

# WEI Policy Brief

September 2024 Edition

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# Welcome to the WEI Policy Brief – September 2024 Edition

**Introduction from Dave Linehan**  
**Head of Policy & Research**  
**Wind Energy Ireland**



Hello and welcome to the latest Policy Brief from Wind Energy Ireland, covering the latest updates and developments in core policy areas and **strategic policy objectives** for our industry.

15 policy and research objectives have been identified as part of a mid-point review of WEI's strategy 2022-2025. Up to date information for these objectives, including ongoing work areas and deliverables is contained on pages 4-22.

Another update we are including is the progress made with our **Policy Priorities action plan**. This includes 46 actions from across our 12 committees and follows a substantial planning exercise that took place with committee chairs earlier this year. We're delighted to update you on the completion of a further 7 actions since the July edition, with a further 11 actions due to close out before the end of the month. A full

overview of the action plan is contained on pages 23-28. As we move in the final quarter, we'll bring you the latest updates in the next Policy Brief in early November.

Alongside the "We will build a secure zero-carbon energy system" goal in our strategy sits the equally important "We will build powerful communities" ambition. Updates on recent work in this area are shown on pages 29-30.

**Policy-priming research** is a key focus for WEI, driven by need to deliver evidence and analysis that can move the dial on policy development. See details of our completed 2024 reports and a preview of things to come, including studies on planning system reform, power markets, future onshore wind, the economics of wind energy, and floating wind on pages 31-35.

Wind Energy Ireland's Policy & Research team continue to be busy with **policy consultation submissions**. Recent responses have included both CRU and DHLGH Strategic Plans, a further consultation on the South Coast DMAP, and

multiple consultations on system services future design that were completed in recent months. See details of all WEI submissions, including links, on pages 36-40 below.

There is a huge amount of ongoing policy and research activity across our industry, and across WEI. To ensure you are connected to the most relevant workstreams for your organisation please review the latest **Committees and Working Groups overview** on page 42.

If you have any questions, myself or one of the team would be happy to help. As always, we hope this Policy Brief is useful in keeping you updated in all that is happening in our sector.

## Class of 2025 – Limited Places Remaining for Members!!

Below is an overview of the first two months of the programme:

- Kick-off Module: **September 20th**, WEI HQ
- *Industry Insights*: Introduction to Renewables: September 27th, Online
- *Site Visit*: Ardnacrusha ESB Power Plant, Clare, October 11th
- *Soft Skills*: Optimising Communications with DISC TTI Assessment: October 25th, WEI HQ
- WEI Trade Show: November 6th

The programme structure: two Fridays per month (in-person & online), conference participation, site visits, a group project with presentations at the Annual Conference, and a Graduation in May 2025.

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# Strategic Policy Objectives



# Wind Energy Ireland

## Strategic Plan 2022-2025

**Goal 1: We will build a secure zero-carbon energy system**

**We will deliver this by:**

- Building evidence to support a sustainable and economic transition.
- Building support for enabling policy and regulatory decisions.
- Building knowledge to help people make the right choices.
- Building a roadmap for delivery of renewable generation and supporting technologies.

