) average and peak daily demand compared with the technical conditions of the water supply company and with the water-law permit, if required;

e) operation of the cooling installation during heat waves, stating the design outdoor temperature for cooling.

If modifier W has been assigned to a facility, cooling shall be designed without the use of potable water outside emergency conditions (3.32), as dry cooling or adiabatic cooling supplied with non-potable water. The water balance shall then demonstrate a design quantity of potable water used for cooling outside emergency conditions equal to 0 m^3.

NOTE The WUE classes specified in Annex I to Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472 (Annex A) are not limit values of this document.

The requirement applies in classes S, M and L; with modifier W the limit value for potable water also applies.

Evidence of conformity:

- calculation in accordance with PN-EN 50600-4-9;
- technical conditions for connection to the water supply network;
- water-law permit, if required;
- diagram of the cooling installation.

5.1.4 Design PUE (P4)

The design PUE shall be calculated at an IT equipment load equal to 50 % and 100 % of the installed IT power demand.

It shall be ensured that the design PUE at 100 % load does not exceed:

- in class L — 1.25;
- in class M — 1.35;
- in class S — 1.5.

The requirement applies in classes S, M and L.

Evidence of conformity:

- calculation in accordance with PN-EN 50600-4-2 with a description of the measurement boundary and the climatic assumptions adopted.

5.1.5 Acoustic prediction, including low-frequency noise and tonal components (P5)

An acoustic prediction shall be prepared for the noise assessment point (3.12), covering all noise sources of the facility, including coolers, fans, transformers and generating sets during tests, and containing:

a) the A-weighted equivalent continuous sound level for daytime and night-time;

b) the spectrum in one-third-octave bands from 10 Hz to 160 Hz and the difference between the C-weighted and A-weighted equivalent continuous sound levels ($L_{Ceq} - L_{Aeq}$);

c) identification of tonal components;

d) calculation of the low-frequency noise level in the rooms of the building at which the noise assessment point is located, for the low-frequency noise assessment periods (3.16), taking into account the sound insulation of the external building element in the bands from 10 Hz to 160 Hz.

The following values shall be ensured at the noise assessment point:

- A-weighted equivalent continuous sound level during daytime, determined for a reference time interval equal to the 8 least favourable consecutive hours of the day, not greater than 50 dB in single-family housing areas and not greater than 55 dB in multi-family housing and collective residence areas, farmstead development areas, recreational areas and residential and service areas;
- A-weighted equivalent continuous sound level during night-time, determined for a reference time interval equal to the 1 least favourable hour of the night, at least 5 dB lower than the permissible value specified in Table 1 of the regulation on permissible noise levels in the environment for the column "other facilities and activities that are a source of noise", i.e. not greater than 35 dB in single-family housing areas and not greater than 40 dB in multi-family housing and collective residence areas, farmstead development areas, recreational areas and residential and service areas;
- no prominent tonal components; a tonal component is deemed prominent if the equivalent continuous sound level in a one-third-octave band exceeds the levels in both adjacent one-third-octave bands by at least 15 dB in the bands from 25 Hz to 125 Hz, by 8 dB in the bands from 160 Hz to 400 Hz and by 5 dB in the bands from 500 Hz to 10 kHz.

The following shall be ensured in habitable rooms in dwellings:

- A-weighted low-frequency noise level in the band from 10 Hz to 160 Hz, determined for the loudest 10 minutes of the given period, not greater than 20 dB in the evening and night period and not greater than 25 dB in the daytime period;
- infrasound level, expressed as the G-weighted sound level, not greater than 85 dB(G).

7.8 c) applies to the values relating to tonal components, low-frequency noise in rooms and infrasound.

NOTE A difference L_Ceq – L_Aeq greater than 20 dB, determined in a room with windows closed, indicates the need for a detailed spectral analysis. This value is not a limit value.

The requirement applies in classes S, M and L. With modifier H it is a non-excludable requirement.

Evidence of conformity:

- acoustic report with a calculation model;
- acoustic data of equipment provided by the manufacturers;
- noise level distribution map.

5.1.6 Back-up power supply and fuel store (P6)

The back-up power supply system shall be described, stating the type and number of sources, their power, the type of fuel, the quantity of stored fuel and the location of the fuel store, the planned test programme, and the emissions to air and noise during tests. In addition:

a) at least one of the following solutions shall be applied: an energy storage system as the primary back-up source; generating sets fuelled with a fuel other than fossil-derived diesel oil; generating sets equipped with a selective catalytic reduction (SCR) system and a particulate filter;

b) in generating sets with diesel engines, nitrogen oxide emissions not greater than 190 mg/Nm³ at an oxygen content of 15 % shall be ensured, irrespective of the emission standard arising from legal provisions;

c) if modifier H has been assigned to a facility — a distance of the generating sets, their exhaust outlets and the fuel store from the nearest residential building of not less than 100 m shall be ensured, and this distance shall be given in the public facility sheet;

d) generator tests shall be scheduled only on working days (3.31) between 08:00 and 18:00.

