WIND ENERGY IRELAND

Wind Energy

Expo Ireland 2025

Building the future of energy

Exhibitor Floor Plan INSIDE

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Wind Energy
Expo Ireland 2025

Contents:

FOREWORD

Noel Cunniffe
CEO

We are gathering in Dublin for our third Wind Energy Expo after a tough 12 months for the global renewable energy industry.

In the United States, an administration committed to the energies of the past has weaponised the legal system to try to block new wind and solar projects.

Europe has had two unsuccessful offshore auctions this year while across the continent we struggle with the challenge of building at speed while facing supply-chain challenges.

But while the challenges are real, the transition to a global economy based on clean renewables is inevitable. Investment in electrotech is now twice that for fossil fuels. Wind, solar and batteries are getting more efficient and more affordable. The question for industry and policymakers is how do we accelerate?

This year's auctions

Five wind farms, totalling 219 MW, won contracts in last month's onshore auction, confirming again wind energy's position as the most affordable source of new generation in Ireland. That means more clean, affordable and secure power for Irish families and businesses.

However, the small size of the auction meant other projects missed out and an opportunity was lost to get a much bigger volume of clean power onto the electricity system by the end of 2030.

While the focus from Government on offshore wind energy is important, and we are confident of a successful auction for the 900 MW Tonn Nua site next month, there is a sense of a lack of ambition for onshore wind.

We have the pipeline of projects with planning consent, and many more in the planning system, to be connecting much more. Grid connections need to be sped up and our auction design can be improved with longer contracts and full indexation to bring down prices for consumers.

Bigger ambition

For any project looking to connect by 2030 next year's auction is possibly the last opportunity to get a contract under the RESS. Industry is ready to work with Minister O'Brien TD to ensure the 2026 auction is one of the biggest to date and delivers at the right price for Irish electricity consumers.

That's the kind of ambition we need to see and which would build on the work already done by this Government to support the development of renewable energy.

The announcement earlier this year of an investment of €3.5 billion in our electricity grid was transformative and we are confident the regulator will soon approve additional network investment.

Work is underway on a national map for new offshore wind sites and we are seeing improvements in the planning system. The pace of change is too slow and too cautious but is moving in the right direction.

The decision by the Taoiseach to set up a Clearing House on offshore wind energy – though it should be expanded to cover onshore wind as well – means the issue is on the agenda of the country's top policymakers and officials.

Our job as industry is to keep a relentless focus on building as quickly and as affordably as we can, to work alongside, and to build alliances with, those who share our goal of an Ireland that will shape our own energy destiny.

Remember, we are inevitable.

Meet our exhibitors

Minister Darragh O'Brien

writes for Wind Energy Expo Ireland 2025 magazine

I am delighted to be part of Wind Energy Expo Ireland 2025. My thanks to Noel Cunniffe, the CEO of Wind Energy Ireland (WEI) and his team for organising this important industry showcase, especially at what is an eventful time for wind energy in Ireland.

The National Designated Maritime Area Plan (DMAP) Proposal and Public Participation Statement were published last month, while the state's second offshore wind auction is currently underway for the 900MW Tonn Nua site that is part of the South Coast Designated Maritime Area Plan. These notable milestones reaffirm the government's commitment to advancing our indigenous offshore wind industry.

As offshore wind prepares to take its place as a cornerstone of the transition in the future, government are committed to accelerating deployment of onshore renewables. The Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) has played a pivotal role. As auctions have progressed, investor confidence has grown due to ongoing commitments by Government to an annual programme of auctions, improvements in auction design, planning, permitting, and grid connections processes, contributing to steady deployment.

With a fresh pipeline of onshore wind projects permitted last year and currently being processed through the Enduring Connection Policy (ECP) 2.5 process, I expect onshore wind to feature strongly in our next planned RESS auction in 2026.

In recent months, regional renewable electricity capacity allocations for onshore wind and solar PV were included in Ireland's Revised National Planning Framework, marking a critical step towards achieving Ireland's ambitious national renewable electricity targets. Given the complementary nature which exists between wind and solar generation, developing our solar capacity, in tandem with onshore and offshore wind, will ensure we can generate clean electricity all year round.

For offshore, the National DMAP will designate sufficient maritime areas to deliver at least 15GW, which combined with five Phase One projects, and capacity identified in the South Coast DMAP will deliver our ambition of 20GW by 2040. Developing a single ORE DMAP will accelerate the mapping process for longer-term ORE development and provide greater certainty for all marine stakeholders. We hope to adopt this national DMAP by the end of 2027, enabling some of the State's largest strategic infrastructure projects over the coming decades.

Earlier this year, I invited Wind Energy Ireland to join meetings of our two renewable electricity taskforces, the Offshore Wind Delivery Taskforce and the Accelerating Renewable Electricity Taskforce, which are made up of officials from relevant government departments and State Bodies working together to accelerate renewable electricity generation delivery.

The announcement of the Offshore Wind Energy Clearing House in September by the Taoiseach further underlines this Government's unwavering commitment to a clean energy future. The Clearing House will supplement and support the existing work of the Offshore Wind Delivery Taskforce and provide an important new forum for issues to be elevated for consideration at the highest level of Government.

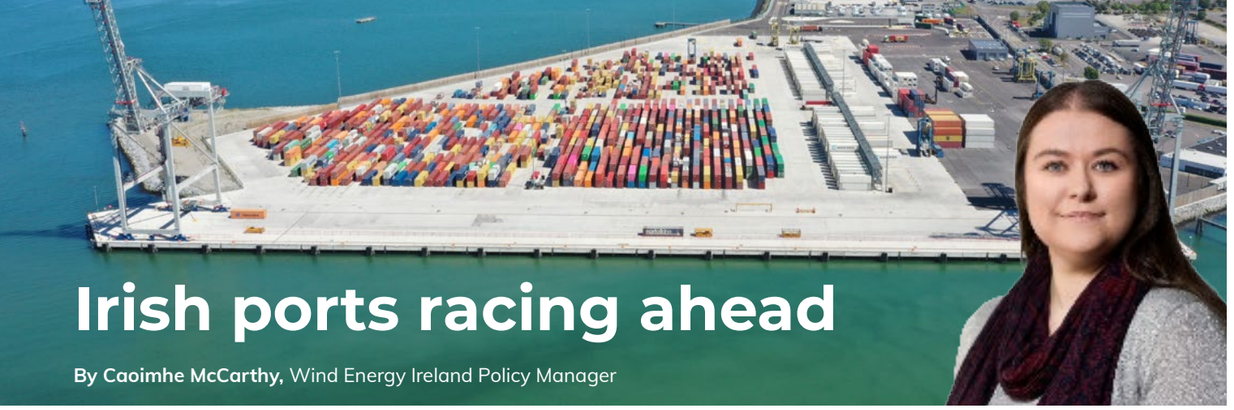
As the state looks to roll-out offshore wind, the Phase One projects with a combined capacity of 3,800 megawatts will make a sizeable contribution to our energy and climate targets. Subject to planning decisions, we expect to see these projects entering construction by 2030 and energised as soon as feasible thereafter.

Following the Tonn Nua auction, I will look to bring forward the remaining three sites within the South Coast DMAP. This will ensure a consistent pipeline of offshore developments will take place over the coming years. I am working with industry and stakeholders to identify the most optimal routes to market for these development areas.

Renewable electricity presents the opportunity and challenge of our time. Ireland is not immune from the external factors which have affected the sector globally. Progress towards delivery of a renewables-based electricity system will not always be linear. There will inevitably be setbacks along the way.

However, Ireland is not stepping back from its renewables ambition and delivery of our long-term renewable energy targets. The Programme for Government 2025 includes a commitment to develop a comprehensive plan to accelerate energy generation, connectivity, and delivery to support new industry. The Government is acutely aware of energy infrastructure constraints, which may have been a barrier to development in specific locations for specific types of industrial investment. To address this, as part of the National Development Plan, the Government has approved a landmark €3.5 billion investment in Ireland's electricity grid infrastructure during 2026 to 2030.

The formation of the Offshore Wind Energy Clearing House and the inclusion of regional renewable electricity capacity allocations in Ireland's Revised National Planning Framework are further proof. They are important signals of this Government's commitment to wind energy, confirming Ireland as a stable and attractive location for continued investment in renewable energy.



Irish ports racing ahead

By Caoimhe McCarthy, Wind Energy Ireland Policy Manager

While the pace of delivery of offshore wind energy is slower than might have been hoped our ports round-up shows Ireland's ports are racing ahead to ensure the infrastructure is ready in time for the first offshore turbines.

Port of Cork

A year on from the announcement of an €88.5 million partnership between the Port of Cork and the Irish Strategic Investment Fund (ISIF) and work is well underway.

The investment will fund a major expansion of the site and facilities at the Cork Container Terminal. It means Cork will become the first port in the Republic of Ireland capable of hosting the large-scale storage and assembly needed for offshore wind projects.

The Port of Cork has already secured planning permission to proceed with these developments and construction has started on a new 200-metre long deepwater berth at Ringaskiddy East.

This will provide the length, depth and load-bearing capabilities required by to build large-scale offshore wind farms in the Irish and Celtic seas.

Waterford

The Port of Waterford has ambitious plans for a €40 million quay extension at its Belview terminal. This is aiming to position the south-east as a key hub to support Ireland's offshore renewable energy sector.

