

Committees & Working Groups

March 2025














Committees

On Committees, you can learn from peers, share your expertise, network and keep your finger on the pulse of what is happening in the sector.

We have **11 specialised Committees** where we connect member company representatives and our analysts **to tackle key sector issues and stay informed on the latest challenges and opportunities.**

Committees meet regularly to **share insights, develop action plans** and **form working groups** to address urgent topics in their area.

WEI strategy, defined by Council, informs committee mandates.

Cross-Cutting		Onshore Wind	
Markets		Planning	
Community Engagement		Grid	
Health & Safety		Offshore Wind	
Asset Management		Offshore	
Net Zero		Offshore Consenting	
		Offshore Grid	
		Floating	

WEI Committees & Working Groups 2025



Working Groups

A working group is smaller group of professionals set up by Committees to address urgent issues that require more in-depth attention.

This is great opportunity for members to network, improve their knowledge and influence strategic issues.

Cross Cutting			
	Working Group	Chair	WEI Rep
Markets WEI: Marcos Chair: Andrew Burke Vice: Cian Fitzgerald	Route to Market	Kate Garth	John B
	Energy Market Implementation	Andrew Burke	John B
	Future Services	Paraic Higgins	Cathal
Community Engagement WEI: Justin Chair: Emma Kerins Vice: Rosy Billingham	Offshore Comms & Engagement	Jodie Neary	Justin
	Community Benefit	TBC	Eva
Health & Safety WEI: Eva Chair: Declan Corrigan Vice: Allie Byrne	Emergency Response	Kieran O'Regan	Eva
	Construction Safety	Brendan Heneghan	Eva
	Offshore Safety	Michelle Ruane	Eva
Asset Management WEI: Éabhin Chair: Joe Dalton Vice: David Dunne	Dispatch Down	Rory Mullan	John B
	Sustainability	Mia Fahey McCarthy	Éabhin
	Cybersecurity (Temp)	John Gartland	Éabhin
Net Zero WEI: Dave Chair: Bernice Doyle Vice: TBC	Future Networks	Jack Counihan	Marcos
	EU Energy Policy	Christian Kjaer	John B
	Future Markets	Peter Harte	Dave
	Green Hydrogen	Philip Connolly	Caoimhe
	Future Onshore Wind (Temp)	Eoin McGurk	Dave

Wind Energy Ireland 2025 Committees & Working Groups

Onshore Wind			
	Working Group	Chair	WEI Rep
Planning WEI: John W Chair: Brian Keville Vice: Caroline Donnelly	Onshore Environment	Elaine Dromey	Éabhin
	Repowering	Alan Clancy	John W
	Planning Policy	TBC	John W
Grid WEI: Marcos Chair: Margaret Nee Vice: John McDonagh	Connection Delivery	Joe Colleran	Marcos
	Connection Policy	Donal Smith	Marcos
	Grid Capacity	Laura Mehigan	Marcos
	Hybrids	Kate Garth	Pat

To join a Wind Energy Ireland Committee please contact Malcolm.Bird@windenergyireland.com.

To join a Working Group, please contact the WEI Rep.

Offshore Wind			
	Working Group	Chair	WEI Rep
Offshore WEI: Caoimhe Chair: Peter Lefroy Vice: Ciaran McManus	Supply Chain	Paul Doherty	Caoimhe
	Fishing	Paul Kelly	Justin
	Phase 2/ Route to Market	Eoin McPartland /Laura Paton	Caoimhe
	Future Framework	Patricia Comiskey	Caoimhe
Offshore Consenting WEI: John W Chair: Tina Raleigh Vice: Caroline Roche	Offshore Environment	Caroline Roche	Éabhin
	Marine Planning Policy Statement (Temp)	Chris Turner	John W
Offshore Grid WEI: Marcos Chair: Rory Mullan Vice: John McGuckin	Phase 1 Grid	Rory Mullan	Marcos
	Phase 2 Grid	John McGuckin	Marcos
Floating WEI: Caoimhe Chair: Val Cummins Vice: Ronan O'Flynn	Ports (Temp)	Sarah Gibson	Caoimhe

Snapshot March 2025

Markets Committee

The Markets Committee meets monthly to ensure Wind Energy Ireland members are fully aware of all Markets related activities that are likely to affect them now and in future and how they should prepare themselves.

It acts to advocate for market development that will be favourable to Wind Energy Ireland members and to mitigate against risks of change that would be disadvantageous.

The main benefits of being on the Markets Committee are to understand what is happening in the Markets area, how it will affect your organisation and what action or actions you may need to take, as well as giving you insight and a say in how markets are developed.

Some of our members include those involved in auction bidding, trading and regulation at wind energy developers of all scales.