A distance smaller than that given in item c) may be applied:

- for generating sets — only where the acoustic prediction (5.1.5) for generator tests demonstrates that the limit values for the A-weighted equivalent continuous sound level specified in 5.1.5 are met at the noise assessment point for the period in which the tests are scheduled;
- for exhaust outlets — only where a calculation of the dispersion of pollutants in the air demonstrates compliance at the nearest residential building with the air quality standards and the reference values for substances in the air established under the Act of 27 April 2001 — Environmental Protection Law.

The distance of the fuel store shall not be smaller than that given in item c). The prediction, calculation and justification of the arrangement shall be attached to the site analysis (5.1.1).

The requirement applies in classes S, M and L. With modifier H it is a non-excludable requirement.

Evidence of conformity:

- technical specification of the generating sets with declared nitrogen oxide emissions;
- description of the fuel store;
- site development plan with dimensioned distances;
- generator test programme;
- in the case of a deviation from the distance given in item c) — acoustic prediction for generator tests or calculation of pollutant dispersion for exhaust outlets.

5.1.7 Readiness for waste heat recovery (P7)

In a facility with a total rated energy input (3.3) above 1 MW, a cost-benefit analysis of waste heat utilization shall be prepared, covering technical feasibility, cost-effectiveness, local heat demand taking seasons into account and the possibility of connection to a district heating network, together with cooling solutions enabling the recovery of heat at a useful temperature. It shall be demonstrated whether the facility is ready to supply waste heat within the meaning of Article 2(16) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364 as amended by Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472. The requirement also applies to existing facilities.

In other class S facilities, a simplified analysis should be prepared.

If modifier DH has been assigned to a facility, a heat recovery substation (heat exchanger, space for heat pumps, connection route) shall be designed and a written offer for heat supply shall be submitted to the heat supply company.

The requirement applies in classes M and L and in class S if the total rated energy input exceeds 1 MW. With modifier DH, the requirement concerning the substation and the offer applies in all classes.

Evidence of conformity:

- cost-benefit analysis;
- heat recovery diagram with the waste heat temperature (T_WH);

- heat supply offer and the response of the heat supply company.

5.1.8 Connection capacity plan (P8)

The contracted capacity, the phasing of the connection and a description of grid-supporting functions (load reduction, energy storage, island operation) shall be presented.

If modifier G has been assigned to a facility, a power phasing programme agreed with the system operator shall be presented and the capability of the facility to reduce load at the request of the system operator shall be demonstrated.

The requirement applies in classes M and L; in class S it is a recommendation. With modifier G it is a requirement in all classes.

Evidence of conformity:

- connection conditions;
- connection agreement;
- description of grid-supporting functions.

5.1.9 Site, greenery, rainwater and lighting (P9)

The following shall be demonstrated:

a) preservation of all existing tree stands and green belts located on the boundary with residential development, by comparing the greenery inventory with the proposed design;

b) a method of rainwater management conforming to criterion R0 of the CIRQL programme;

c) site lighting with downward-directed luminaires emitting no light above the horizontal plane, without direct illumination of windows of residential buildings.

If modifier R has been assigned to a facility, the biologically active area of the facility site (in m² and as a percentage of the facility site area) in the state before the investment and in the proposed design shall also be given, and the method of preserving or restoring ecological corridors shall be demonstrated.

The requirement applies in classes S, M and L; with modifier R the extended requirement also applies.

Evidence of conformity:

- site development design with a balance of the biologically active area;
- greenery inventory;
- external lighting design.

5.1.10 Climate risks (P10)

A climate risk analysis with a horizon up to 2050 shall be carried out, covering heat, drought, flooding and power interruptions, with an assessment of their impact on water consumption and generator operation.

The requirement applies in classes S, M and L.

Evidence of conformity:

- climate risk analysis up to 2050 with an assessment of the vulnerability of the facility and a description of adaptation measures, within the scope of criteria DC2 and R5 of the CIRQL programme.

5.1.11 Refrigerants (P11)

Refrigerants with a global warming potential (GWP) not greater than 675 shall be used.

The requirement applies in classes S, M and L; in an existing facility — to new and replaced installations.

Evidence of conformity:

- list of refrigeration installations with the type and quantity of refrigerant.

5.2 Construction and acceptance phase (B)

5.2.1 Construction nuisance (B1)

A construction nuisance mitigation plan shall be prepared and published, specifying working hours, transport routes, dust control measures, a contact point and a complaints register. Noisy works (3.33) shall not be carried out at night-time (from 22:00 to 06:00). A complaint shall be responded to within 14 days of its receipt.

The requirement applies in classes M and L; in class S it is a recommendation. With modifier H it is a requirement in all classes.