The Port received its MAC in June and has since lodged a planning application for a 250-metre extension to the existing quay, alongside significant supporting infrastructure, including land reclamation, operator support facilities and berthing pontoons.

Once completed, these facilities will serve as an operations and maintenance base for offshore wind farms in the Celtic Sea.

Belfast

Earlier this year, Belfast Harbour unveiled ambitious plans for a 50-acre offshore wind terminal. The new facility is expected to be developed by 2028 and will support the assembly, maintenance and shipping of the next generation of offshore wind turbines.

The development will take place in phases, the first of which will see the construction of a new deepwater berth, already underway, following a £90 million investment by Belfast Harbour.

The next phase will see the terminal further reinforced to handle the next generation of offshore wind turbines. This will also enable the provision of shore power facilities at the site, so that vessels can run on clean energy while docked.

Belfast Harbour has further shown its commitment to supporting the delivery of offshore wind by entering into an innovative collaboration with the Port of Cork, to enable the transformative potential of the offshore renewable sector across the island of Ireland.

Rosslare

Rosslare Europort has announced plans to establish the port, its hinterland and the south-east region as Ireland's ORE Hub, with the potential to create up to 2,000 jobs.

They aim to deliver the key infrastructure required to serve the various stages of offshore wind project development including marshalling, assembly and load-out of key components, as well as operation and maintenance.

The key infrastructural elements of the project include: land reclamation of circa 21 hectares from the sea; a heavy lift berth of up to 330m long will be created to accommodate ORE installation vessels and a second 240m long berth for foundation and wind turbine components.

Rosslare Europort is set to lodge a planning application with An Coimisiún Pleanála this Autumn.

Shannon Foynes

Shannon-Foynes Port Company has set out ambitious plans in their Vision 2041 Masterplan, to ensure their ports are ready to facilitate the construction and operational requirements of the offshore renewables sector.

In late 2024 SFPC unveiled a new jetty expansion and logistics park. The record €32 million investment, co-funded by SFPC and the EU's Connecting Europe Facility, is a key enabler of the long-term ambition to establish the estuary as a global floating offshore wind hub and a freight logistics cluster.

Following this project, SFPC has applied for a MAC, to be followed by a planning application, for the development of a new 800m deep-water facility, which would provide 18.5m water depth at low tide. The development of this terminal is expected in 2031/2032.

Unlocking Land for Ireland's Renewable Future

An interview with John McGarry, Director, LP3

LP3 is an Irish-based services provider working exclusively in renewables. The team specialises in site identification, land acquisition and early-stage project management. They help to bridge the gap between landowners, developers and communities. We spoke to LP3's director, John McGarry.

Q: What does LP3 do?

A: LP3 is a new professional services provider supporting the early stages of renewable development. We identify suitable sites, secure land, and manage the development activities. Our engagement services are split between land and community liaison – representing developers in conversations that require both clarity and trust.

Our Land Managers have already delivered over 500 option agreements for developers. We have been engaged by more than 20 clients across Ireland and there are megawatts in the national pipeline today because of the work we do.

Some clients engage us for specific, one-off, requirements – for example, a cable route or turbine delivery route. Others have asked us to create and establish entire portfolios of projects, many of which are active today and contributing to Ireland's renewable pipeline.

With a team of 18 staff, comprising GIS, land and project management professionals we combine expertise and scale while keeping a people-first approach at the core of how we work.

Q: How has land acquisition changed in the last decade?

A: Turbine dimensions are increasing and, while this looks exciting on financial models, it also brings complexity. Larger turbines require additional landowners. That makes specialist engagement crucial.

Also, because of the "four times tip-height" practice included in the draft guidelines, there are volumes of sites not being developed today that could accommodate slightly smaller turbines.

If developers work with 150m tip heights, a tranche of viable projects could be unlocked. LP3 has a strong sense of where these opportunities are and we are ready to help secure them.

Q: Where do you see opportunity for developers?

A: Time is the real advantage. Option agreements expire and developers can now accept risks that a previously less favourable policy environment might not have allowed.

Q: What does LP3 do best?

A: Deliver results. There is no shortage of an appetite for more, but because there are many constraints to navigate, it means developers need to accept higher risks than before. Our role is to manage those risks and help time development activities to ensure successful outcomes.

Q: What would you say to Government as a priority message?

A: Landowners are the gatekeepers of Ireland's renewable future. If they lack confidence in the process, they will not sign agreements. Government can help by providing greater clarity on the implications of signing options. A clear, consistent, framework would give landowners – and the developers who depend on them – the confidence to commit.

Q: What is your message to the industry?

A: LP3 is here to help. We want to partner with developers and landowners to maintain Ireland's development pipeline.

For more information on LP3's work in renewables, visit **www.lp3.ie.**

Momentum building for offshore wind energy

By Caoimhe McCarthy, Wind Energy Ireland Policy Manager

Earlier this year, Wind Energy Ireland published the Offshore Wind Action Plan. This sets out 24 recommended actions to be prioritised by both Government and the offshore wind industry over 2025 and 2026 to support and accelerate the delivery of offshore wind in Ireland.

Five months on from the publication of the Plan, we have seen progress with a number of the actions set out under four key areas:

1. Delivery of the Phase One projects;

All five Phase One projects are now in the planning system, having submitted their applications during 2024 and early 2025. Most of the projects have now received Requests for Further Information from An Coimisiún Pleanála as part of the planning process and are working to respond to these as soon as possible, to progress the projects through the process to planning determinations, expected in 2026.

Over the summer of 2025, the Taoiseach convened an ORE Forum with industry and key Government and State agency representatives, to discuss the key barriers to offshore wind delivery in Ireland. This was to help inform the Government's considerations for the establishment of a Clearing House, which will operate to address identified impediments to the timely delivery of Ireland's offshore renewable energy sector. Supporting and reinforcing the work of the existing Offshore Wind Delivery Taskforce, this newly established Offshore Wind Energy Clearing House will focus on tackling issues which require an additional high-level intervention from the centre of Government."

2. Maximising the South Coast DMAP;

Ireland's second dedicated offshore wind auction, ORESS Tonn Nua, commenced with pre-qualification in September 2025. Auction bidding will take place in November, which will award a contract in early December, to develop a 900 MW offshore wind farm off the south coast within Ireland's first DMAP.

Following Tonn Nua, DCEE are expected to provide further clarity before the end of 2025, on the next development opportunities within the SC-DMAP area. Three other sites were identified in the SC-DMAP process, alongside the site now allocated for Tonn Nua, and work has been underway to determine the optimum route-to-market opportunities to develop these sites.

3. Enabling the industry's future via the National DMAP process;

In early 2025, the Government announced plans for the next DMAP to follow the one for the south-coast. To support the visibility and acceleration of future opportunities to develop offshore wind, a national DMAP will be developed. It will identify sites right around the coast of Ireland (east, south and west coasts) and significant capacity to enable future ORE development over the next 15+ years and support Ireland's 20 GW offshore wind target for 2040.

The National DMAP proposal was officially launched on 12 September, which outlined what the DMAP will seek to achieve in high-level terms. Environmental assessments will commence at an early stage to help inform the identification of the specific geographic locations within Ireland's maritime area where ORE, both fixed and floating offshore wind, may be pursued.

It is expected that significant pre-draft consultation will be undertaken in 2026 with a range of stakeholders, particularly in respect of proposed spatial designations for ORE and the development of associated policy objectives. The draft National DMAP will be published for consultation in early 2027, to then be revised and finalised by the end of 2027.

4. Building the enablers – grid and demand.

Ensuring future sites that are identified as suitable for ORE development have a viable route-to-market will be critical as the National DMAP is developed.

The work ongoing in relation to sites B-D of the SC-DMAP is investigating those route-to-market options, including an assessment of future grid capacity in the southeast region, as well as wider demand growth.

Significant additional investment in Ireland's grid infrastructure was announced in Budget 2025, as well as more recently via the National Development Plan.

DCEE are due to consult shortly on the development of an Offshore Transmission Strategy for Ireland, while EirGrid are developing a longer-term Net-Zero Network Strategy to be consulted on early next year. The outcome of the EU Grid Package will be important to factor into the final development of both strategies to ensure broader alignment and coordination.

In relation to demand, alongside the assessment of grid capacity for the southeast, it will be important to develop a demand strategy for the region. Regional demand strategies will also need to be considered around Ireland's coastal areas as the National DMAP progresses its development as well.

DETE will be consulting on the next iteration of the offshore wind industrial strategy towards the end of 2025. It is anticipated that the next version of this strategy, to be published over the first half of 2026, will be broadened out and take a more holistic approach to focus on wider green industrial demand growth.

Conclusion

Our Offshore Wind Action Plan continues to be the blueprint for how we overcome the challenges our industry is facing and build momentum behind the development of offshore wind energy in Ireland.

It has been warmly received by various State agencies and other key stakeholders, including Minister O'Brien, and the Wind Energy Ireland team is focused on working the with various Government bodies, particularly the Offshore Wind Delivery Task-force to make it a reality.

We are now in a decisive window. If we want offshore wind to play a central role in lowering consumer energy bills, securing Ireland's energy independence and cutting carbon emissions, we need a clear pathway forward.

That means removing barriers, resourcing delivery and creating certainty for investors. The actions laid out in the plan will de-risk investment, accelerate planning and grid processes and ensure that critical infrastructure such as ports and grid access are available in time.