Join us if you want to help your organisation find routes to market for new projects, maximise income and mitigate risk to existing assets, and be in the know about all things Market related.



Andrew Burke
Chair of the Markets Committee
Head of Trading, Enerco Energy



Markets Working Groups

Markets - Route to Market Working Group

This working group focuses on policy related to routes to market for wind energy, including the Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) and Corporate Purchase Power Agreements (CPPAs).

Markets – Energy Market Implementation Working Group

This working group focuses on developing policy for key market functions related to wind energy, including more recently the ongoing work on EirGrid's Scheduling and Dispatch programme.

Markets – Future Services Working Group

This working group is focused on developing the appropriate markets for procurement of system services to further integrate more renewable energy.

Community Engagement Committee

The Community Engagement Committee usually meets at least once every two months to discuss and respond to policy updates relevant to the industry, develop shared resources on how to more effectively engage communities in places we're seeking to develop wind projects and hear from subject matter experts on issues relevant to the brief.

The main benefits of being on the Community Engagement Committee are the ability to share knowledge on how to effectively consult with local communities, exchange ideas on effective communication, and have opportunities to network with like-minded peers.

Some of our members include Stakeholder

Engagement Managers, Community Liaison Officers, and communications and external affairs specialists, primarily representing renewables energy developers working across onshore and offshore wind.

Join us if you want to be involved in advancing our efforts to better engage with communities as we seek to deliver Ireland's national climate targets.

This Committee looks at how we can improve our communications tactics in working with communities, manage our reputation as responsible developers, and promote the importance of wind energy to local communities and society at large.



Emma Kerins
Chair of the Community Engagement
Head of Corporate Affairs
(Ireland/Northern Ireland), SSE
Renewables

Community Engagement Working Groups

Community Engagement – Offshore Communications and Engagement Working Group

This working group is primarily aimed at coordinating project-level communications and engagement for offshore projects while advising WEI on industry-level communications priorities and key messages.

Community Engagement – Community Benefit Working Group

This working group is focused on policy related to community benefit funds and on sharing knowledge and lessons learned.

Health & Safety Committee

The aim of the Health & Safety Committee is to protect people, maintain and develop stakeholder relationships, and ensure access to all relevant information and policy development processes.

The committee will look to secure the safety of the industry through the benchmarking of international practices, knowledge sharing and the dissemination of information to the whole industry, beyond our membership base.
Peer support - WEI strives to provide fora which allow industry peers an opportunity to openly seek opinion, guidance, information and support.



Declan Corrigan
Chair of Health & Safety Committee
**Business & Technical Director, Wind
Turbine Engineering Ltd**

Health & Safety Working Groups

Health & Safety – Emergency Response Working Group

This working group focuses on knowledge sharing and developing initiatives for improving emergency response drills and procedures.

Health & Safety – Construction Safety Working Group

This working group focuses on knowledge sharing and developing initiatives for improving safety awareness on construction sites and provides occasional opportunities to attend construction site visits hosted by WEI members.

Health & Safety – Offshore Safety Working Group

This working group focuses on reviewing safety legislation and best practice guidelines for working offshore.

Asset Management Committee

The Asset Management Committee meets once a quarter to discuss, debate and progress key matters relating to Asset Management of wind farms.

Key asset management activities currently include development of standards for cyber security management, identifying matters of concern for maintenance and integrity of turbines, including obsolescence, considerations on life extension to assets and cross-pollination of ideas between organisations for the betterment of all.

We regularly receive updates from other committees and provide feed-back areas for consideration to them. Working Groups meet at different intervals to progress live workstreams that are progressed during the year.

The committee provides a valuable forum for knowledge-sharing on wind farm technical

operations issues in Ireland and internationally.

The main benefits of being on the Asset Management Committee include meeting with a diverse and expert group of people with similar concerns and ideas and the potential to shape the industry going forward.

Some of our members include asset managers, consultants, wind specialists, and turbine OEM representatives at all the large utilities and owner/operators in the country, and asset management company representatives who manage our sites.

Join us if you want to contribute to the future of asset management of wind farms in Ireland.



Joe Dalton
Chair of the Asset Management Committee
Director, Asset Management
NTR plc

Asset Management Working Groups

Asset Management – Dispatch Down Working Group

This working group is led by Peter Lynn from Mullan Grid. The group meets each month and bespoke analysis is presented on the latest dispatch down figures. The working group is also a forum for asset managers to share insights and discuss solutions to one of the greatest challenges facing the industry.

Asset Management – Sustainability Working Group

This working group's focus is on facilitating industry discussions, topic deep dives, and learning opportunities to support development and promotion of industry positions on priority topics under sustainability e.g. blade recycling.

