



# *Delivering Energy Independence, Powering Growth*

Wind Energy Ireland Briefing for Oireachtas Members

29 April 2026



# Wind Energy Ireland represents over 200 companies

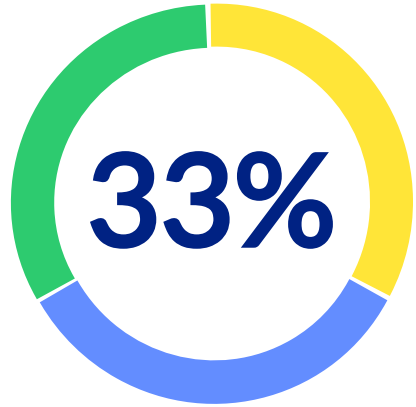
Members across existing assets, development & supply chain for onshore & offshore wind:

- Wind farm developers
- Turbine manufacturers
- Construction companies
- Supply companies
- Accountants
- Insurance
- Consultancy
- Legal firms
- Banks
- Small local businesses



What does wind energy contribute  
to Ireland today?

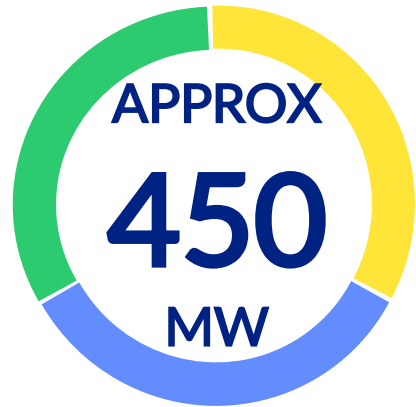
# 2025 – Moving From Concept to Delivery



of Ireland's  
electricity from  
wind in 2025



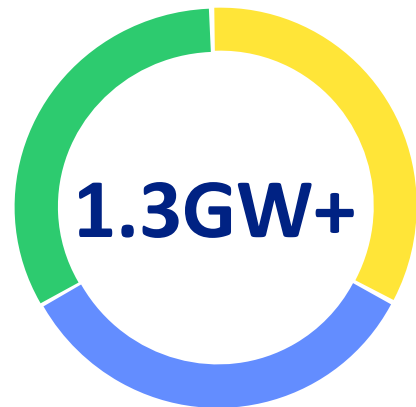
Wind energy  
saved €1.2 billion  
in gas costs for  
Ireland in 2025



of onshore wind  
farms reached  
financial close and  
began construction



Phase 1 wind  
farm projects  
now in the  
planning system



of new onshore  
wind farms entered  
the planning system



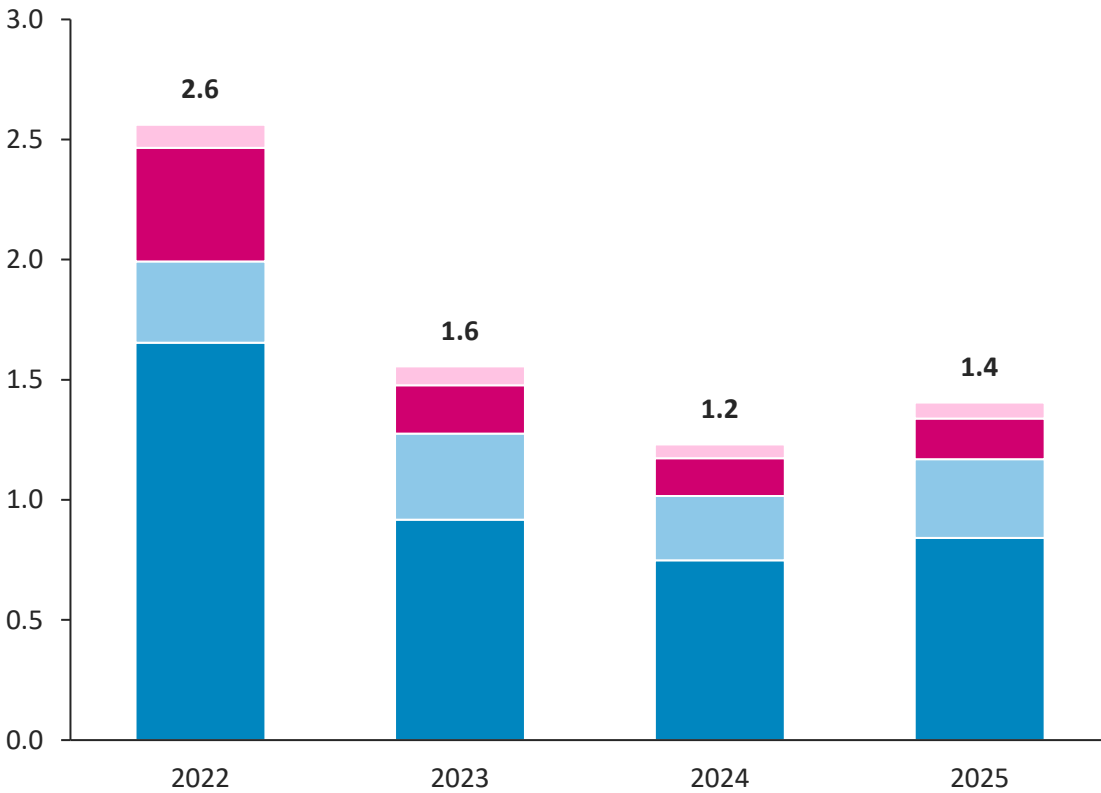
Competitive second  
offshore auction  
held and 900MW  
contracted