Evidence of conformity:

- published plan;
- complaints register with dates of receipt and response.

5.2.2 Acoustic acceptance testing after commissioning (B2)

After commissioning of the facility and after each extension increasing the installed IT power demand or the number of cooling units, the following shall be carried out:

a) noise measurement at the noise assessment point, during daytime and night-time, with spectral analysis in one-third-octave bands and identification of tonal components;

b) measurement of low-frequency noise in a room of the building at which the noise assessment point (3.12) is located, in the low-frequency noise assessment periods (3.16).

If the measurement according to item b) is not possible because the owner or user of the dwelling does not consent, the level in the room shall be determined by calculation, on the basis of a measurement at the façade of that building in one-third-octave bands from 10 Hz to 160 Hz and the sound insulation of the external building element with window in those bands. The sound insulation shall be taken from the building documentation or from catalogue data or test results for the given type of building element, with the source indicated in the report. The lack of consent shall be documented and the method applied shall be described in the report. 7.8 c) applies to the result of the calculation.

The measurement results are compared with the limit values specified in 5.1.5.

The measurements shall be commissioned from a laboratory accredited for environmental noise measurements.

The requirement applies in classes S, M and L. With modifier H it is a non-excludable requirement.

Evidence of conformity:

- report on measurements carried out by an accredited laboratory;

- in the case of determination by calculation — document confirming the lack of consent and description of the method.

5.2.3 Whole life cycle global warming potential of the building (B3)

The global warming potential (GWP) of the building over its life cycle shall be calculated in accordance with PN-EN 15978:2026-08, presenting IT equipment separately if it is located within the measurement boundary (3.9).

The requirement applies in classes S, M and L.

Evidence of conformity:

- calculation of the global warming potential (GWP) of the building over its life cycle in accordance with PN-EN 15978:2026-08, with IT equipment presented separately, within the scope of criterion DC3 of the CIRQL programme.

5.3 Operation phase (E) — annual assessment

5.3.1 Public facility sheet (E1)

A public facility sheet, prepared in accordance with Clause 6 and verified by a third party, shall be published annually, not later than 6 months after the end of the calendar year.

The requirement applies in classes S, M and L.

Evidence of conformity:

- published sheet;
- verification report;
- comparison with the data submitted to the European database on data centres and with the Union label of the facility.

5.3.2 Actual PUE (E2)

The annual PUE determined from meter data shall be demonstrated, stating the measurement category in accordance with PN-EN 50600-4-2 and the PUE class in accordance with Annex I to Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472.

It shall be ensured that the annual PUE does not exceed:

- in class L — 1.3;
- in class M — 1.4.

No limit value is specified for class S; the value shall be given.

In all classes it shall be ensured that the annual PUE is not higher than in the previous year. The annual PUE may increase only in the case of:

a) a decrease in the average annual IT equipment load of more than 20 % compared with the previous year;

b) a number of cooling degree days (CDD) for the facility location higher by more than 20 % than the average of the three previous years;

c) an extension in the reporting year, for a start-up period not exceeding 12 months.

The number of cooling degree days is taken in accordance with Annex II, point 1(n), of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364 as amended by Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472. The application of a deviation shall be documented with data.

The requirement applies in classes S, M and L.

Evidence of conformity:

- export of data from energy meters for the reference period;
- calculation of the indicator;
- data on load and number of cooling degree days, if a deviation has been applied.

5.3.3 Water (E3)

The annual WUE with an indication of the definition applied (3.5) and the consumption of total water, freshwater and potable water (in m³/year; average and maximum in m³/d), determined from meter data, with an indication of the water source, shall be demonstrated.

It shall be ensured that the daily consumption does not exceed the peak value declared in the draft public facility sheet (5.1.2) or, in an existing facility, in the first public facility sheet. This value may be changed only after an extension, on the basis of an updated water balance (5.1.3) published in the public facility sheet before the extension. The peak value may be exceeded only:

a) on days on which the outdoor temperature exceeded the design outdoor temperature for cooling given in the water balance (5.1.3 e)), for a total of not more than 10 days per year and by not more than 20 % above the declared peak value; these days, together with the outdoor temperature and daily consumption, shall be shown in the public facility sheet;

b) in emergency conditions (3.32) entered in the emergency condition log.

If modifier W has been assigned to a facility, potable water shall not be used for cooling outside emergency conditions; such conditions shall be shown.

The requirement applies in classes S, M and L; with modifier W the limit value for potable water also applies.

Evidence of conformity:

- water meter readings;
- invoices from the water supply company;
- emergency condition log;
- outdoor temperature data, if a deviation according to item a) has been applied.

5.3.4 Waste heat (E4)

The annual ERF, the quantity of heat supplied to the recipient (in GJ or MWh), the name of the recipient, if the recipient has consented, and the average waste heat temperature (T_WH) shall be demonstrated.