The potential for offshore wind to transform Ireland's energy system, economy and climate impact is enormous. But time is short. What we decide to do in the next 12 months will determine whether we have boats in the water constructing wind farms in 2030 and whether 2040 targets remain within reach.

Build our Grid

Why Ireland Needs a Stronger Electricity Network Now

Ireland's electricity grid is the backbone of our energy system. It is a vast network of underground cables, overhead lines and substations that carries power from where it is generated, whether by a wind farm, solar farm or fossil fuel power station, to homes, businesses and communities across the island.

Our grid was designed for the energy system of the twentieth century, dominated by large fossil fuel power plants. Renewable energy has different needs. It is cleaner and cheaper, but also more variable. It requires a more flexible, modern grid capable of moving power efficiently from where it is produced to where it is needed.

Right now, our existing infrastructure is not strong enough. Last year 14 per cent of Ireland's cheapest renewable electricity was lost because the grid couldn't take it. That is the equivalent of losing all the power used in counties Leitrim, Longford, Roscommon, Carlow, Monaghan, Sligo, Offaly, Laois and Cavan combined. To make up the shortfall, expensive and polluting fossil fuels are burned instead.

If we are serious about achieving a zero-carbon electricity system, we must strengthen the grid so it can carry 100 per cent clean, renewable power. EirGrid and ESB Networks have both published plans to reinforce the network over the coming decade. These projects are vital, but even if they are all delivered on time, Ireland would still emit more than 70 million tonnes of carbon over the next ten years. We cannot stop there.

The Build Our Grid campaign brings together people, businesses and organisations across Ireland to send a clear message to policymakers: our electricity network must be upgraded urgently. Without this, we will continue to waste renewable energy, remain exposed to volatile fossil fuel prices and fall short of our climate targets.

One of the biggest barriers to grid investment in the past has been a lack of political support. That is why public backing is essential. Every pledge of support helps show decision makers in every constituency that the people of Ireland want immediate and ambitious action.

A stronger, smarter electricity grid will mean cleaner air, lower bills and greater energy security for everyone in Ireland. The climate crisis is not a distant threat; it is here now. The choices we make today will shape the kind of energy system we have for decades to come.

To get involved, visit **BuildOurGrid.ie** and sign the pledge. Add your voice to the growing movement for a cleaner, more affordable and more secure electricity system for all.

Energy Storage is Ready to Deliver

By Bobby Smith, Head of Energy Storage Ireland

Energy Storage Ireland's (ESI) 2025 pipeline survey highlights the strong growth potential of the energy storage sector in Ireland and Northern Ireland, with nearly 10 GW of storage in development.

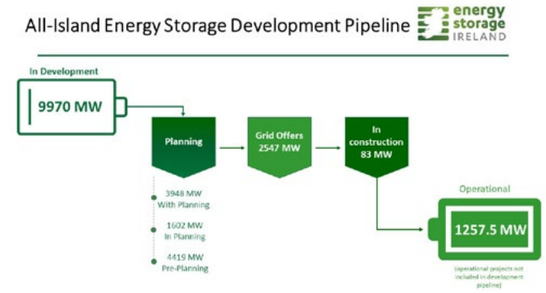
ESI surveyed its members using a standard template to gather information on the energy storage pipeline in Ireland and Northern Ireland. The results were gathered and checked against sources such as the ECP batch lists, EirGrid & ESBN contracted projects, SONI connections register and capacity market publications.

In total there are 155 projects in the pipeline, totalling 9970 MW in development with the majority made up of lithium-ion batteries ranging from two to eight hours in duration and some new storage technologies such as CO_2 and iron-air batteries ranging from 10 to 100 hours duration respectively.

The pipeline results demonstrate the capacity in the storage sector and potential build-out but are not a prediction of what will happen. Indeed, the survey showed that the route to market for the majority of the pipeline is still uncertain with many citied the lack of a specific long-duration storage procurement scheme on the island of Ireland.

This is why it is so important that policy makers address the revenue uncertainty challenges facing storage developers and put in place support schemes, similar to the Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) for wind and solar, to incentivise the development of long-duration storage assets. These assets are needed to minimise dispatch down, support the grid, reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and cut Ireland's carbon emissions.

Ireland's electricity storage policy framework mandates the establishment of these support mechanisms by both ESB Networks and EirGrid. We need to see these established urgently to provide investment certainty for the developing energy storage pipeline.



The following is clear from our 2025 pipeline results:

- The industry is ready to deliver.
- The technologies exist today or are developing rapidly with lithium-ion, CO2 and iron air batteries included in our results.
- However, uncertainty on the route to market is the main constraint at present.
- Industry has shown in the past it can deliver, as it did under the DS3 system services framework with 1 GW of storage deployed since 2020.
- We need policy to move faster on areas such as energy market access, network charging reform and LDES procurement. It is a timing issue as we know energy storage will be needed in large volumes but industry will not wait around forever.
- To build a secure, independent, clean, and affordable energy system, energy storage is essential.

You can read the full pipeline report on our website **www.energystorageireland.com**

Micro-credentials

Unlocking Innovation with Green Tech Skillnet Micro-credentials

Partnering with universities and industry through our Skills Advisory Groups, we develop accredited, cutting-edge programmes tailored to modern workforce needs across sectors like marine, environmental, HV/Energy Storage, and Wind Turbine Technology.

The Power of Micro Credentials

Our micro-credentials offer accredited upskilling and reskilling in high-demand areas. These stand-alone stackable qualifications, recognised internationally through ECTS credits, allow you to learn at your own pace and progress towards larger qualifications like diplomas or master's degrees in related fields. We've partnered with leading institutions—SETU, Atlantic Technological University, University of Limerick, and University College Dublin—to deliver practical, industry-focused programmes.

Current FD – Co-Creation Programmes Include:

October '25	Environmental Impact Assessments for Onshore Wind Farms
October '25	Electrical Grid Engineering, Analysis and Modelling
January '26	Fundamentals of Modern Energy Storage Solutions
January '26	Power Systems Dynamics and Control
January '26	Energy Economics and Policy
January '26	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA)
January '26	Onshore Ornithology
January '26	Grid Infrastructure Operation, Protection and Transients
September '26	Electricity Grid Operation
September '26	Certificate in High Voltage Electrical Systems
September '26	Diploma in Renewable Energy Systems
September '26	Decarbonising Energy; Technology, Policy and Practice

Universities are also encouraged to propose courses addressing industry skill gaps.

Get Involved

Help shape the future of renewable energy and sustainability.
Join our **Skills Advisory Groups** or propose new initiatives.
Contact **jeanette.gill@windenergyireland.com** to learn more.

Green Tech Skillnet is co-funded by Skillnet Ireland and network companies. Skillnet Ireland is funded from the National Training Fund and the European Union through the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science.

Rialtas na hÉireann Government of Ireland

Co-funded by the European Union

A New Career in Renewable Energy Awaits

In 2021, Green Tech Skillnet developed the innovative Skills Connect training and work placement programmes aimed at helping jobseekers transition into the energy sector. These programmes earned the Learning and Development Institute award for Best Talent Development Initiative in 2022.

Work in Renewables

The **Work in Renewables** programme delivers a wide array of training covering the lifecycle of a wind farm, an overview of onshore and offshore wind; renewable energy grid, policy, planning, markets; community engagement, and environmental impact management. The graduates of the Work in Renewables programme also obtain certification in the fundamentals of asset management for wind farms for ISO 55001 standards.

Programme Outline

Personal Development Coaching
CV Development and Competency Interviews
Workplace Resilience
Communication and Interpersonal Effectiveness
Introduction to Terminology & Foundational Understanding
Industry Introduction to Onshore and Offshore Wind
Lifecycle of a Wind Farm
Introduction to Asset Management
Workshop with Industry Experts
Bespoke and In-depth Industry Overview Modules
Electricity Grid Policy for Renewables
Electricity Market Policy for Renewables
Planning Systems for Renewable Energy
Offshore Wind
Communications and Public Affairs in Ireland
Biodiversity and Environmental Management

Interested in hosting an intern or a technician?

CVs are available on request. We can also facilitate an introductory meeting or interview with candidates in advance of the work placement starting to ensure best fit. Please contact **Training@greentechskillnet.com**

Wind Turbine Technician

The **Wind Turbine Technician** programme delivers a suite of Global Wind Organisation (GWO) safety and technical certified training, wind sector overview and personal development skills workshops. Technicians obtain the GWO certificates required to go out on site after training.

Programme Outline

Personal Development Coaching
CV and Interview Skills
Effective Communication and Resilience in the Workplace
Introduction to Terminology & Foundational Understanding
Turbine Awareness Training
Workshop with Technicians Working in the Industry and Industry Experts
Globally Recognised Certified Health & Safety and Technical Training
GWO Basic Safety Training (BST)
GWO Basic Technical Training (BTT)
GWO Advanced Rescue, Hub, Spinner, and Inside Blade Rescue (ART-H)
Wind Turbine Safety Rules (WTSR)
Slinger Signaller
Enhanced First Aid

Solar PV Installer

The Irish solar industry is booming, and the demand for skilled **Solar PV Installers** is rapidly growing. Employers are struggling to fill these roles due to a lack of available skilled candidates. This programme is aimed at addressing this acute skills shortage, while providing learners with the opportunity to build a meaningful and durable career. The bootcamp is a 6-week programme, completed in person and online.