# Wind energy saved €6.7 billion in gas costs since 2022

Last year wind saved the equivalent annual emissions of 1.2 million homes

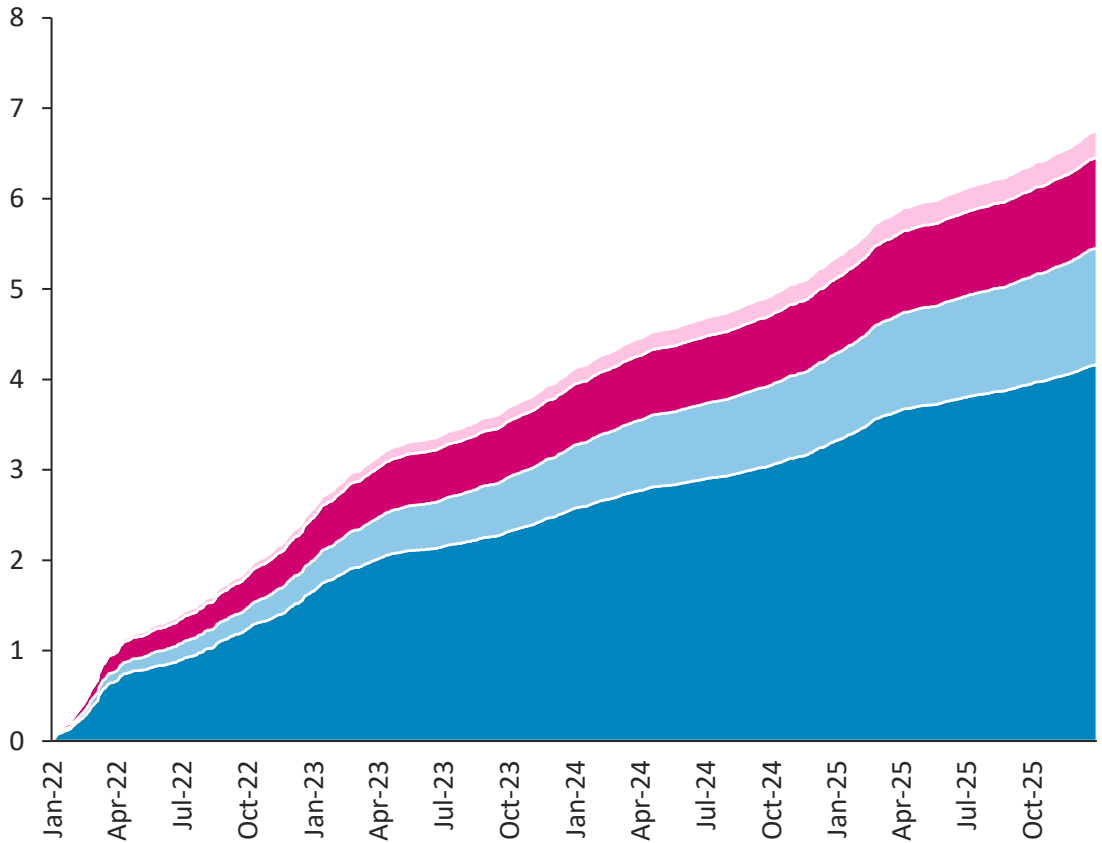
Annual Avoided Costs from Wind since 2022

