

**Question for written answer E-004236/2026  
to the Commission**  
Rule 144  
**Lynn Boylan (The Left)**

Subject: Energy security and data centres

Data centres risk widespread blackouts in Ireland. The Irish Commission for Regulation of Utilities has warned that the behaviour of data centres that fail to ride through faults ‘could result in widespread cascading trips of demand and generation, leading to network outages, and exposing all consumers’ in Ireland, north and south of the border, ‘to the risk of a significant incident’<sup>1</sup>. The maximum demand loss that can be securely accommodated is 900 MW. In June 2026 Ireland surpassed that safe limit.

Looming blackouts aside, the measures adopted to manage the system below that threshold ‘have direct negative impacts on costs to consumers’<sup>2</sup> in part because the ‘delivery of new grid infrastructure will additionally increase costs for consumers’<sup>3</sup>. They also negatively impact Ireland’s renewable targets.

1. Given the threat of an electricity crisis, can the Commission confirm that the competent authority issued an early warning?
2. How should the costs of mitigation measures be shared between the data centres responsible for the risk and all consumers?
3. Do the measures that are planned and have already been taken to prevent, prepare for and mitigate electricity crises comply with the rules governing the internal electricity market and system operation pursuant to the Risk-Preparedness Regulation?

Submitted: 16.10.2026

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cru.ie/en-ie/publications/29222/>.

<sup>2</sup> [ibid.](#)

<sup>3</sup> [https://consult.cru.ie/en/system/files/flipbook\\_pdf/CRU202704%20Grid%20Code%20Modification%20MPID%20345%20and%20Compliance%20and%20Derogation%20Framework%20Request%20for%20Further%20Representations\\_0.pdf](https://consult.cru.ie/en/system/files/flipbook_pdf/CRU202704%20Grid%20Code%20Modification%20MPID%20345%20and%20Compliance%20and%20Derogation%20Framework%20Request%20for%20Further%20Representations_0.pdf).