Asset Management – Cybersecurity Working Group *(Temporary)*

This working group focuses on issues relating to cyber security across the renewables industry in Ireland, in particular matters pertaining to the NIS2 Directive.

Net Zero Committee

If you are interested in getting out of the weeds of the here and now and figuring out how to go beyond our 80% renewable target in 2030 to a net zero power system soon after then this is the committee for you.

The Net Zero Committee is the channel for WEI members looking to progress the big-picture of how to get Ireland to a net zero power system.

We draw together the issues and experience of members from across the organisation and we cover subjects not just directly in relation to wind but also supporting technologies that will be required to get to a net zero power system.

Our membership covers a wide range of backgrounds and skills including technical/engineering, policy and trading.

The committee meets every 2 months and has several active working groups that meet regularly. Active and engaged new members are always welcome!



Bernice Doyle
Chair of the Net Zero Committee
Technical Adviser,
Net Zero Energy Ltd.



Net Zero Working Groups

Net Zero – Future Networks Working Group

This working group focuses on the long term needs for grid infrastructure, capturing future grid capacity needs, offshore grids, and interconnectors.

Net Zero – EU Energy Policy Working Group

This working group discusses EU energy policy developments and their potential implications for the energy transition in Ireland.

Net Zero – Future Markets Working Group

This working group is focused on the future market design changes (post 2030) necessary to enable Ireland to achieve a zero carbon electricity system.

Net Zero – Green Hydrogen Working Group

This working group brings together some of the first-movers on green hydrogen projects in Ireland. The group is currently focused on developing policy that can deliver the Hydrogen Strategy Implementation Plan.

Net Zero – Future Onshore Wind Working Group *(Temporary)*

This working group is focused on policy development and evidence building research to showcase the future potential for onshore wind development in Ireland after 2030.

Planning Committee

The Planning Committee meets once a month to discuss the latest policy developments, industry consultations, planning decisions and legal cases relevant to the onshore wind industry in Ireland.

Our key discussion topics include collective responses to open consultations, government policy, legislative updates and key stakeholder engagement.

The main benefits of being on the Planning Committee are the ability to keep up to date with the wide range of issues affecting planning applications for wind energy developments and the opportunity to collaborate with a range of industry experts.

Some of our members include consenting, environmental,

ecological and legal representatives from organisations such as developers, consultants, and legal firms.

Join us if you want to work collectively with a committed group of professionals seeking to deliver our national climate targets.



Brian Keville
Chair of Planning Committee
Managing Director, MKO



Planning Working Groups

Planning – Onshore Environment Working Group

This working group brings developers, consultants, asset managers and other industry experts together to discuss environmental policy and best practices for onshore wind, develop and promote industry positions, and to coordinate industry-level stakeholder engagement.

Planning – Repowering Working Group

The goal of this working group is to develop policy positions and evidence building research to support repowering policy for onshore wind.

Planning – Planning Policy Working Group

This working group is focused on the implementation of the Planning and Development Act and the Renewable Energy Directive.

Grid Committee

The Grid Committee meets monthly via MS Teams, the Committee focuses on electricity grid policies relevant to the delivery and operation of renewable connections in Ireland.

The work of this Committee encompasses a range of issues that are managed by the Grid working groups, such as the connection offer policy, the delivery of grid connections, the development of the transmission system, operational requirements and the development of hybrid connection policy.

The main benefits of being on the Grid Committee is the opportunity to work with experienced subject matter experts to resolve common industry issues and work collaboratively to remove regulatory and process

barriers that are preventing optimal and timely grid delivery.

The committee members include grid experts from renewable development companies, asset owners, consultancies, contractors, turbine manufacturers and energy associations.

Join us if you want to understand the challenges and work together on the solutions to ensure sufficient renewable projects are connected and supported by a robust electricity system to allow us to meet our ambitious renewable energy targets!



Margaret Nee
Chair of the Grid Committee
**Head of Grid, Onshore Wind & Solar,
Statkraft Ireland**

Grid Working Groups

Grid – Connection Delivery Working Group

This working group focuses on identifying and developing solutions for barriers to delivery of grid connections for renewables.

Grid – Connection Policy Working Group

This working group focuses on the Enduring Connection Policy in Ireland, and further improving and streamlining the process for renewable connections.

Grid – Grid Capacity Working Group

This working group is focussed on improving grid capacity for renewables, covering areas such as Firm Access, Renewable Hubs, and private wires.

Grid – Hybrids Working Group

This joint working group with ESI develops positions and consultation responses aimed at removing the barriers that currently effect hybrid project deployment.