€bn, nominal



Cumulative Avoided Costs from Wind since 2022

€bn, nominal

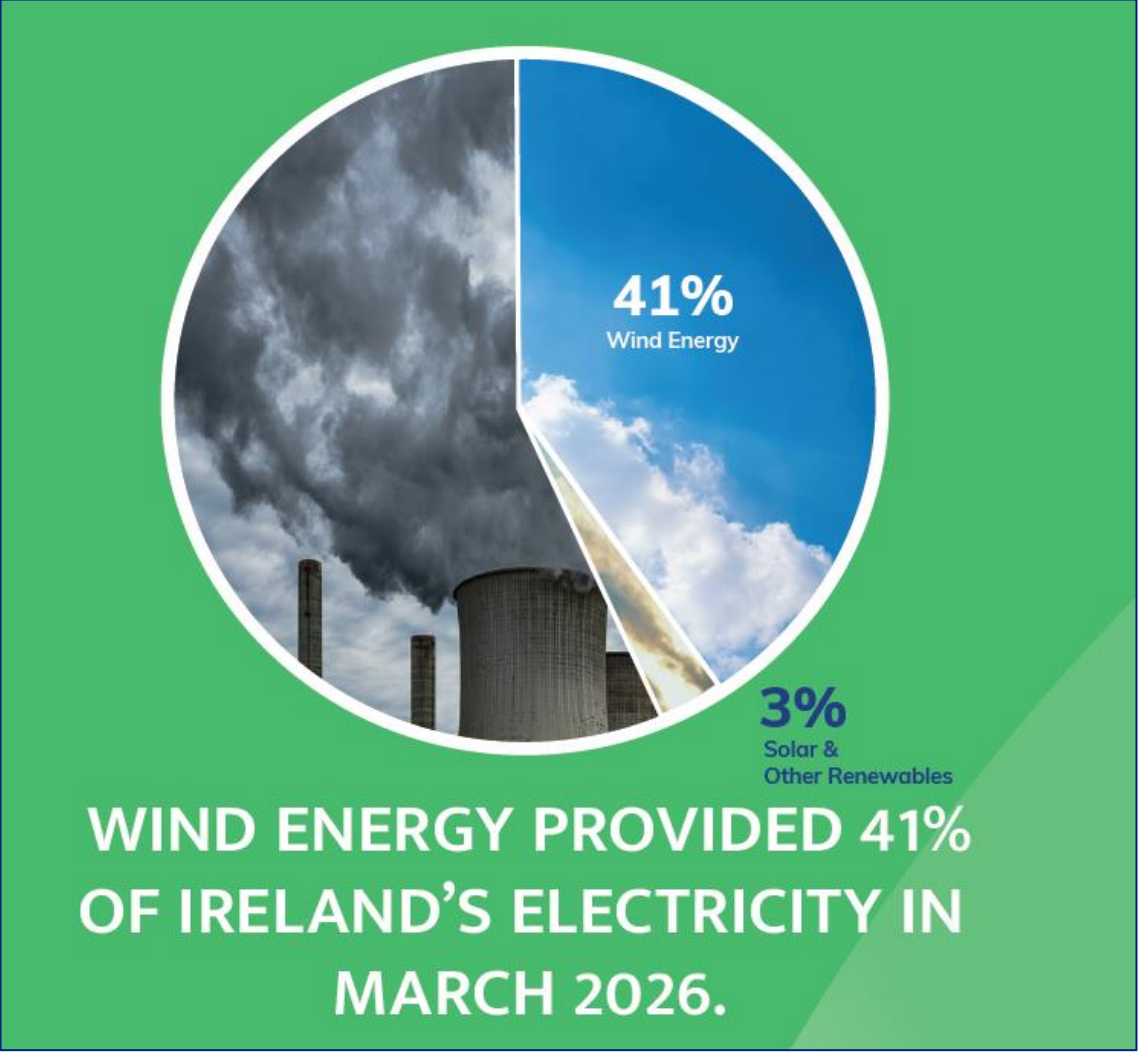
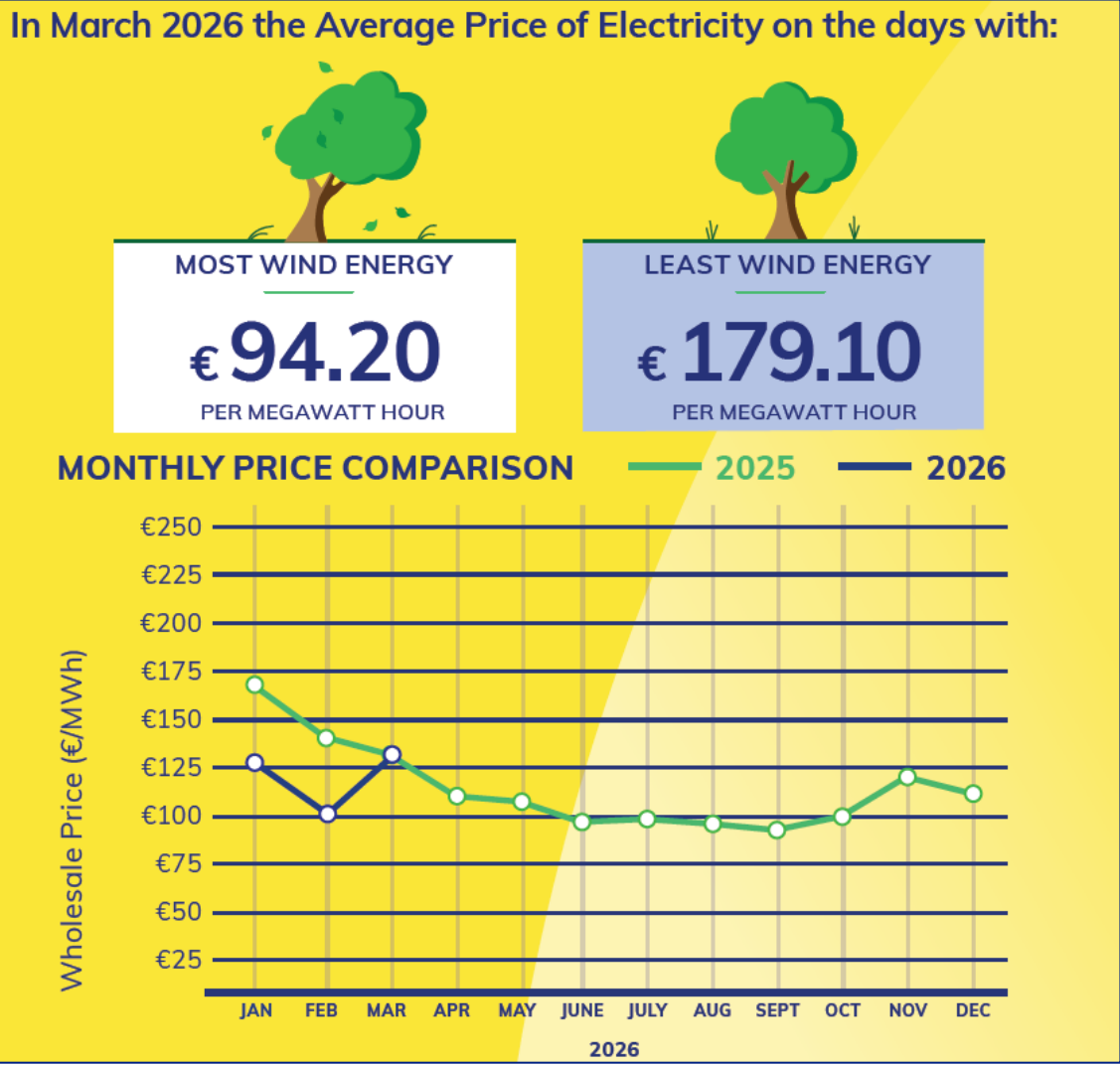