If modifier DH has been assigned to a facility, after 3 years from commissioning of the facility an ERF of not less than 0.1 in class M and 0.2 in class L shall be ensured, unless refusal by the heat supply company to accept the offer submitted according to 5.1.7 has been documented. No limit value is specified for class S; the value shall be given.

The requirement applies in classes M and L; in class S it is a recommendation. With modifier DH it is a requirement in all classes.

Evidence of conformity:

- heat delivery records;
- heat meter readings;
- agreement with the recipient or correspondence containing the refusal.

5.3.5 Renewable energy (E5)

REF shall be demonstrated together with, separately: energy from renewable energy sources on the facility site, energy from power purchase agreements for electricity from specified generating installations and energy evidenced solely by cancelled guarantees of origin, broken down consistently with the data submitted to the European database on data centres.

Renewable energy should not be evidenced solely by cancelled guarantees of origin, but also by power purchase agreements for electricity from specified generating installations or by on-site sources. The share of renewable energy balanced on an hourly basis should be demonstrated.

The requirement applies in classes S, M and L.

Evidence of conformity:

- power purchase agreements;
- documents of cancellation of guarantees of origin;
- data from meters of on-site installations.

5.3.6 Operation of generating sets (E6)

A generator operating log shall be kept, broken down into operation during mains power failure, tests and operation for other reasons, and the generator operating hours (3.18) shall be published in the public facility sheet.

It shall be ensured that the operating time of a generating set, excluding operation during mains power failure, does not exceed 50 hours per year. Generator tests shall be carried out on working days (3.31) between 08:00 and 18:00.

The requirement applies in classes S, M and L. With modifier H it is a non-excludable requirement.

Evidence of conformity:

- generator operating log;
- information on operating time submitted to the authority, if required under § 12 of the regulation on emission standards.

5.3.7 Verification measurement of noise (E7)

A verification measurement of noise shall be carried out annually at the noise assessment point at night-time, with spectral analysis in one-third-octave bands. The measurement shall also be carried out after each extension and after each noise complaint entered in the complaints register.

A register of noise complaints shall be kept — the register according to 5.2.1 or 5.3.9 or a separate register — also where requirements 5.2.1 and 5.3.9 do not apply.

A measurement after a complaint may be omitted if a measurement covering the period and the equipment to which the complaint relates was carried out not earlier than 12 months before receipt of the complaint and the number and arrangement of noise sources have not changed since then. A noise complaint may be deemed

unfounded only on the basis of the result of a measurement carried out according to this subclause.

The measurement results are compared with the limit values specified in 5.1.5.

The requirement applies in classes M and L; in class S it is a recommendation. With modifier H it is a non-excludable requirement in all classes.

Evidence of conformity:

- measurement report as in 5.2.2;
- register of noise complaints with the method of handling them and an indication of the measurement on the basis of which a complaint was deemed unfounded.

5.3.8 European Code of Conduct practices (E8)

All applicable practices designated as expected in the European Code of Conduct on Data Centre Energy Efficiency or in CLC/TR 50600-99-1:2021, Clause 5, shall be implemented, with justification for practices not implemented. Implementation shall be confirmed by verification carried out by a third party at least once every three years.

The requirement applies in classes M and L; in class S it is a recommendation.

Evidence of conformity:

- list of practices with implementation status;
- verification report.

5.3.9 Community contact and complaints (E9)

A contact point for residents, a complaints register with responses and a description of community benefits offered to the municipality or residents' representatives, such as heat supply, making land available, training, local employment or a local fund, shall be maintained. A complaint shall be responded to within 14 days of its receipt.

The requirement applies in class L; in classes S and M it is a recommendation. With modifier H it is a requirement in class M.

Evidence of conformity:

- proposal of benefits submitted to the municipality or residents' representatives together with the response and, if an agreement has been concluded, the agreement;
- complaints register with dates of receipt and response;
- annual report.

5.3.10 IT equipment and its life cycle (E10)

A register of IT equipment, a replacement and repair plan, and documents of handover of equipment for reuse or treatment shall be kept.

The requirement applies in classes S, M and L if the equipment is located within the measurement boundary (3.9).

Evidence of conformity:

- register of IT equipment, replacement and repair plan and documents of handover of equipment for reuse or treatment, within the scope of criterion DC3 of the CIRQL programme.