Programme Outline

Personal Development Coaching
Teamwork Skills and Personal Responsibility
Adaptability and Proactiveness
CV Development and Mock Interviews
Support with Job Search and Application
Solar PV Installation
Solar PV Technology and System Components
Performance Factors and Efficiency
Installation Planning and Regulations
Installation Techniques and Maintenance
System Design, Testing, and Feasibility Studies
Health and Safety
Solar Manual Handling
Solar Fire Awareness
Solar Basic First Aid
Solar Work at Heights

Best Talent Development Initiative Winner

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Rialtas na hÉireann Government of Ireland

Co-funded by the European Union

We're here to recruit you!
Tackling the shortage in EIA experts

By Jeanette Gill, Development Specialist, Green Tech Skillnet.

Ireland's push for energy security and climate action has accelerated the development of renewable energy projects, including onshore/offshore wind, solar, grid, and energy storage. However, this rapid expansion has exposed a critical shortage of skilled professionals in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), from ecologists to planners. This gap threatens to delay projects and undermine national climate and biodiversity goals.

To address this, Ireland has adopted a sectoral response through Green Tech Skillnet and the Skillnet Offshore Wind Academy, government-backed initiatives targeting renewable energy skills. Central to this effort is the Environmental Skills Advisory Group, a voluntary panel of experts from industry, government and academia. This group guides the development of agile, employer-informed training tailored to real project needs.

In 2024, two micro credentials were co-designed with the University of Limerick and University of Galway: "EIA for Onshore Wind farms" and "Environmental Impact Assessment of Marine Renewable Energy Developments." These practical, workplace-focused programmes are the first of their kind in Ireland and are already equipping professionals with essential expertise.

Recognising that technical training alone isn't enough, Ireland also launched its first EIA Conference focused on Renewables in March 2025. Sparked by a meeting at the IAIA Conference in Dublin and inspired by Scotland's national EIA event, the conference was developed in partnership with FothergillTC, Green Tech Skillnet, and the Offshore Wind Academy. It attracted over 130 professionals from across the sector — ecologists, planners, Government bodies, NGOs, and developers — and sold out in under three hours.

Under the theme "Effective EIA for Our Renewable Energy Goals," the conference tackled real-world challenges such as streamlining scoping, improving report proportionality, and building capacity across agencies. The strong presence of statutory bodies and government departments underscored a shared urgency: without closing the EIA skills gap, Ireland's energy transition risks stalling.

Building on this momentum, the advisory group approved two new micro credentials for 2026: one in Ornithology and another in Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA). These will complement the existing EIA courses, continuing the emphasis on practical, field-based learning for professionals already shaping Ireland's planning and environmental landscape.

The appetite for action remains strong, with the 2026 EIA in Renewables Conference already booked. Ireland's approach demonstrates that when industry and academia collaborate under structured frameworks like Skillnet Ireland, scalable and responsive solutions to workforce gaps can be rapidly developed.

As Mark Ruane, Head of Renewable Energy Skills at Wind Energy Ireland, notes:

"This work is about more than just filling gaps. It's about building a workforce ready to enable the energy transition while safeguarding our natural environment. When those closest to EIA challenges define the skills needed, we shape better education and build capacity for solutions-focused assessment essential to delivering renewable energy projects."

Ultimately, solving environmental skills shortages is not just about technical training — it's about systems, partnerships, and people. EIA professionals are not merely assessors of impact; they are enablers of the renewable future Ireland urgently needs.

It's Time to Electrify Ireland

By Helen O'Sullivan, Chair of Ireland Electrified.

Over the past few decades, Ireland has moved from relying almost entirely on fossil fuels to getting more of our energy from renewable sources like wind and solar.

Our use of renewable electricity has also increased, reaching around 40 per cent of demand in 2024. The goal is to double that by 2030 under the Government's Climate Action Plan.

As Ireland generates more renewable electricity, it is vital that we use it. Electrification means heating our homes and powering our industries and transport with increasingly clean Irish energy.

Building a competitive economy

Electrifying our heating and transport systems is essential to building a resilient, low-carbon and competitive economy.

That is why we established Ireland Electrified - an association dedicated to championing a cleaner and more secure energy future for families and businesses across the island of Ireland. Electrification is about more than just using clean electricity to power our businesses, homes and transport. It makes sense to benefit from one of our best indigenous resources. It saves money, protects the environment and creates green jobs and investment at home.

The technology is here, the benefits are real, and every step we take to electrify makes Ireland healthier, safer and more energy secure.

Electrification Action Plan

To bring this vision to life, Ireland needs a clear roadmap, which is why we are working with our members to develop an Electrification Action Plan for Ireland. It will identify the policies, investment and infrastructure needed to rapidly scale up the use of clean electricity across all sectors.

We have also started work on a comprehensive response to the EU Commission's consultation on an electrification plan for Europe, giving our members an opportunity to shape policy here in Ireland and further afield.

Inviting you to Annual Conference

More businesses are electrifying their heating and cooling processes. More families are choosing EVs. Our members are driving this momentum across the country and we are excited to welcome new members to help drive it even further.

We would be delighted if you can join us at our next **Annual Conference in Croke Park on 4 December 2025** to help power the change. More details and tickets will be available soon at **www.irelandelectrified.ie/events.**

Helen O' Sullivan,
Chairperson of Ireland Electrified.

Powering Ireland's Green Future:
Upskilling for Offshore Wind

By Rachael McFarlane, Manager of Skillnet Offshore Wind Academy

Skillnet Offshore Wind Academy

Ireland's offshore wind sector is expanding rapidly - and so is the need for skilled professionals to support its growth. That's where the Skillnet Offshore Wind Academy comes in.

Developed by Skillnet Ireland in partnership with Wind Energy Ireland, the Academy has launched a suite of university-accredited micro-credential courses designed to equip professionals with the specialised skills needed to thrive in this exciting industry. Each course is crafted to remove barriers to entry, offering accessible pathways into an industry set to transform Ireland's energy landscape.

At the recent launch, Minister James Lawless TD described the initiative as "best-in-class example of practical, demand-led training aligned with the needs of employers and the Irish economy."

These short, targeted courses are ideal for professionals new to the sector or working in related fields who want to transition into offshore wind. Through micro-credentials, professionals are empowered to upskill and transition into high-demand roles within offshore wind energy. This year, the Academy is focusing on priority roles aligned with Ireland's development stages of offshore wind, including Ornithologists, Geophysicists, GIS Technicians, Resource Analysts, Offshore Project Managers, EIA Managers, and HV Technicians.

Rachael McFarlane, Manager of Skillnet Offshore Wind Academy, says "Ireland's offshore wind sector is poised for extraordinary growth, and the Skillnet Offshore Wind Academy is about making sure our workforce is ready to lead that transformation. These micro-credential courses are designed to be accessible, flexible, and immediately valuable, whether you're an engineer, a project manager, or someone looking to transition into a future-proof industry. The Academy is not just building skills, we're building careers, prosperity, and Ireland's energy future."

The Academy directly supports Ireland's Offshore Wind Action Plan, which identifies upskilling as a key strategy to close the skills gap in renewable energy. Employers who invest in training now will be helping to build a sustainable workforce - and future-proof their businesses.

The micro-credentials include:

- Fundamentals of Offshore Wind Energy
- Offshore Wind Ornithology: Field Techniques and Impact Mitigation
- Certificate in the Safe Operation of Offshore High Voltage Power Systems
- Project Management for Offshore Projects
- Introduction to Programming for MetOcean
- Geophysics and Geology for Offshore Wind
- EIA for Marine Renewable Energy Developments
- Offshore Wind Energy
- Introduction to Coastal and Marine Governance
- Introduction to GIS for Offshore Wind
- Introduction to MetOcean: Theory, Acquisition and Processing
- Project Management for Offshore Projects

As Mark Jordan, CEO of Skillnet Ireland, said: "This is a powerful example of industry and education working together to address critical skills gaps. Offshore wind is central to Ireland's green economy, and these courses empower professionals to be part of that transformation." Employers are encouraged to support their teams in accessing these opportunities. With the offshore wind sector projected to contribute €38 billion to the Irish economy by 2050, investing in talent today means building a cleaner, more resilient tomorrow.

Ready to take the next step? Enquire about our subsidies for businesses and apply at **www.skillnetoffshorewindacademy.ie**

WIND ENERGY IRELAND

Skillnet Offshore Wind Academy

Ireland's Offshore Wind Workforce Starts Here

The Skillnet Offshore Wind Academy is Ireland's national training initiative dedicated to offshore wind.

We support and empower mid-career professionals transition to the Offshore Wind Industry. By leveraging existing knowledge and skills, we then offer subsidised short, targeted micro-credential courses that can be standalone or stackable into major awards.

Visit us at **Booth E01** to enquire about our range of courses - we would be delighted to showcase the opportunities available for upskilling into the Offshore Wind sector and the subsidises we can offer your company. The demand for skilled professionals is growing – now is the time to prepare your organisation for the future.

Can't find what you're looking for? Tell us your skill need and we'll engage industry to design a course for that need!