■ Ireland - Gas ■ Ireland - Carbon ■ Northern Ireland - Gas ■ Northern Ireland - Carbon

■ Ireland - Gas ■ Ireland - Carbon ■ Northern Ireland - Gas ■ Northern Ireland - Carbon



# Wind works. And it's lowering prices for consumers.



# Good for your Pocket

## How renewable energy helps Irish electricity consumers



In 2019's *Wind for a Euro*, Baringa estimated that the development of wind capacity would cost Irish consumers around €65 million by 2020, a total of **less than €1 per person per year**

In *Good for your Pocket*, they have updated their analysis for 2018-2023 and have turned their attention forward, to project the further savings that could be unlocked by **achieving 80% renewable electricity**



# Good for your Pocket

Shows that renewables have **saved consumers more than €840 million** since 2000 – and new investment could **save an additional €610 million per year**

To date, wind and solar farms have lowered the cost of electricity for everyone in Ireland by an

**average of €165 per person**  
**- that's €840 million in total**

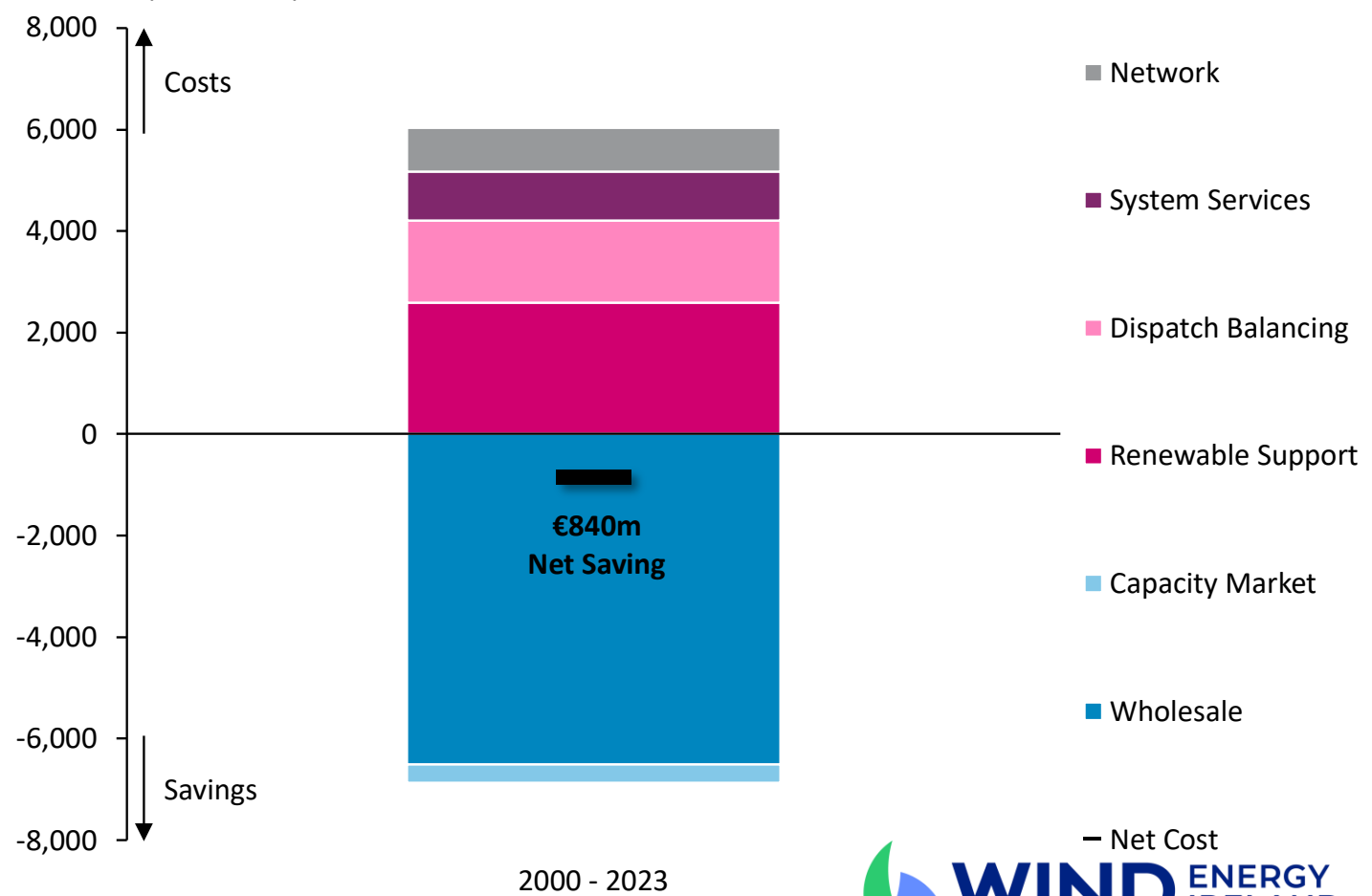


**Renewables could unlock additional savings of €610 million per year**

if Ireland continues to invest in wind & solar generation, storage and grid – and achieves 80% renewable electricity

Cumulative consumer costs & savings in Ireland – 2000 to 2023

€ million (real 2024)



# Wind Energy Supports Local Communities

Millions of euros are invested every year in **community benefit funds** for local communities to invest in the priorities they choose for their area – like outdoor play facilities, sports grounds and community spaces.

Wind farms pay around **€70 million in rates** to rural county councils every year. In eight counties, wind farms provide more than 10 per cent of the total rates income.

Local wind farms contributed **€6.7 million** to communities around the Republic of Ireland in 2024.





# Powering Ireland's Future, County by County

Discover County-Level Energy Statistics



Carlow	Cavan	Clare	Cork	Donegal	Dublin	Galway	Kerry	Kildare	Kilkenny	Laois	Leitrim	Limerick
Longford	Louth	Mayo	Meath	Monaghan	Offaly	Roscommon	Sligo	Tipperary	Waterford	Westmeath	Wexford	Wicklow



# Kerry

Here is how Kerry is playing its part in making wind energy, saving carbon emissions, and benefitting from wind farm community funds and commercial rates.



**746 MW**

Installed Wind Energy Capacity (MW)



**1,664 GWh**

Of Energy Generated



**12.67%**

Share of Ireland's Installed Wind Energy



**616,558 tonnes**

Of Carbon Emissions Saved



**€504,988**

Invested in Local Community Benefit Funds



**€5,098,945**

Of Kerry's Commercial Rates Income



**10.51%**

Wind Farm Rates as % of Total County Rates

What does the future of electricity  
look like in Ireland?



# Wind Energy Ireland - **Our Vision**

We will transform Ireland into an energy independent electrostate powered by clean, affordable, Irish energy.