5.4 Summary of application of requirements

Table 3 — Application of requirements by class and siting modifier

Subclause	Requirement	S	M	L	Non-excludable with H	Applied with H	Other modifiers
5.1.1	P1	●	●	●	yes	—	H, R: alternative on developed land
5.1.2	P2	○	●	●	yes	—	—
5.1.3	P3	●	●	●	—	—	W: limit value
5.1.4	P4	●	●	●	—	—	—
5.1.5	P5	●	●	●	yes	—	—
5.1.6	P6	●	●	●	yes	—	—
5.1.7	P7	● with total rated energy input > 1 MW, otherwise ○	●	●	—	—	DH: substation and offer (●)
5.1.8	P8	○	●	●	—	—	G: ● in all classes
5.1.9	P9	●	●	●	—	—	R: extended requirement (●)
5.1.10	P10	●	●	●	—	—	—
5.1.11	P11	●	●	●	—	—	—
5.2.1	B1	○	●	●	—	● in class S	—
5.2.2	B2	●	●	●	yes	—	—
5.2.3	B3	●	●	●	—	—	—
5.3.1	E1	●	●	●	—	—	—
5.3.2	E2	●	●	●	—	—	—
5.3.3	E3	●	●	●	—	—	W: limit value
5.3.4	E4	○	●	●	—	—	DH: ● in all classes, limit value in classes M and L
5.3.5	E5	●	●	●	—	—	—
5.3.6	E6	●	●	●	yes	—	—
5.3.7	E7	○	●	●	yes	—	—
5.3.8	E8	○	●	●	—	—	—

Subclause	Requirement	S	M	L	Non-excludable with H	Applied with H	Other modifiers
5.3.9	E9	○	○	●	—	● in class M	—
5.3.10	E10	●	●	●	—	—	—

Key: ● — requirement; ○ — recommendation; "yes" — non-excludable requirement in all classes (4.3.1); "Applied with H" — requirement applied with modifier H in the class indicated in the cell, in which it is a recommendation without the modifier (4.3.2).

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6 Public facility sheet

6.1 The public facility sheet shall be published on a publicly accessible website, in Polish, in a form readable without registration. The sheet may be published on the same website on which the operator makes the Union label available. The sheet shall not be given a form imitating the Union label.

6.2 The sheet shall state at least:

a) the name and address of the facility, the name of the operator, the date of commissioning, the facility class (S, M, L) and the assigned siting modifiers with the basis for their determination;

b) the current and final installed IT power demand and the connection capacity;

c) PUE, WUE (with the definition according to 3.5), ERF and REF for the reporting year, with the measurement boundary, measurement category and reference period, as well as the PUE and WUE classes according to Annex I to Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472 and a reference to the Union label;

d) the consumption of total water, freshwater and potable water (in m³/year; average and maximum in m³/d), the water source and the days on which the peak value was exceeded according to 5.3.3, together with their cause;

e) the quantity and temperature of heat supplied to the recipient and the name of the recipient, if the recipient has consented;

f) the share of renewable energy broken down according to 5.3.5;

g) the number and power of generating sets, the type of fuel, the quantity of stored fuel and the generator operating hours according to 5.3.6;

h) the results of the last noise measurement at the noise assessment point (daytime and night-time, L_Ceq − L_Aeq, tonal components, low-frequency noise in the room or the result of the calculation according to 5.2.2) together with the date of measurement;

i) the number of complaints in the reporting year, their subject matter and the method of handling them;

j) the types of refrigerants and their GWP;

k) the contact point details;

l) an indication of the third party that verified the sheet, and the date and scope of the verification.

6.3 The data in the sheet shall be given in accordance with the data submitted to the European database on data centres. Any differences shall be explained in the sheet.

6.4 Information constituting a trade secret may be excluded from the sheet only with an indication of the type of information excluded and a justification. The exclusion does not apply to the data listed in 6.2 c), d), g) and h).

6.5 The sheet shall be published and verified annually. The verification shall compare the data in the sheet with the source data (meter readings, generator operating log, measurement reports, complaints register) on a sample determined in accordance with 7.8 d).

6.6 The public facility sheet is not a certificate. The CIRQL level shall not be stated in it.

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7 Assessment and decision

7.1 **Facility qualification.** The assessment body determines the facility site boundary and the measurement boundary, the facility class, the siting modifiers, the facility phase and the list of documents, and decides on the feasibility of the assessment. If the owner and the operator are different entities, the entity responsible for the public facility sheet shall be indicated in the application. The result of the qualification is delivered to the applicant in writing.

7.2 **Assessment.** The assessor compares the documents, calculations and measurement results with the requirements of this document. A site inspection of the facility is carried out if the documents, calculations and measurement results do not allow a decision on fulfilment of a requirement; site inspections concerning acoustic requirements are also carried out at night-time. A person who, in the period of 2 years before the qualification date or during the assessment, designed the assessed facility or provided advisory services to it within the scope covered by the assessment shall not be appointed as assessor.

7.3 **Assessment report.** For each requirement, the assessment report states: the status (fulfilled, not fulfilled, not applicable — with justification, result reported without a conformity decision in accordance with 7.8 c)), the source of evidence and the deficiencies to be remedied. Non-excludable requirements and unfulfilled recommendations are listed separately in the report.