# *We will build a secure zero-carbon energy system*



1. WEI will **develop a roadmap for the delivery of a secure zero-carbon electricity system** in Ireland and Northern Ireland by 2035, with the purpose of establishing this as a Government endorsed target by 2025.
2. WEI will seek to **work in close cooperation with the system operators** to utilise all options available **to increase grid capacity in Ireland and to deliver cost-effective and speedy grid connections** which allow for the targets of 9,000 MW of onshore wind and 5,000 MW of offshore wind, together with the necessary supporting technologies, to be achieved by 2030.
3. WEI will seek to **monitor and minimise the dispatch down of wind generation**, its impact on the commercial viability of renewable generation projects, and the associated increased costs to the electricity consumer.
4. WEI will work to **promote a functionally effective planning system, which complies with climate legislation**, and prioritises the urgent progression of the onshore and offshore wind energy pipelines, related grid connection infrastructure and supporting technologies.
5. WEI will continue to **promote excellence in Health & Safety standards across the wind industry** and the sharing of best practice and learnings from our members.
6. WEI will work to **ensure the creation and evolution of well-functioning routes to market for renewable generation, and supporting technologies** needed to deliver a secure zero-carbon power system, which deliver the best value to the electricity consumer including securing greater revenue certainty and appropriate risk allocation for development.
7. WEI will **promote the continued use and evolution of sustainable and environmentally responsible development practices** and uses for wind energy and supporting technologies in Ireland.
8. WEI will **advocate for legislation, policy and the most suitable design for energy markets in Ireland and Europe** to support the transition to a secure zero-carbon electricity system by 2035 including the design of the energy, capacity and system services markets.

# *We will build a secure zero-carbon energy system*



9. WEI will **set out our vision for the delivery of offshore and onshore wind energy in Ireland from 2030 out to 2050** and highlight its ability to contribute to decarbonising the domestic and European electricity, heat, and transport sectors, including the planning of floating offshore wind energy, interconnection and alternative routes-to-market, and its contribution to supporting EU security of supply policy and delivering European energy independence.
10. WEI will work to **improve the planning, grid and route-to-market policies needed to streamline the repowering and life-extension** of Ireland's wind generation fleet.
11. WEI will **promote the growth of a strong and resilient domestic supply chain for offshore and onshore wind energy** and supporting technologies in Ireland and will support the development of a strong international supply chain for the delivery of Ireland's offshore wind ambitions.
12. WEI will continue to **support the development of energy storage** to minimise emissions, minimise dispatch down, support security of supply and further the delivery of an energy independent Ireland **through our partnership with Energy Storage Ireland**.
13. WEI will **progress the development of policy and strategy to deliver on the potential of Green Hydrogen in Ireland** and meet the Government's target of 2 GW of Green Hydrogen in development by 2030.
14. WEI will **progress the development of policy and strategy to enable greater proliferation of electrification of heat and transport** at domestic, business, and industrial levels, **and support the decarbonisation of large energy users** by championing enabling measures such as direct wires and Corporate PPAs.
15. WEI will **position leading energy research at the centre of national policy formation** and trends.

### Key updates since the last policy brief:

- Continued to document and provide evidence-based analysis to accompany WEI's election manifestos, to advocate for a net-zero power system. A new enabling technologies group has begun meeting under the Net Zero Committee and will continue to support this work.
- WEI's Future Market Vision workstream continued to progress, with our Recommendations Paper presented to DECC and DPER. The group also met a couple of times during the Summer to discuss the role of interconnection in the 2035 timeframe. Further engagement with CRU to follow shortly.
- WEI formally confirmed our future engagement with DECC for the Accelerating Renewable Electricity taskforce (ARET) on a quarterly basis from September. The taskforce is supported by 3 pillars – planning, grid and markets. WEI will be present at the next taskforce meeting on September 25th.

### Key upcoming deliverables and focus areas:

- Further detailed review of TES publication with focus on 2035 scenario sensitivity analysis and engage with EirGrid on how these scenarios are brought forward into the next phase i.e., System Needs Assessment.
- Engagement with key stakeholders across DECC, DHLGH, and key state agencies (e.g., EirGrid, ESBN, CRU) on an ongoing basis as part of the Accelerating Renewable Electricity taskforce and associated workstreams. We will be updating members on progress through the Planning, Grid, Markets and Net Zero Committees.
- WEI are expecting the first iteration of the Offshore Transmission Strategy (OTS) by the end of the year, as well as the establishment of an engagement group for the OTS.