# Wind Energy Ireland Strategy 2026–2030

## Delivering Energy Independence, Powering Growth

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### Delivering Wind Power at Scale

- Deploy **cost-effectively** at scale and at **pace**
- Remove **bottlenecks** in delivery policy
- Provide **evidence & research** to inform
- Uphold Ireland’s credibility as a **safe, professional, and resilient** industry

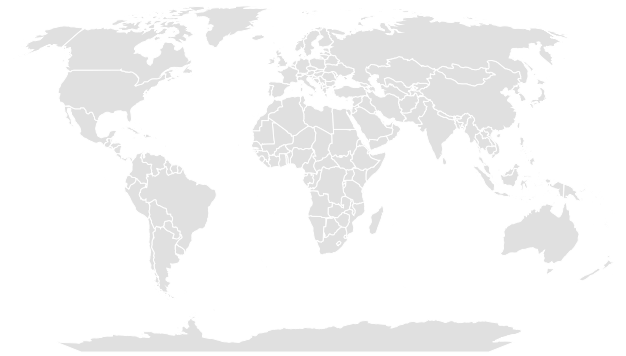
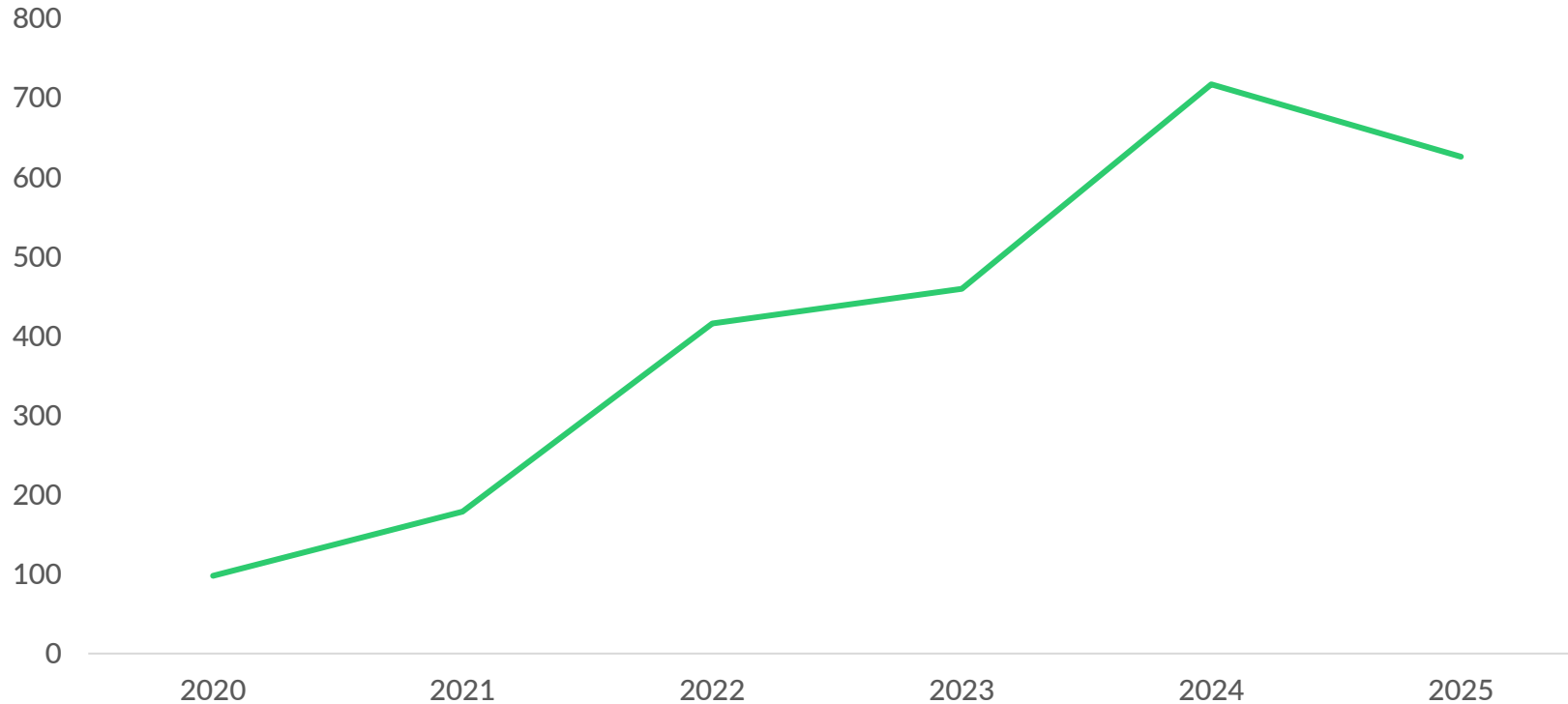
# Onshore Wind in Ireland – What’s Happening?



**Removing grid and route-to-market bottlenecks is key to financing projects and starting construction**

# Projects are gradually getting through planning...

Wind Energy Generation Granted Planning Permission Per Year (MW)



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2024 and 2025 were the best years for onshore wind granted planning.  
There has been a slowdown in past 12 months due to ACP timelines.

# ...which will lead to bigger auctions and more build



This year onshore wind will have more projects auction ready than ever. RESS6 could be Ireland's biggest auction and CPPA market very healthy.