7.4 **Decision rule.** The result of the assessment is decided by a person or committee that did not take part in the assessment. A positive result requires fulfilment of all requirements that apply to the facility according to Table 3. Non-fulfilment of any of them precludes a positive result. Non-fulfilment of a recommendation does not affect the result. A requirement that is not non-excludable is assessed as "not applicable" only in the cases specified in 1.3 and in the text of the requirement, with justification in the assessment report. Non-excludable requirements (4.3.1) are not assessed as "not applicable", are not excluded from the assessment and are not replaced by evidence other than that provided for in their text. No scoring or result levels are applied.

7.5 **Annual assessment.** Phase E requirements and the public facility sheet are assessed annually. Surveillance is conducted according to the rules established in accordance with 7.8 d).

7.6 **Complaints and appeals.** Complaints and appeals, including third-party complaints concerning a facility assessed according to this document, are handled according to the rules established in accordance with 7.8 d).

7.7 **Certificate.** The basis for issuing a CIRQL certificate for a data centre is a positive assessment result according to 7.4. The certificate is issued according to the rules of the CIRQL programme, subject to 7.8 a).

7.8 **Transitional provisions.**

a) Until the methodology is approved, no CIRQL certificates are issued. This period lasts until the date of announcement of the approved CIRQL methodology on the programme website.

b) The provisions of this document referring to Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472, to the wording of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364 as amended by that Regulation, to the Union rating scheme for data centres, to the Union label and to the PUE and WUE classes apply from the date of entry into force of Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472. Until that date they are not applied in the assessment.

c) Until the date of announcement on the programme website of the approved CIRQL methodology establishing the method for measuring and assessing tonal components and the method for determining the noise level in a room on the basis of a measurement at the façade, the limit values relating to tonal components, low-frequency noise in rooms and infrasound (5.1.5, 5.2.2, 5.3.7) do not determine the result of the assessment. The result of the prediction, measurement or calculation is given in the assessment report and shall be given in the public facility sheet as a measured or calculated value, without a decision on fulfilment of the requirement (result reported without a conformity decision), together with the limit values given in 5.1.5. During this period, fulfilment of requirements 5.1.5, 5.2.2 and 5.3.7 is determined by the performance of the prediction or measurement within the scope specified in those requirements and by meeting the limit values for the A-weighted equivalent continuous sound level.

d) The competence requirements for assessors (3.26), the method of determining the sample in the verification of the public facility sheet (6.5), the surveillance rules (7.5) and the rules for handling complaints and appeals (7.6) are specified in the approved CIRQL methodology announced on the programme website. Until the date of its announcement, the verification of the public facility sheet is carried out on the full set of source data for the given year, the assessment is not assigned to a person who does not meet the condition specified in 7.2, and complaints and appeals are handled by a person who did not take part in the assessment, within 30 days of their receipt.

Annex A (informative) Relationship between requirements and legal provisions and standards

Table A.1 — Relationship between requirements and legal provisions and standards

Subject	Legal provision or standard	Provision of this document
Scope of application by power	Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364, Annex IV — lowest size class 100–500 kW, highest above 10 MW; Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472 — voluntary participation of facilities below 500 kW in the Union rating scheme for data centres (Article 3(5) of Regulation 2024/1364 as amended)	1.2; 4.1
Power thresholds	Directive (EU) 2023/1791: Article 12(1) — obligation to make the information in Annex VII publicly available annually for facilities with an installed IT power demand of at least 500 kW, with protection of confidential information; Article 12(4) — encouragement to apply the code of conduct at a power of at least 1 MW; Article 26(6) — total rated energy input above 1 MW	3.3; 4.1; 5.1.7; 5.3.1

Subject	Legal provision or standard	Provision of this document
Siting in relation to residential development	Regulation of the Council of Ministers of 10 September 2019 on projects likely to have a significant impact on the environment (Dz.U. 2019 item 1839, as amended), § 1(2)(2) and § 3(1)(57) — service development: 2 ha or 4 ha in areas covered by a local spatial development plan, 0.5 ha or 2 ha outside them, lower thresholds in areas of nature protection forms and in their buffer zones; Act of 3 October 2008 on the provision of information on the environment and its protection, public participation in environmental protection and environmental impact assessments (Dz.U. 2026 item 670, as amended), Article 66(1)(5) — analysis of alternatives in the environmental impact assessment report	3.10; 3.11; 4.2 (H, R); 5.1.1
Public participation	Provisions of the Act referred to above on public participation — in proceedings in which it is provided for	5.1.2; 6
Water	Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364, Annex II, point 1(h)–(i) and Annex III(b); PN-EN 50600-4-9; Act of 20 July 2017 — Water Law (Dz.U. 2026 item 1335), Articles 183–185 (drought effects counteraction plan) and Article 403 (quantity of abstracted water in the water-law permit); Drought Effects Counteraction Plan (Dz.U. 2021 item 1615), maps 8 and 21	3.5; 4.2 (W); 5.1.3; 5.3.3
WUE classes	Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472, Annex I, Table 2 (WUE according to 3.5, Note 2 to entry): A: WUE ≤ 0.1; B: 0.1 < WUE ≤ 0.2; C: 0.2 < WUE ≤ 0.4; D: 0.4 < WUE ≤ 0.6; E: 0.6 < WUE ≤ 0.8; F: 0.8 < WUE ≤ 1.0; G: WUE > 1.0	5.0.3; 5.1.3; 6.2 c)
PUE	PN-EN 50600-4-2; Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364, Annex III(a)	3.4; 5.1.4; 5.3.2
PUE classes	Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472, Annex I, Table 1: A: PUE ≤ 1.15; B: 1.15 < PUE ≤ 1.25; C: 1.25 < PUE ≤ 1.35; D: 1.35 < PUE ≤ 1.5; E: 1.5 < PUE ≤ 1.7; F: 1.7 < PUE ≤ 1.9; G: PUE > 1.9	5.1.4; 5.3.2; 6.2 c)
Cooling degree days	Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364, Annex II, point 1(n), as amended by Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472 — number of cooling degree days for the facility location in the last calendar year according to the Eurostat and Joint Research Centre method, entered automatically by the European database on data centres	5.3.2 b)