### Key updates since the last policy brief:

- The Connection Delivery group finalised a list of the main connection barriers and potential solutions which were shared with the Future Grid Working Group under the Accelerating Renewable Electricity taskforce. This is the first cross-functional deliverable under the ARET.
- EirGrid provided an update on progress with Renewable Hubs. Midland renewable hubs have merged and are more akin to development of a new network in the area. North Dublin/East Meath Hub will merge some existing projects in the area.
- A new Interconnector & Dispatch Down study has begun with Baringa, supported by members through the Dispatch Down taskforce. The development of scenarios is currently under discussion. A year end completion of the study is being targeted.
- The Grid Capacity WG shared their 13 proposed scenarios for EirGrid to use in their ECP 2.4 Constraints Analysis.

### Key upcoming deliverables and focus areas:

- The Firm Access study is near its completion, with final results presented to WEI. Final messaging being worked on.
- EirGrid TES team working on System Needs Assessment and will be engaging with WEI once results are available.
- The CRU are expected to publish their decision on the Future Connection Policy at the end of September/start of October. In this decision, confirmation of a batch in 2024 is expected.

### Key updates since the last policy brief:

- Curtailment levels to date in 2024 are similar to 2023, due to a combination of lower wind conditions counteracted by higher interconnector imports and Min Gen levels. Minimum generation levels of conventional plants has generally been the predominant driver of curtailment.
- EirGrid has reduced the minimum number of large conventional fossil-fuelled generators that must operate on Ireland's electricity grid at any one time from five to four, meaning 7-sets are online all island. This has been implemented permanently from April 2024 onwards. However, it has not resulted in an improvement in ROI Min Gen in April 2024.

### Key upcoming deliverables and focus areas:

- WG has written a letter to EirGrid with the key ask being a workshop to discuss solutions for dispatch down in the short, medium, and long term. Workshop is expected to occur in September.
- Another key focus area for the group is outages. The WG will be engaging with EirGrid/ESB Networks on their Outage Transformation workstream, where it is hoped that the scheduling of outages will be optimised to minimise the duration of outages, to reduce constraints.

Parameter	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (Jan-Jul)
Curtailment (%)	4.2%	4.0%	6.4%	3.2%	3.8%	5.0%	5.0%
Constraints (%)	2.5%	4.3%	6.7%	4.8%	5.4%	6.5%	7.8%
Total Dispatch Down (%)	6.7%	8.3%	13.1%	8.0%	9.2%	11.6%	12.8%
Estimated Dispatched Down Energy (GWh)	705	1015	1874	918	1240	1592	962
Estimated Lost Revenue (€)*	€49m	€77m	€129m	€78m	€160m	€144m	€86m
Dispatched Down Energy equivalent to CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from thermal generators (Mt CO <sub>2</sub> )**	0.256	0.370	0.688	0.496	0.653	0.746	0.414 (Jan-Jun)
Estimated Lost Wind Energy as Percentage of All-Island Electricity Demand***	1.9%	2.8%	5.2%	2.4%	3.2%	4.0%	4.1%

\* High level estimate of lost revenue which takes account of EirGrid monthly average dispatch down percentages, monthly & annual average day ahead market prices during dispatch down events, support scheme energy prices, firmness etc. Does not consider proposed revenue cap.

\*\* Estimates based on SEAI data: monthly energy balances and emissions factors published on their website.

\*\*\* Based on all-island demand figure obtained from EirGrid's "System-and-Renewable-Data-Summary-Report" spreadsheet on their website.

### Key updates since the last policy brief:

- In July WEI met with both ABP and OPR to discuss the key issues impacting the industry. Detailed notes have been circulated.
- Engagement on the P&D Bill WEI continued, with numerous meetings with Departmental officials. Two key amendments have been discussed with DECC's planning advisors including Section 117 of the Bill that relates to pre-application engagement with ABP and Section 85.1 which relates to eligibility to apply for land-based development.
- WEI have established a National Planning Framework WG that is currently working on drafting WEI's submission. This version of the NPF will be the first time that Regional Renewable Electricity Capacity Allocations have been set for regional areas. This is a key policy that WEI has been advocating for some time.
- WEI responded to the DECC consultation on the Draft SC DMAP on 14th June. A further limited consultation on the Environmental Data Log was issued for the month of August, with WEI compiling a short response to this by the 30 August deadline.
- Following considerable engagement WEI managed to get DECC and DHLGH to host a workshop on the CDP zoning issues that has been negatively impacting ABP wind farm decisions. WEI will be bringing industry experts to the workshop in September with an aim to find a short-term solution.