# Offshore Wind in Ireland – What’s Happening?

## WEI Offshore Wind Action Plan

### Four Key Areas



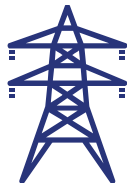
1. Deliver the Phase One Projects



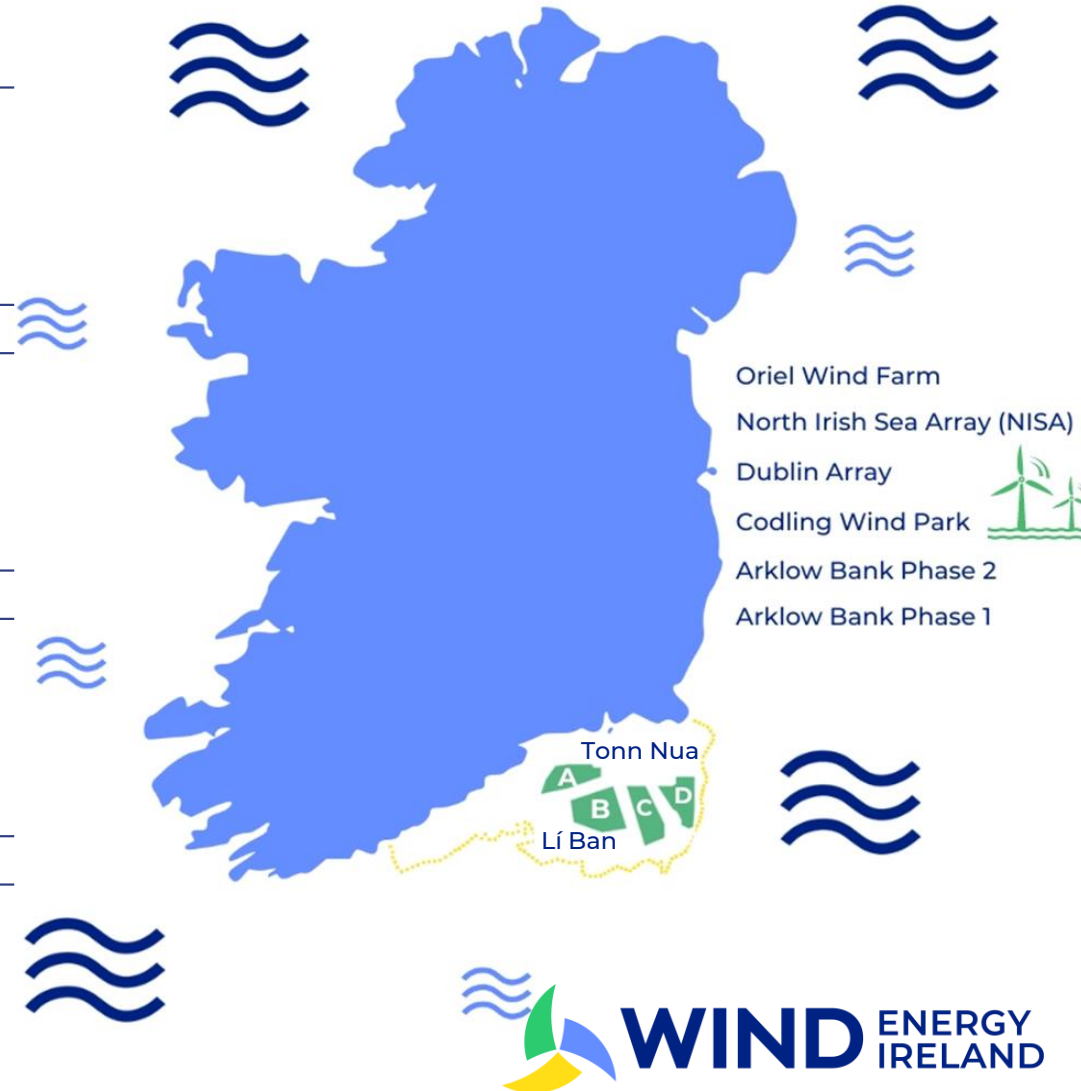
2. Maximise the South Coast DMAP



3. Enable our Industry’s Future  
- The National DMAP Process



4. Build the enablers



# Government's Offshore Wind Clearing House

Our Taoiseach and Minister have established an Offshore Wind Clearing House to deliver projects

## Taoiseach and Minister O'Brien announce establishment of Offshore Wind Energy Clearing House



### Key focus areas:



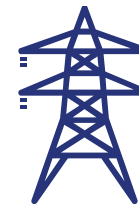
Ensuring timelines are met across Government