Micro-Credential Courses:

1. Ornithology for Offshore Wind
2. Fundamentals of Offshore Wind Energy
3. Offshore Environmental Geology
4. Certificate in the Safe Operation of Offshore High Voltage Power Systems
5. MetOcean Programming and Data Analysis
6. Offshore Wind Energy
7. EIA for Marine Renewable Energy Developments
8. Introduction to Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
9. Introduction to MetOcean for Offshore Wind
10. Project Management for Offshore Projects
11. Introduction to Coastal and Marine Governance

Learn more at www.skillnetoffshorewindacademy.ie

Skillnet Offshore Wind Academy is an enterprise initiative of Wind Energy Ireland. Skillnet Offshore Wind Academy is co-funded by Skillnet Ireland and participating businesses. Skillnet Ireland is funded from the National Training Fund and the European Union through the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science.

Skillnet IRELAND

Rialtas na hÉireann Government of Ireland

Co-funded by the European Union

WIND ENERGY IRELAND

Wind Energy

Expo Ireland 2025

Building the future of energy

Full Floor Plan Overleaf

Printed on 100% Recycled Paper

Wind Energy
Expo Ireland 2025

EXHIBITORS 2025

Stand No.	Company
A04	La Tene Maps
A05	Work in Wind
A06	Solar Ireland
B01	ESB Networks
B02	Canavan Atlantic
B03	Atkins Réalis
B08	Global Maritime
B09	Ganz Electric
B10	EirGrid
B11	Kerry Education and Training Board
B12	Wind Turbine Engineering
Business Lounge	Wind Energy Ireland Business Lounge
C01	BladeBridge
C02	SafetyOn
C03	Innovision
C04	ARMSA Academy
C05	RS Ireland
C06	Kavanagh Crane Hire
C07	Snickers Workwear
C08	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
D01	Green Tech Skillnet
D02	National Maritime College of Ireland
D03	RWE Renewables
D04	Energy Storage Ireland
D05	Jones Engineering
D06	Statkraft
D07	Blaklader
E01	Skillnet Offshore Wind Academy
E02	NeoDyne
E03	Ireland Electrified
E04	Ai Bridges
F01	IDA
F02	Wills Bros
F03	Research Hub
F03 Pod 1	MTU
F03 Pod 2	SETU
F03 Pod 3	UCC
F03 Pod 4	iCrag-centre
F03 Pod 5	UCD
F04	Government of Ireland
F05	RPS

Stand No.	Company
F06	Energi Coast
F07	Access Rescue Consulting At Height Ltd
F08	Kudo
F09	Netherlands Lounge by Holland Home of Wind
F09	GustoMSC
F09	HSM Offshore Energy
F09	Van Oord
F09	N-Sea
F09	TNO
F09	Ingeo2
G01	Igoe
G02	Killybegs Marine Cluster
G03	RPS
G04	Kyte Powertech
G05	RSK
G06	Ayesa
H03	Nordex Energy Ireland
H04	British Embassy and Scottish Development
H05	Petzl
H06	University of Limerick
H07	TLI Group
H08	ASL Safety / Data Structures
H09	Tranemo
H10	Belgium (Flanders Investment and Trade)
H10	Blue Cluster
H10	Herbosch-Kiere
H10	Jan de Nul
H10	Pom West Flanders
H10	Smulders
H10	DEME
H10	E-BO Enterprises
H10	GEOxyz
H10	IMDC
H10	Marlinks
H10	Multi Engineering
H10	OWI-LAB
H10	Tractebel
H11	Ambipar
I03	AFRY
I04	Turner & Townsend
I06	Bord na Móna

Trading Places & Spaces

RenewableNI update by Judith Rance,
Head of Communications and Events

There have been several changes at RenewableNI recently. At the start of September our former Director, Steven Agnew, transitioned to the Head of Policy at RenewableUK. Earlier in the year one of our policy analysts also moved to RUK, she was replaced by Madeleine Clarke who was part the RUK Energy Pulse team. Madeleine will lead offshore wind and planning policy. CEO of RenewableUK, Dan McGrail has been appointed the CEO of Great British Energy.

These changes will ensure RenewableNI influence continues to grow and the voice of our members is represented for key UK wide policy.

Continuing to strengthen these connections, in mid-November, Mark Richardson will take up the post of Director, joining us from Scottish Renewables. Currently their Head of Offshore Wind, having previously led Onshore Wind and Consenting.

Mark's work involves overseeing policy function to grow Scotland's renewable energy sector and sustain its position at the forefront of the global energy industry. Most recently, Mark successfully lobbied for an updated offshore wind policy statement and higher ambition, while also driving progress on critical areas such as the offshore wind sectoral marine plan, strategic compensation, habitats regulations reform, and secondary legislation.

RenewableNI Smart Energy CONFERENCE

In addition to staff changes, RenewableNI's flagship event is also moving. **The Smart Energy conference** is switching from the packed autumn schedule to a fresh spring date and new venue. Held on **Thursday 26 March in Europa Hotel, Belfast**, this will offer overnight accommodation and is beside the new transport hub making it more appealing for those outside Northern Ireland.

The change of date allows Smart Energy to become a springboard for the year's energy agenda, setting the tone for the events later in the year. It creates the opportunity for industry to come together and highlight key priorities in time for a new financial year.

The theme for the conference is 'Developments for Delivering' as we address regulatory transformation needed as the Climate Act obligation of 80 per cent renewable generation by 2030 moves closer.

Building on the success of the previous conferences, Smart Energy 2026 will have a larger exhibition space on the ground floor with delegates checking in at the private entrance there. Networking breakfast and lunch will also be served in the exhibition space.

RenewableNI has a busy autumn events schedule leading up to Smart Energy.

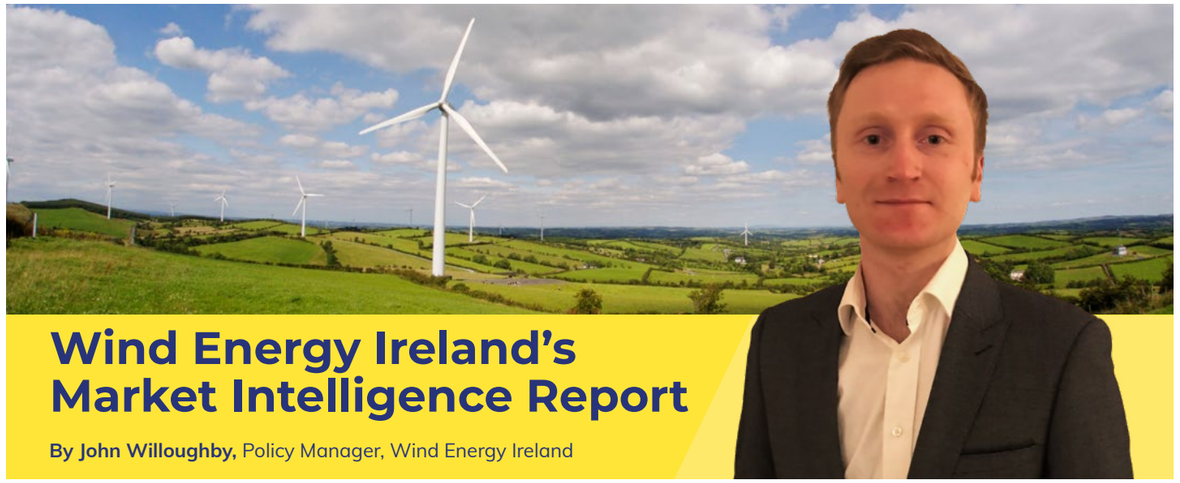
This included our recent long duration energy storage (LDES) seminar with a presentation by SONI's Head of Future Power Systems. The session was part of our ongoing engagement with SONI on dispatch down, with the aim of reducing crippling constraint levels in NI.

The second intake of the Women in Renewables Mentoring Scheme began in September. Aimed at increasing the number of women in the renewable energy sector, the scheme funds women obtaining a level 2 qualification whilst mentoring a woman earlier in her renewable career. In mid-October, we held a networking event aimed at women in the middle, those who either took a career break or have transitioned into the sector.

If you would like to be a sponsor or exhibitor at Smart Energy, or learn more about Women in Renewables, contact me at Judith.Rance@RenewableNI.com

Ploughing Championships get wind treatment

The Wind Energy Ireland team attended the Ploughing Championships in September for the third year running. The event has an estimated footfall of almost 300,000 visitors, so it was a great opportunity to meet with thousands of them. Hot topics for discussion on the stand was the importance of wind energy to end our reliance on fossil fuels, to lower our electricity bills and to support Ireland's response to the climate emergency.

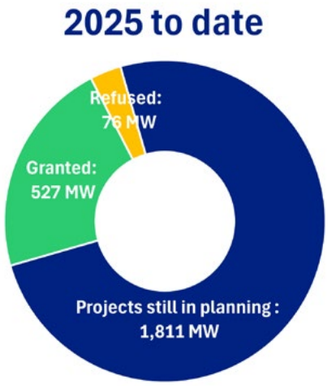


Wind Energy Ireland's Market Intelligence Report

By John Willoughby, Policy Manager, Wind Energy Ireland

The Draghi Report states that Ireland has the slowest planning and consenting regime in the EU for wind energy (and the second slowest for solar electricity):

"For onshore wind, in most Member States the permitting process lasts around six years. Latvia (with two years and eight months) and Finland (with three years) have the shortest processes. The longest processes were reported in Greece and Ireland with eight and nine years respectively".