### Key upcoming deliverables and focus areas:

- WEI continue to push for key amendments to the Bill when it goes through its final stages upon resumption of Dáil Éireann.
- NPF WG will make its submission on the NPF consultation prior to its deadline September 12th.
- WEI will focus its efforts on the DECC/DHLGH CDP workshop to find a short-term solution to the zoning issue.

### Key updates since the last policy brief:

- The Construction Safety WG held their annual in person meeting on Derrinlough Wind Farm, which included a detailed tour of the wind farm construction site and substation. The WG progressed plans for a driving/vehicle safety event for WEI members on the 19th of November in the National Construction Training Campus. Further details and registration information will be circulated shortly.
- The Emergency Response WG kicked off work to begin gathering results from members' emergency response drills for WEI to collate into a lessons learned document. Kieran O'Regan of ARCH Safety has been welcomed as the new WG Chair.
- The Offshore Safety WG has established a Phase 1 HSE subgroup which has taken a lead in identifying priority and immediate issues being faced by the Phase 1 projects with regard to offshore safety. The subgroup have met with DECC to discuss these issues, with DECC now in the process of setting up an Offshore Safety Regulatory Forum to be chaired by MARA and to include industry, relevant departments and state agencies.

### Key upcoming deliverables and focus areas:

- The driving & vehicle event will launch registration in September.
- The next stakeholder meeting with the HSA will take place in October.
- The Emergency Response WG is gathering results from members' emergency response drills to distil the information into a useful and easily digestible lessons learned document for the wider industry. Any members not involved in this WG can contact [eabhin.byrne@windenergyireland.com](mailto:eabhin.byrne@windenergyireland.com) if they have information to share for this piece of work.
- WEI will work to gather the remaining photos required to finalise the safety posters for the Nacelle Hoist and Construction WGs.

### Key updates since the last policy brief:

- The provisional results of the RESS 4 onshore wind auction were published on 9<sup>th</sup> September. There were four successful wind farm projects with a capacity of 373 MW. The average price of wind energy was €90.47 per megawatt hour.
- WEI has continued to work closely with DECC on the development of the T&Cs for ORESS 2.1. DECC and WEI held a focus group workshop to discuss these issues in mid-August with further amendments now being made to the T&Cs which will be re-shared with WEI shortly.
- An assessment of CPPA barriers is ongoing by DECC as part of the ARET. Currently there is no intention for the publication of a successor document to the CPPA roadmap that was published by DECC in 2022.

### Key upcoming deliverables and focus areas:

- The ORESS 2.1 T&Cs are being updated by DECC following feedback from WEI, with the expectation of finalising them by end September.
- DECC confirmed via the August OWDT meeting that Site B is expected to be the next site to be auctioned for offshore wind development. This site will effectively be "ORESS 2.2". It is still to be determined whether this will fall within the existing ORESS scheme, or via the successor scheme.
- WEI will be engaging with DECC on RESS 5 +, considering future auction design, non-price criteria and state aid approval for the post 2025 RESS.
- The WEI position paper on non-price criteria is being prepared in advance of a webinar (one of the three webinars mentioned above). As part of this session, the European Commission will present a draft of the 'Implementing Act' for Article 26 of the Net Zero Industry Act, outlining how Member States should apply sustainability and resilience award criteria in their renewable energy auctions.
- WEI are planning a series of three markets themed webinars which will take place starting in October. The topics for discussion on these webinars will be CPPAs, Electricity Market Design Reform, and Non-Price Criteria for Auctions.