The planning system & associated resourcing



Port infrastructure investment & readiness



Certainty of grid capacity & route-to-market for projects

# Wind Energy Ireland Strategy 2026–2030

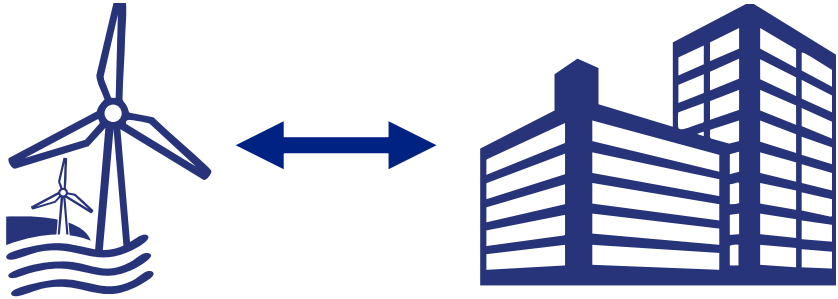
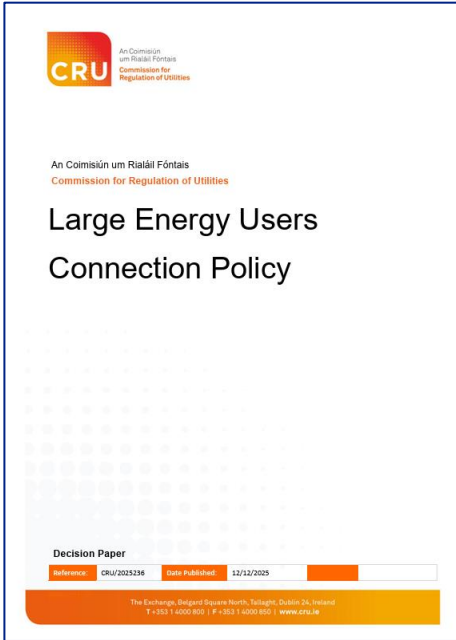
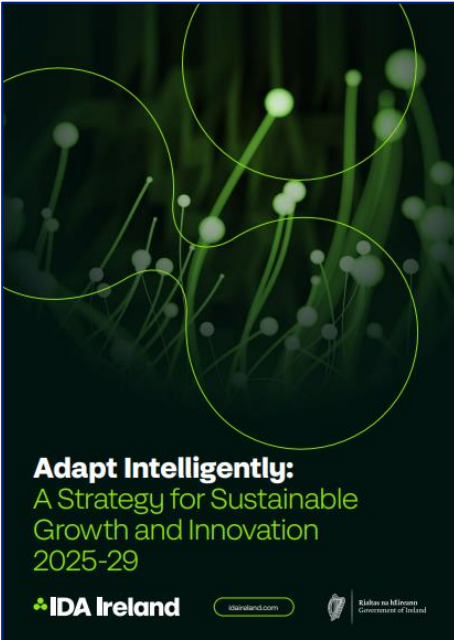
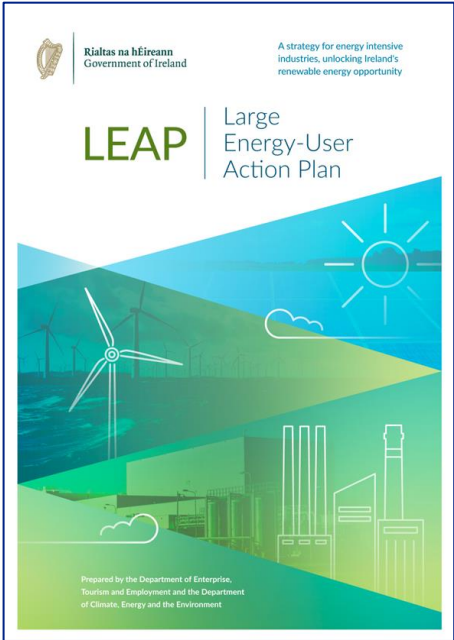
Delivering Energy Independence, Powering Growth

## Growing Clean Energy Demand

- Drive electrification, storage, & industry to maximise societal benefits
- Use wind to meet demand growth & minimise waste
- Ensure clean electricity is cost-competitive with fossil fuel alternatives
- Utilise events to build networks & partnerships



# New industry must be powered by renewables



Wind energy will drive the transition, grow the economy and deliver jobs.



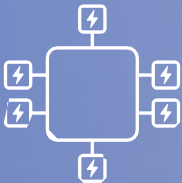
# Wind Energy Ireland's Asks



Support increased **investment in our planning system** – ACP and local authorities.



**Political support** for new **grid infrastructure** and the North South Interconnector.



**Electrify Ireland** - Accelerate electrification of heat and transport.



**Buy into the vision** – an energy independent electrostate to benefit our people.

**We believe in a clean, affordable  
electrified future.**

**We believe Ireland will be energy independent.**

**We're looking forward to working with  
you to build an Irish electrostate.**





**WIND ENERGY  
IRELAND**

[windenergyireland.com](http://windenergyireland.com)