Subject	Legal provision or standard	Provision of this document
Environmental noise	Regulation of the Minister of the Environment of 14 June 2007 on permissible noise levels in the environment (Dz.U. 2014 item 112), Table 1, column "other facilities and activities that are a source of noise": single-family housing — 50 dB (daytime) and 40 dB (night-time); multi-family housing and collective residence, farmstead development, recreational areas and residential and service areas — 55 dB and 45 dB; A-weighted values	3.10; 3.12; 3.16; 4.2.1; 5.1.5; 5.2.2; 5.3.7
Emissions from generating sets	Directive (EU) 2015/2193, Annex II — 190 mg/Nm³ nitrogen oxides (15 % oxygen) for new diesel engines; Regulation of the Minister of Climate of 24 September 2020 on emission standards… (Dz.U. 2020 item 1860), § 10–12 and Annex No 5 — exemptions and less stringent standards depending on the type, age, power and mode of operation of the source (§ 10(3) and § 11 — peak load sources; § 12 — gas turbines and gas engines operating in emergency situations for less than 500 hours per year); Regulation (EU) 2016/1628, Article 2(2)(d) — exclusion of stationary machinery	5.1.6; 5.3.6
Waste heat	Directive (EU) 2023/1791, Article 26(6) and (7)(d) (newly planned or substantially refurbished facilities) and Annex XI; PN-EN 50600-4-6; Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364, Article 2(16) as amended and Annex II, point 1(j)–(k); Act of 20 February 2015 on renewable energy sources (Dz.U. 2026 item 68), Article 116 — purchase of waste heat by certain undertakings within the limits of the demand of network customers	3.6; 4.2 (DH); 5.1.7; 5.3.4
Grid connection	Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364, Annex II, point 1(f) (grid-supporting functions); connection conditions of the system operator	4.2 (G); 5.1.8
Renewable energy	PN-EN 50600-4-3; Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364, Annex II and Annex III(d)	3.7; 5.3.5
Refrigerants	Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/2139, Annex I, Section 8.1, substantial contribution to climate change mitigation criteria, point 3; Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364, Annex II (reporting of refrigerant type)	5.1.11; 6.2 j)
Energy efficiency practices	Directive (EU) 2023/1791, Article 12(4); Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/2139, Annex I, Section 8.1, points 1–2; European Code of Conduct on Data Centre Energy Efficiency; CLC/TR 50600-99-1:2021, Clause 5	5.3.8

Subject	Legal provision or standard	Provision of this document
IT equipment	Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/2139, Annex I, Section 8.1 — "do no significant harm" criteria relating to the circular economy	5.3.10
Disclosure of operational data	Directive (EU) 2023/1791, Article 12(1) and (3) and Annex VII; Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364, Annexes II-III; Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472, Articles 3 and 4 and Annex II — Union label generated by 15 August 2027 and annually thereafter, publicly available in the European database; Article 4(1) and (2) — place of display of the label and prohibition of markings imitating it; Article 7 — entry into force on the twentieth day following publication in the Official Journal of the European Union	5.0.3; 5.3.1; 6; 7.8 b)

Annex B (informative) Sources of reference values

The documents listed in this annex are not binding in Poland; they are given solely as sources of reference values.