### Key updates since the last policy brief:

- The Onshore Environment WG is progressing multiple workstreams including a joint response with the Offshore Environment WG to the Public Consultation on the review and update of Wildlife Legislation.
- The Sustainability WG held its first meeting to discuss the plans for the circular economy position paper and begin prioritising relevant topics. A chair is still required for this WG – please contact [eabhin.byrne@windenergyireland.com](mailto:eabhin.byrne@windenergyireland.com) if interested.
- A field trip to Mount Lucas focused on peatland restoration was arranged for the Onshore Environment WG and Sustainability WG in September.
- WEI has been collaborating with UCC to arrange a seminar on underwater noise in October, bringing perspectives from industry, eNGOs, researchers and international acoustic experts together for discussion with stakeholders.
- WEI organised a 2hr online session about Biodiversity Net Gain on the 4th of September with guest speakers from WSP, SSER and EirGrid which received huge interest from members.
- WEI was invited to attend the launch of the Hen Harrier Threat Response Plan in September.

### Key upcoming deliverables and focus areas:

- Delivery of the underwater noise seminar in Cork.
- The Sustainability WG will begin drafting the circular economy position paper.
- Following the BNG webinar, the Onshore Environment WG will begin their policy action to draft the WEI Position Paper on BNG.
- The delayed MPA Bill may be published in Q3/Q4 and a response will be coordinated through the Offshore Environment WG.
- A new template to gather case studies for a Nature page on the WEI website will be circulated to members.

### Key updates since the last policy brief:

- WEI's Future Market Vision workstream continued to progress, with our Recommendations Paper presented to DECC and DPER. The group also met a couple of times during the Summer to discuss the role of interconnection in the 2035 timeframe. Further engagement with CRU to follow shortly.
- The Scheduling and Dispatch Programme is progressing on track towards delivery of the first tranche of initiatives in April 2025. SDP Tranche 1 ISEM Technical Specification were published in July 2024.
- Submitted FASS consultation response on the (DASSA) Product Review & Locational Methodology Paper. Further consultation published on FASS concerning the All-Island System Service Supplier Charge and are engaging with TSOs on the proposed mechanism and with members on their views.

### Key upcoming deliverables and focus areas:

- WEI are looking to engage with the CRU on the Future Market Design paper written by the Future Market WG, which has already been presented to DECC, EirGrid, and DPER.
- Continue to monitor, provide updates and engage on European policy developments utilising WEI's communications agency in Brussels, Hannover and our involvement and interaction with Wind Europe working groups.
- Responding to FASS Supplier Charge consultation and further consultations are due for the remainder of the year.
- Consultation due on Sharing of MEC for Hybrid Sites from CRU. This has been delayed from the original publication timeline of June. We are now expecting this consultation to be published in late September.

### Key updates since the last policy brief:

- WEI have continued to engage with DECC in relation to the Future Framework (FF). The joint FF group has been set up under the OWDT, with 12 direct industry representatives taking part from WEI membership. The first meeting of this group is scheduled for end September. WEI met with DECC at end July to prepare for this kick-off meeting in advance, to discuss and agree key priorities and a proposed agenda for the initial meeting.
- The FLOW Committee has now set up a temporary WG focusing on FLOW Demonstration. The group will work over the coming weeks to identify and agree key principles on how FLOW demonstration could and should be done in Ireland.
- A new Future Onshore Wind Vision working group has been established under the Net Zero Committee to develop a position and lead a research study on the potential for onshore wind post 2030. The WG is meeting regularly to agree a scope of work and is aiming to kick off the study in Q4.

### Key upcoming deliverables and focus areas:

- DECC have awarded an ORE Technical Advisory services contract to BVG Associates. Their analysis will address actions set out in the FF policy, particularly looking at floating wind viability, potential for FLOW demonstration in various locations around the coast of Ireland and focusing in on wider offshore wind target delivery between 2030–2040.
- The FLOW Demo WG will aim to develop a high-level principles document related to demonstration. These principles will be shared with DECC and DETE and help to inform the work of the FLOW Demo group which DECC are planning to set up under the OWDT by the end of the year.
- The WEI Q3 Policy Forum is taking place on 18 September at the Clayton Burlington Hotel in Dublin and will be focusing on Ireland's offshore wind future and the role of floating wind. The event is free to attend for members.
- The Future Onshore Wind Vision group is aiming to finalise a scope of work, identify a consultant, and kick off the research in October.