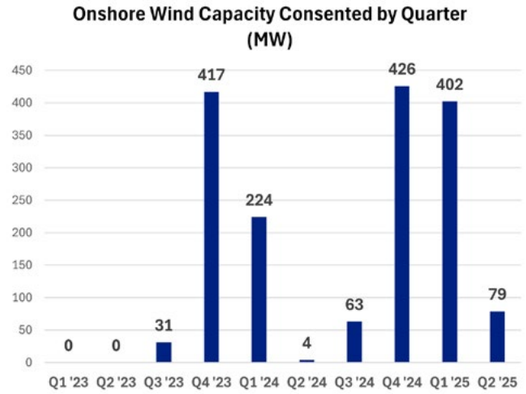


Although there are signs of improvement, the planning system remains a key bottleneck in the development process for renewable energy projects, hindering the State's swift delivery of renewable energy infrastructure and jeopardising our ability to meet our legally binding renewable energy targets, remain competitive and become energy independent.

Tracking Progress

It is imperative that the State improves and streamlines the planning and consenting process for large scale infrastructure projects, particularly wind energy, so that the State can remain competitive and innovative, improve energy security, drive down the cost of electricity and reduce emissions. To do this, it is essential that we can accurately track exactly how long these types of projects are taking to get through the consenting process.

WEI's Market Intelligence Report tracks every single planning application for a wind farm in the country and captures data throughout the entire development lifecycle of a project, from planning stage to grid, route to market and construction data.

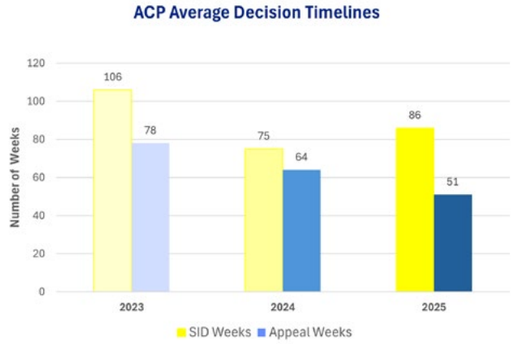


A pilot version of the Market Intelligence Report for Q2 2025 was issued in August 2025, and new versions will be released every quarter, available to Corporate and Sustaining members of WEI.

Key Trends in the Planning System for Wind Energy

As shown in figure 1,527 MW of wind energy was granted planning permission so far in 2025, (as of Q2 2025), with 76 MW refused and 1,811 MW still in the planning process. Historical trends show that there tends to be a higher volume of MW granted by An Coimisiún Pleanála (ACP) in the run-up to ECP batch dates, which took place in Q4 2023 and Q4 2024 as indicated on figure 2.

There was also an ECP batch in the second week of April 2025 which also led to the high number of grants in Q1 2025. After a strong start to the year with 401 MW granted permission in Q1, and a poor Q2 with only 79 MW granted, we are hopeful that with a strong second half to the year, 2024's total of 717 MW of capacity granted planning can be exceeded.



Increased resourcing in ACP is showing results but more needed

Extra staff in ACP have already cut appeal timelines for wind energy projects by 35 percent since 2023 and combined (Appeal + Strategic Infrastructure) decision timelines are down 14 percent since 2023 (Figure 3 shows how appeal times have dropped sharply since 2023).

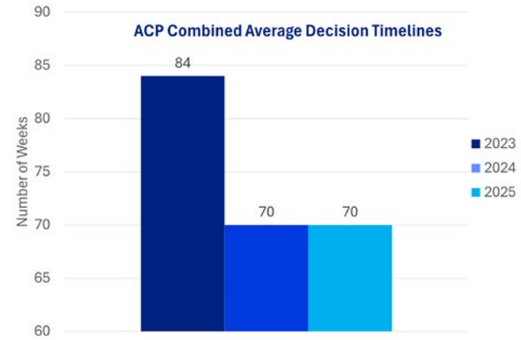
The combined average timeline of 70 weeks for all decisions (SID & Appeals) for 2025 is currently the same as what it was for all of 2024 (70 weeks), however this year's figures are skewed by 3 projects that took > 90 weeks, so the average timeline should reduce further as more decisions are made.

This shows the benefits which a properly resourced planning authority can bring, but more resources will be needed to meet the new consenting requirements under RED III.

The Mid-west and north-west are leading the way

As of Q2 2025, Donegal is the county with the largest capacity with planning permission (421 MW) followed by Cork with 409 MW and Mayo with 318 MW. This shows the importance of enabling new grid infrastructure in these regions. The mid-west and north-west regions have the strongest pipeline of projects in the planning system with Clare, Galway and Mayo accounting for 324 MW, 221 MW and 194 MW respectively.

Every month lost in planning delays makes it harder for Ireland to become energy independent. With the permitting cut-off point fast looming for projects to contribute to the State's 2030 renewable energy targets, it has never been more important to have clear, accurate and useful market intelligence.



Graduate & Career Development Programme

Building Skills & Shaping Futures

By Dáire Horgan, Senior Research & Development Specialist

The Graduate & Career Development Programme (GCDP) was created to give young professionals in Ireland's renewable energy industry the tools, skills, and network they need to grow in their careers.

Since its launch, the programme has delivered three full classes, bringing 65 trainees from 17 WEI member companies through a structured, nine-month journey.

From the start, the aim has been simple: support our members by helping their graduates and early-career professionals become better workers, stronger team members and future industry leaders. We do this by blending technical knowledge, soft skills training and exposure to the wider industry.

The programme is built around five key pillars:

- **Industry Insights** – Delivered by experts, these modules give trainees an understanding of the technologies, policies and trends shaping Ireland's renewable energy sector.
- **Soft Skills** – Workshops on communication, leadership, resilience and teamwork allow trainees to identify their strengths and to develop as well-rounded professionals.
- **Group Work** – Each class works together on a research project linked to the sector. This develops teamwork and problem-solving, with outcomes presented on the main stage of the WEI Annual Conference as well as in the Research Poster Room.
- **Site Visits** – Visits to wind farms, research centres and testing facilities give trainees hands-on exposure to projects and operations across the country.
- **Networking** – Trainees build relationships with peers, industry leaders and policymakers at events and conferences, creating a professional network that will support their careers for years to come.

These pillars combine to give young professionals a strong foundation and a practical understanding of the industry. They provide a space for learning, reflection and connection that benefits both the trainees and the companies that support them.

Impact

For our members, the impact is clear. Companies that send participants to the programme are investing not just in training but in the long-term strength of their teams.
Trainees return to their workplaces with a broader understanding of the industry, stronger skills, and a network of peers they can call on for advice and collaboration. The result is a workforce that is more capable, confident and connected.

Since September 2022, the GCDP has brought young professionals from across our industry together to learn, grow, and connect. This September we welcomed the Class of 2026, continuing that journey.

The Graduate & Career Development Programme is designed to give our members and the wider industry a way to help develop their young professionals, preparing them for the challenges of today while building the workforce for tomorrow.

We want to thank our members for supporting the programme so far and for recognising the importance of developing their young professionals.

If you would like to learn more or get involved, please contact a member of the WEI or Green Tech Skillnet team.

WIND ENERGY IRELAND

Green Tech Skillnet

Did you know you can save up to **60%** on your company's **training** and **development** costs with **Green Tech Skillnet**? Visit **greentechskillnet.com** to book or email **training@greentechskillnet.com** for assistance.

If you're interested in in-house training or a course not listed, please get in touch. We're also creating training bundles for new roles in the energy sector. To join a focus group for a specific job role, contact **Jeanette Gill** at **jeanette.gill@windenergyireland.com.**

Training Resources	
Electricity Market Fundamentals for Renewables	Certificate in Industrial Instrumentation Calibration
Electricity Market Fundamentals for Heat and Transport	Diploma in Leadership
Grid Connection Process in Ireland	Battery Technician Programme
Operational Constraint and Curtailment in Ireland	Energy Storage Technical Training
Introduction to Battery Energy Storage	Advanced Diploma in Env and Planning Law
Wind Energy as Gaeilge	Heat Pump Installer
Corporate Power Purchase Agreements	Energy Storage Introductory Courses
Certificate in Sustainability Strategy, Risk and Reporting	Diploma in Sustainability
Suite of Management courses: Diplomas in Leadership, Management, Organisational Change	Energy Storage non-techncial courses
Environmental Essentials for Engineering Projects CPD Programme	QQI Level 6 Micro Solar Photovoltaic Systems Implementation and Electrical Installation
Certified Energy Auditor	GWO Wind Training
CPD Retrofitting Domestic Buildings	GWO Solar Training
IAM Certificate in Asset Management	Diploma in Strategy, Development and Innovation
IAM Diploma in Asset Management	UCD Academy Diplomas
QQI Level 6 Industrial Electrical Safety and Systems	Sustainability for Business Success

We sincerely appreciate the continued support of all our member companies throughout 2025. Their dedication to upskilling employees through our training programs, championing green initiatives, and advancing Ireland's leadership in climate action is invaluable.

Green Tech Skillnet is co-funded by Skillnet Ireland and network companies. Skillnet Ireland is funded from the National Training Fund and the European Union through the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science.

Skillnet IRELAND

Rialtas na hÉireann Government of Ireland

Co-funded by the European Union

Wind Energy Jobs fair attracts hundreds to Mayo

Wind Energy Ireland and BNM/ ESB ran a secondary schools jobs fair in Mayo in September, welcoming over 300 students to the event.