Table B.1 — Sources of reference values

Reference value	Source	Provision of this document
Scope of application of § 11: data centres with a non-redundant connected load of at least 300 kW	EnEfG, § 3 point 24 [16]	1.2
PUE ≤ 1.2 as an annual average, achieved not later than 2 years after commissioning, for facilities commissioned from 1 July 2026	Energieeffizienzgesetz (EnEfG), § 11(2) [16]	5.1.4; 5.3.2
PUE ≤ 1.5 from 1 July 2027 and PUE ≤ 1.3 from 1 July 2030 for facilities commissioned before 1 July 2026	EnEfG, § 11(1) [16]	5.3.2
ERF ≥ 10 %, 15 % and 20 % for facilities commissioned from 1 July 2026, 1 July 2027 and 1 July 2028 respectively, with the transition period and exceptions specified in that provision	EnEfG, § 11(2) point 2 and (3) [16]	5.1.7; 5.3.4
50 % of electricity from renewable sources on an accounting basis from 1 January 2024 and 100 % from 1 January 2027	EnEfG, § 11(5) [16]	5.3.5
Low-frequency noise in habitable rooms in dwellings: 20 dB between 18:00 and 07:00 and 25 dB between 07:00 and 18:00	Miljøstyrelsen, Orientering nr 9/1997 [15]	3.13; 3.16; 5.1.5
Infrasound: 85 dB(G)	Miljøstyrelsen, Orientering nr 9/1997 [15]	3.14; 5.1.5

Reference value	Source	Provision of this document
Difference L_Ceq – L_Aeq greater than 20 dB in a room with windows closed	Technische Anleitung zum Schutz gegen Lärm (TA Lärm), point 7.3 [14]	5.1.5 (note)

Bibliography

[1] Directive (EU) 2023/1791 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 September 2023 on energy efficiency and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/955 (recast) (OJ L 231, 20.9.2023) — https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2023/1791/oj

[2] Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364 of 14 March 2024 on the first phase of the establishment of a common Union rating scheme for data centres — https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2024/1364/oj

[3] Commission Delegated Regulation C(2026) 3472 of 21 September 2026 supplementing Directive (EU) 2023/1791 and amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1364; Council document 13444/26 — https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-13444-2026-INIT/en/pdf; annexes — https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-13444-2026-ADD-1/en/pdf

[4] Directive (EU) 2015/2193 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on the limitation of emissions of certain pollutants into the air from medium combustion plants (OJ L 313, 28.11.2015) — https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2015/2193/oj

[5] Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/2139 of 4 June 2021 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council by establishing the technical screening criteria for determining the conditions under which an economic activity qualifies as contributing substantially to climate change mitigation or climate change adaptation and for determining whether that economic activity causes no significant harm to any of the other environmental objectives, consolidated text as of 1 January 2026 — https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:02021R2139-20260101

[6] Regulation (EU) 2016/1628 of the European Parliament and of the Council on requirements relating to gaseous and particulate pollutant emission limits and type-approval for internal combustion engines for non-road mobile machinery — https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/1628/oj

[7] Regulation of the Minister of the Environment of 14 June 2007 on permissible noise levels in the environment (Dz.U. 2014 item 112) — https://eli.gov.pl/eli/DU/2014/112/ogl

[8] Regulation of the Minister of Climate of 24 September 2020 on emission standards for certain types of installations, fuel combustion sources and waste incineration or co-incineration plants (Dz.U. 2020 item 1860) — https://api.sejm.gov.pl/eli/acts/DU/2020/1860/text.html

[9] Act of 3 October 2008 on the provision of information on the environment and its protection, public participation in environmental protection and environmental impact assessments (Dz.U. 2026 item 670, as amended) — https://eli.gov.pl/eli/DU/2026/670/ogl

[10] Regulation of the Council of Ministers of 10 September 2019 on projects likely to have a significant impact on the environment (Dz.U. 2019 item 1839, as amended) — https://eli.gov.pl/eli/DU/2019/1839/ogl

[11] Act of 20 July 2017 — Water Law (Dz.U. 2026 item 1335) — https://eli.gov.pl/eli/DU/2026/1335/ogl

[12] Regulation of the Minister of Infrastructure of 15 July 2021 on the adoption of the Drought Effects Counteraction Plan (Dz.U. 2021 item 1615) — https://eli.gov.pl/eli/DU/2021/1615/ogl

[13] Act of 20 February 2015 on renewable energy sources (Dz.U. 2026 item 68), Article 116 — https://eli.gov.pl/api/acts/DU/2026/68/text/U/D20260068Lj.pdf

[14] Technische Anleitung zum Schutz gegen Lärm (TA Lärm) of 26 August 1998, amended 1 June 2017, point 7.3 — https://www.verwaltungsvorschriften-im-internet.de/bsvwvbund_26081998_IG19980826.htm

[15] Miljøstyrelsen, Orientering nr. 9/1997 "Lavfrekvent støj, infralyd og vibrationer i eksternt miljø" — https://mst.dk/media/srfbag24/lavfrakvent_stoej_infralyd_og_vibrationer_ekstern_miljoe_1997.pdf

[16] Energieeffizienzgesetz (EnEfG) of 13 November 2023, BGBl. 2023 I Nr. 309, § 3 point 24 and § 11 — https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/enefg/__11.html