Offshore Committee

The Offshore Committee meets once a month to discuss the latest policy development and key overarching issues facing the offshore wind industry in Ireland.

Our key discussion topics include route to market for Irish offshore wind projects, supply chain activities from a domestic and international perspective, the long-term planning for offshore wind and building confidence, and stakeholder engagement, particularly between the ORE and seafood industries and the Government-led Offshore Wind Delivery Taskforce.

The main benefits of being on the Offshore Committee are the ability to keep up to date with the latest offshore wind developments in the Irish market, tying in with wider offshore committees focused on consenting, grid and floating wind.

Some of our members include project and bid managers, consenting, grid and market specialists from organisations such as ORE developers, OEMs, supply chain companies, ports, consultants and legal firms.

Join us if you want to be part of the discussions and solutions to address key challenges facing the offshore wind industry in Ireland.



Peter Lefroy
Chair of Offshore Committee
**Head of Offshore Development,
Ireland & UK West, RWE**

The RWE logo, consisting of the letters "RWE" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

Offshore Working Groups

Offshore – Supply Chain Working Group

This group brings together ORE developers, industry experts, ports and both international and domestic supply chain companies to discuss key opportunities and challenges facing the Irish ORE industry.

Offshore – Fishing Working Group

This group is for members actively engaging with members of the fishing community or with an interest in policy in that area to identify best practice and to coordinate industry-level engagement with the seafood sector.

Offshore – Phase 2 / Route to Market Working Group

This group leads on supporting offshore wind auction design, including the ORESS 2.1 auction which is expected to take place in 2025.

Offshore – Future Framework Working Group

This group is focused on the implementation of the ORE Future Framework (FF) policy to support the long-term development of offshore wind.

Offshore Consenting Committee

The Offshore Consenting Committee meets once every two months to discuss the key issues facing Ireland in relation to the consents required to achieve Ireland's offshore wind targets.

Our key discussion topics include offshore planning, consents, licensing, and any other activities relating to offshore consents.

The main benefits of being on the Offshore Consenting Committee are discussing barriers that are in place in achieving consents and

proposing actions to overcome these barriers.

Some of our members include consenting, environmental, and legal representatives from organisations such as developers, consultants, and legal firms.

Join us if you want to be at the forefront of consenting offshore wind farms in Ireland. Be part of the solution to our climate crisis!



Tina Raleigh
Chair of the Offshore
Consenting Committee
Head of Offshore Wind,
Statkraft Ireland

Offshore Consenting Working Groups

Offshore Consenting – Offshore Environment Working Group

This working group brings developers, consultants, asset managers and other industry experts together to discuss environmental policy and best practices for offshore wind, develop and promote industry positions, and to coordinate industry-level stakeholder engagement.

Offshore Consenting – Marine Planning Policy Statement Working Group *(Temporary)*

This working group will review the upcoming Marine Planning Policy Statement where the Government sets the high-level objectives and priorities in respect of the marine planning system. The MPPS is a guiding policy document for others to follow.

Offshore Grid Committee

The Offshore Grid Committee meets once a quarter and its working groups that support the Phase 1 and Phase 2 projects often meet once a week.

Connecting the first large scale offshore windfarms in Ireland requires the development of many new technical, commercial and legal agreements and processes.

The committee and working groups include engineers and regulation and legal experts working closely together.

The offshore grid committee also engages closely with EirGrid and the CRU.

Join us if you want to be involved in developing the grid connections for the largest renewable projects that will be connected in Ireland.



Rory Mullan
Chair of Offshore Grid Committee
Senior Consultant,
MullanGrid Consulting



Offshore Grid Working Groups

Offshore Grid – Phase 1 Grid Working Group

This working group is focused on the grid aspects of the six phase 1 offshore wind projects.

Offshore Grid – Phase 2 Grid Working Group

This working group is focussed on developing policy around grid infrastructure for phase 2 offshore wind projects, including the Tonn Nua site.

Floating Offshore Wind Committee

The Floating Committee meets monthly to discuss how to influence the strategic direction of floating offshore wind in Ireland, pool knowledge from the members, and produce plans to influence policy.

The main benefits of being on the Floating Committee are the sharing of insights and the co-design of collective actions.

Some of our members include project

directors, port managers, financial advisors, legal advisors and consultants.

Join us if you want to take part in getting this exciting and nascent sector off the ground in Ireland. Ireland's floating resource is massive, and it is time for action to unlock this potential.



Val Cummins
Chair of the FLOW Committee
Chief Impact Officer,
Simply Blue Group

Floating Offshore Wind Working Group

Floating Offshore Wind – Port Requirements Working Group *(Temporary)*

This working group is leading on the development of a position paper on the port requirements specific to floating wind.