Held in the beautiful learning hub at Oweninny Wind Farm in Mayo the fair showcased the many jobs and training opportunities in wind energy for students.

Exhibitors included WEI members, local supply chain companies and third level training providers. Our thanks to exhibitors ATU, MSLETB, Kerry College, Natural Power, Jennings O'Donovan, Nordex, BNM, ESB.

For more information on jobs in wind visit **www.workinwind.ie**

2025: A year of growth for the Wind Energy Ireland Research team

By Patrick Cantwell, Research Communications Specialist, Wind Energy Ireland.

In 2025, Wind Energy Ireland's Research team grew its portfolio to 11 research projects, with the addition of two new SEAI funded projects.

	PROJECT	PROJECT AIMS	FUNDERS / PARTNERS
1	Irish Marine Acoustics Platform (IMAP)	to safeguard marine ecosystems from underwater noise pollution, a growing global environmental concern.	SEAI
2	INNOV8HEAT: Innovative Novel Optimisation and Validation for Heating Energy Application Technologies	to address the urgent need for sustainable and efficient energy use in industry by harnessing excess wind and solar energy that would otherwise be wasted.	SEAI
3	IDEA-IRL	focuses on developing a roadmap for floating wind energy in Ireland.	SEAI
4	RE:HARRIER	studying various aspects of hen harrier ecology in relation to wind farms with the aim to help support sustainable wind energy practices while ensuring the conservation of this species.	SEAI
5	AMSFLOW	developing advanced anchor and mooring solutions to optimise floating offshore wind platforms in challenging metocean conditions.	SEAI
6	AtlanticFloat	focused on improving the design and performance of floating wind turbines in harsh Atlantic environments.	SEAI
7	DIFOWT (De-risking Ireland's Floating Offshore Wind Targets)	tackles key challenges related to investment in ports, vessels and workforce development to support Ireland's floating offshore wind ambitions	SEAI
8	Offshore Adapt	to establish best practices for offshore wind turbine design flexibility.	Marine Institute
9	Nature+Energy	explores how wind farms can contribute to land management and natural capital.	Taighde Éireann – Research Ireland, and academic partners
10	T-shore	addresses the offshore wind industry's skills gap by developing training for technicians while establishing a European network of training centres.	EU ERASMUS+
11	Engineering Education for a Sustainable Future (EESF)	focused on modernising engineering education to equip graduates with sustainability skills.	EU ERASMUS+

Wind Energy Ireland's Role

Our core role in these projects is on communication, dissemination, and stakeholder engagement. We develop distinct, recognisable brands for each project, ensuring external visibility and recognition. Through our unparalleled access to industry leaders via our membership, conferences and hosted workshops, we offer a unique platform for engagement.

This access allows project partners to receive valuable industry input into their work, helping to bridge the gap between industry and academia. With these connections, we ensure that project outcomes are not only innovative but also aligned with real-world needs, delivering robust solutions that can be applied across the renewable energy sector in Ireland and Europe.

Key highlights of 2025

One of this year's standout moments was the T-shore comes to Dublin evening networking event set in the heart of Dublin's iconic Guinness Storehouse. Taking place the night before the Wind Energy Ireland Offshore Conference, the event was a great opportunity to meet T-shore's European partners, Irish CoVE members, and industry stakeholders while learning more about T-shore's work in offshore wind vocational education. Members of the T-shore EU project were able to attend the Wind Energy Ireland Offshore Conference which coincided with the event. This provided an excellent platform for our offshore projects to connect with key stakeholders and to explore future opportunities in the sector.

A conference highlight was the Thesis in Three competition, which saw three energetic presenters take to the stage to share their research in just three minutes. Congratulations to Cillian Fahy for winning this year's Thesis in Three! A huge well done to all participants, including Ashly Uthaman, Conor Spain and Wenhui Wei, who embraced the challenge with energy and insight. Special thanks to our research event sponsor, Bord na Móna | Ocean Winds Joint Venture, for their continued support in making our event a success.

*Another highlight this year was the **IMAP project launch**. The official launch took place in June this year with the IMAP project covered in 8 national media outlets, bringing a greater reach to our project. Visit the IMAP project website via the QR code for more information.*

WIND ENERGY IRELAND RESEARCH

2025 saw the launch of the **Wind Energy Ireland Research LinkedIn page** and monthly **Research Newsletter.** Both communication channels have been set up with the purpose of continued engagement with our research community. The dedicated platforms promote each of our research projects to our research focused mailing list and followers. Wider research industry news is also shared, bringing greater access to our audience.

Follow us on LinkedIn at Wind Energy Ireland Research, and sign up to our research mailing list via: https://windenergyireland.com/policy/research/research-homepage

What's coming up?

Our second new project this year, **INNOV8HEAT** will be launched in the coming weeks. Keep up to date on our LinkedIn page and research newsletter for more details.

Our **IMAP project** will be hosting a workshop in November in the Marine Institute, Co. Galway which will be focused on underwater acoustics in Ireland. The aim of the workshop is to bring together key stakeholders to collaborate and engage with the project from the beginning. For more information about attending this workshop, please reach out to a research team member through our contact details below.

Looking ahead

The **Wind Energy Ireland Annual Conference** in January 2025 will feature the WEI Research Poster Room, which provides a valuable opportunity for researchers and students to showcase their work to key industry stakeholders. The Poster Room is open to all forms of research across the renewable energy landscape, making it a must-attend for anyone passionate about innovation and collaboration.

We invite anyone interested in our projects, policy work, or collaboration opportunities to reach out. Whether you're in wind energy or another area of renewable energy, our doors are open for conversations on how we can work together to advance Ireland's energy transition. Stay tuned to our LinkedIn and Newsletter for further details.

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Research Programme Manager
sarah.kandrot@windenergyireland.com

Dáire Horgan
Senior Research & Development Specialist
daire.horgan@windenergyireland.com

Patrick Cantwell
Research Communications Specialist
patrick.cantwell@windenergyireland.com

Wind Energy Expo Ireland 2025

A-Z EXHIBITORS

Company	Stand No
Access Rescue Consulting At Height Ltd	F07
AFRY	I03
Ai Bridges	E04
Ambipar	H11
ARMSA Academy	C04
ASL Safety / Data Structures	H08
Atkins Réalis	B03
Ayesa	G06
Belgium (Flanders Investment and Trade)	H10
BladeBridge	C01
Blaklader	D07
Blue Cluster	H10
Bord na Móna	I06
British Embassy and Scottish Development	H04
Canavan Atlantic	B02
DEME	H10
E-BO Enterprises	H10
EirGrid	B10
Energi Coast	F06
Energy Storage Ireland	D04
ESB Networks	B01
Ganz Electric	B09
GEOxyz	H10
Global Maritime	B08
Government of Ireland	F04
Green Tech Skillnet	D01
GustoMSC	F09
Herbosch-Kiere	H10
HSM Offshore Energy	F09
iCrag-centre	F03 Pod 4
IDA	F01
Igoe	G01
IMDC	H10
Ingeo2	F09
Innovision	C03
Ireland Electrified	E03
Jan de Nul	H10
Jones Engineering	D05
Kavanagh Crane Hire	C06
Kerry Education and Training Board	B11
Killybegs Marine Cluster	G02

Wind Energy Expo Ireland 2025

A-Z EXHIBITORS

Company	Stand No
Kudo	F08
Kyte Powertech	G04
La Tene Maps	A04
Marlinks	H10
MTU	F03 Pod 1
Multi Engineering	H10
National Maritime College of Ireland	D02
NeoDyne	E02
Netherlands Lounge by Holland Home of Wind	F09
Nordex Energy Ireland	H03
N-Sea	F09
OWI-LAB	H10
Petzl	H05
POM West Flanders	H10
Research Hub	F03
RPS	G03
RPS	F05
RS Ireland	C05
RSK	G05
RWE Renewables	D03
SafetyOn	C02
SETU	F03 Pod 2
Skillnet Offshore Wind Academy	E01
Smulders	H10
Snickers Workwear	C07
Solar Ireland	A06
Statkraft	D06
Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland	C08
TLI Group	H07
TNO	F09
Tractebel	H10
Tranemo	H09
Turner & Townsend	I04
UCC	F03 Pod 3
UCD	F03 Pod 5
University of Limerick	H06
Van Oord	F09
Wills Bros	F02
Wind Energy Ireland Business Lounge	Business Lounge
Wind Turbine Engineering	B12
Work in Wind	A05

Exhibitor Company Bio

Company name: Energi Coast
Website: energicoast.co.uk
Email: energicoast@nof.co.uk
Phone number: 0191 384 6464

Energi Coast is North East England's Offshore Wind Cluster; owned and operated by NOF, a national, multi-energy sector membership organisation.

The Energi Coast Leadership Group comprises more than 30 key regional businesses and stakeholder organisations involved in offshore wind.

The wider cluster of ~350 businesses work to showcase the sector's vast supply chain capabilities – promoting the region as a key hub for servicing both the UK and international offshore wind markets.

Each Energi Coast participants act as ambassadors for offshore wind and are committed to ensuring that the cluster has a strong voice representing the regions vibrant offshore wind industry.

Company name: Innovision Media Limited
Contact details: John Flanagan
Website: www.innovision.ie
Email: info@innovision.ie
Phone number: +353 (0)71 9128220

Innovision Media is an award-winning 3D visualisation studio specialising in photomontages, animations and immersive VR experiences for renewable energy and infrastructure projects. Since 2016, we've helped Ireland's largest wind energy schemes communicate with clarity and impact.

From interactive consultation rooms and immersive VR experiences to project websites, graphic design and stakeholder materials, our solutions bring proposals to life, building public trust, understanding and confidence. Endorsed by leading developers, engineers and consultants, Innovision delivers the creative tools that drive positive engagement and informed decision-making.

Company name: Jones Engineering
Contact details: Geoff Watson
Website: www.joneseng.com
Email: geoffwatson@joneseng.com
Phone number: +353 21 4510700

Jones Engineering is a leading provider of mechanical, electrical, and fire protection services, operating across Ireland, United Kingdom, Central Europe, Nordics, and the Middle East. We are committed to delivering excellence and innovation across a wide range of sectors, including Life Sciences, Commercial, Data Centres, Industrial, Healthcare, Food & Beverage, Public Works, and Renewable Energy. Since 1890, we have built a reputation as a trusted global engineering contractor.

Company name: Kyte Powertech
Website: www.kytepowertech.com
Email: info@kytepowertech.com
Phone number: 00353 494331588

Kyte Powertech is a leading manufacturer of high-quality distribution transformers, proudly serving the energy and infrastructure sectors across Ireland, the UK, and beyond. With over 50 years of expertise, we specialise in designing and producing efficient, reliable, and sustainable transformer solutions tailored to our clients' needs.

Our commitment to innovation, quality, and sustainability has positioned us as a trusted partner in the evolving energy landscape. Based in Cavan, Ireland, we are proud to be part of The R&S Group, a network of companies dedicated to delivering advanced power products and services across international markets. Visit us at Stand G04.

Company name: National Maritime College of Ireland
Contact details: Dr Paul Hegarty
Website: www.nmci.ie
Email: NMCI.Reception@mtu.ie
Phone number: +353 21 4335600

The National Maritime College of Ireland is Ireland's only dedicated national centre of excellence for maritime training and education, providing a strategic resource for both the merchant and defence maritime sectors.

NMCI delivers a comprehensive portfolio of academic programmes, professional training, and industry-led research, including advanced maritime training in navigation, engineering, supply chain management and offshore renewable energy safety training. Together with Cork Education and Training Board, NMCI recently introduced the Maritime & Offshore Safe Pass, supporting statutory safety requirements for offshore construction.

Through strong partnerships, NMCI advances maritime safety, sustainability, and security nationally and internationally.

Wind Energy Expo Ireland 2025

Exhibitor Company Bio

Company name: Tetra Tech | RPS
Website: rpsgroup.com
Email: christopher.ryan@rps.tetratech.com
Phone number: 091 400 236

We're RPS. A Tetra Tech Company, and a team of planners, engineers, environmental consultants, and technical specialists who deliver projects that matter.

With offices across Ireland and over 30,000 employees worldwide, we are a leading provider of consulting and engineering services.

We have been supporting the delivery of both onshore and offshore wind projects for many years – including Phase 1 and Phase 2 offshore, onshore, and guiding various projects through the planning and permitting process.

We define, design and manage projects across our four sectors: Environment, Planning & Renewables; Water & Energy; Transport Infrastructure; and Buildings & Infrastructure.

Company name: RSK Ireland Ltd
Contact details: Michael Kerr
Website: www.rskgroup.com
Email: MKerr@rsk.co.uk
Phone number: 01244 4511 / +442890660993

RSK is a leading integrated environmental, engineering and technical services business employing over 16,000 technical experts and consultants globally. RSK employs over 900 staff in Ireland and provide environmental assessment, engineering design and technical services for projects in energy transition, infrastructure, water and the built environment.

Our teams provide the necessary expertise and innovative solutions for assessing environmental risk, addressing planning constraints, protecting habitats and biodiversity within existing energy infrastructure and new generation, distribution and storage projects.

With offices located countrywide, we can support your projects throughout Ireland.

Company name: RWE
Contact details: Seán Grace
Website: https://www.rwe.com/en/
Email: dublinarray@rwe.com
Phone number: 087-4999434

RWE is leading the way to a clean energy world. With its investment and growth strategy Growing Green, RWE is contributing significantly to the success of the energy transition and the decarbonisation of the energy system. Around 20,000 employees work for the company in almost 30 countries worldwide.

RWE is already one of the leading companies in the field of renewable energy. RWE is investing billions of euros in expanding its generation portfolio, in particular in offshore and onshore wind, solar energy and batteries.

It is perfectly complemented by its global energy trading. RWE is decarbonising its business in line with the 1.5-degree reduction pathway and will phase out coal by 2030. RWE will be net-zero by 2040. Fully in line with the company's purpose - Our energy for a sustainable life.

Company name: SafetyOn
Contact details: Emma McIvor
Website: https://safetyon.com/
Email: emcivor@energyinst.org
Phone number: +44(0)20 7467 7134

Working through the Energy Institute, SafetyOn has established an open network of safety and health experts, professionals and stakeholders to promote a strong, sustainable and continually improving health and safety culture.

Thousands are employed in the UK's and Ireland's onshore wind industry, and SafetyOn is playing a part in making sure they go home safe. SafetyOn has a two tier membership with Members and Associate Members comprising leading owners & operators, Operations & Maintenance service providers/contractors and Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) in onshore wind operations.

Wind Energy Expo Ireland 2025

Exhibitor Company Bio

Company name: SEAI
Website: www.seai.ie
Email: info@seai.ie
Phone number: +353 1 808 2100

SEAI is the expert authority on decarbonising Ireland's energy system, using robust, objective data and an evidence-based approach to help inform policy development and energy user behaviours.

SEAI empowers households, businesses, motorists and the public sector to move away from fossil fuels with practical advice and financial supports. SEAI is funded by the Government of Ireland through the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment.

SEAI are also responsible for the delivery of the Community Benefit Fund National Register.

Company name: Snickers Workwear
Contact details: Ray Murray
Website: Snickersworkwear.ie
Email: Info@hultaforsgroup.ie
Phone number: +353 (0)1 4098400

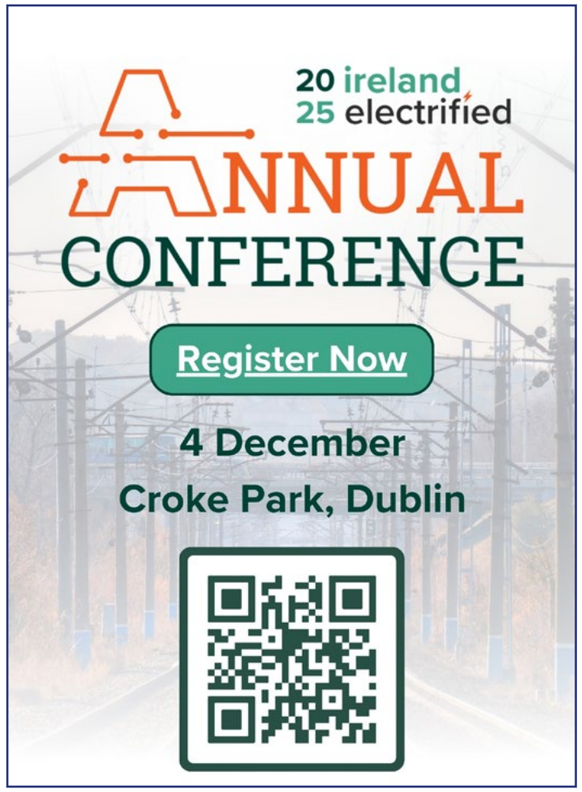
Founded in 1975 by Swedish craftsman Matti Viio, Snickers Workwear is inspired by a simple mission: to invent smarter, safer, and more durable workwear for professional craftsmen and women. Renowned for pioneering innovations like holster pockets and tool vests, the brand continues to deliver technical, functional work trousers, jackets, and accessories designed with comfort, safety, longevity, and sustainability in mind. As part of the Hultafors Group, Snickers combines heritage craftsmanship with modern innovation, supported by rigorous design, material science, and environmental stewardship. Our motto "Inventing workwear" reflects a commitment to empowering users to work smarter, safer, and more productively.

Company name: Turner & Townsend.
Website: TurnerandTownsend.com
Email: philip.matthews@turntown.com
Phone number: 01 400 3300

Turner & Townsend is a global leader in major project, portfolio, and program delivery across real estate, infrastructure and energy and natural resources.

We provide an outcome driven end-to-end solution comprising project management, cost and commercial, controls and performance, procurement, and contracts. These core services are complemented by our programme advisory, sustainability, asset management, and digital transformation capabilities.

With extensive experience in onshore and offshore wind, transmission, and distribution, we leverage our global knowledge, data, and skills to create investible projects, de-risk delivery, and drive high performance.



WIND ENERGY IRELAND

2026 EVENTS

01
Annual Conference
21 - 22 January

Clayton Burlington, Hotel, Dublin

04
Ireland Pavilion
WindEurope, Madrid

21 - 23 April

Madrid

05
Offshore Wind Conference
26 - 27 May

Clayton Burlington, Hotel, Dublin

06
Energy Storage Ireland Annual Conference
30 June

Hogan Suite, Croke Park

10
Wind Energy Expo Ireland
21 - 22 October

RDS Dublin

11
Irish Renewable Energy Awards
TBC

TBC