### Key updates since the last policy brief:

- Since the publication of the Repowering Report the Chair of the Repowering working group has been working on incorporating the findings of MKO's report into the latest draft of the repowering position paper. Once completed it will be circulated to the Planning Committee for final comment and then be circulated to the wider membership and key stakeholders.
- During this quarter WEI has stepped up engagement on repowering issues on the back of the publication of the Repowering Report. WEI met with planning advisors within DECC who were open and receptive to the key findings of the research. This engagement is ongoing with the aim to have its recommendations absorbed into future onshore government policy.

### Key upcoming deliverables and focus areas:

- WEI's Repowering working group will finalise its draft repowering position as this is one of the key policy priorities to complete in the next quarter.
- WEI will build on the existing engagement on repowering with key stakeholders by utilising WEI's finalised position paper.

### Key updates since the last policy brief:

- WEI continue to work closely with the Offshore Wind Strategy Unit in DETE on the implementation of Powering Prosperity, Ireland's Offshore Wind Industrial Strategy.
- WEI have provided feedback to DETE on their plans to carry out analysis on Green Energy Park concepts, for which they are expecting to go out to tender for in September.
- WEI are also working closely with DFHERIS and DECC on skills and workforce requirements for offshore wind and have supported the development of the DFHERIS Skills Action Plan which builds on the Building our Potential report, published by GTS and WEI earlier this year.

### Key upcoming deliverables and focus areas:

- Via the Skills and Workforce workstream of the OWDT, WEI will continue to engage with DFHERIS and DECC on supply chain and skills activities, supporting and feeding into the Expert Advisory Group on skills and workforce requirements and the associated subgroups.
- The WEI team have and will continue to engage with members and the wider industry and stakeholders in relation to the Wind Energy Trade Show, to build on the success of last year and ensure broader attendance and exhibitors from across the supply chain. The Trade Show will take place in the RDS on 6-7 November.

### Key updates since the last policy brief:

- In July, DECC published their [Electricity storage policy framework](#). This document has been worked on over the last year and half following consultation at the end of 2022. The policy is positive especially towards LDES which ESI welcomes.
- ESI alongside WEI responded to the consultation on the DASSA Product Review and Locational Methodology Consultation. This is an ongoing workstream with more consultations expected throughout the year.
- CRU alongside ESBN have published their decision paper on the [ESBN demand flexibility product procurement](#). This decision paper was positive supporting mechanisms such as a share and floor revenue model, long term contracts and multi market participation.
- The [National Energy Demand Strategy](#) (NEDS) was published by the CRU in late July. There are a number of key actions in the paper that relate to storage including a network tariff review and a commitment to consult to on TSO LDES procurement by year end.

### Key upcoming deliverables and focus areas:

- We are expecting ESBN to publish a follow up consultation on the demand flexibility product in Q3.
- We will continue to engage with DECC/CRU/EirGrid around next steps following the publication of the policy framework.
- We are awaiting a consultation on sharing MEC from CRU which will have a major bearing on hybrid connections going forward.
- ESI have two ongoing studies going on, with delivery of both studies expected in Q4:
  1. Network charges for Energy Storage with ECA.
  2. Benefits of Hybrid sites with Cornwall insight.

### Key updates since the last policy brief:

- The Green Hydrogen Committee have drafted a stakeholder engagement plan for the committee to utilise to identify and plan engagements with key stakeholders to progress the core actions of the Hydrogen Strategy.
- WEI have reached out to DECC regarding progress on the Strategy actions, particularly the Hydrogen Implementation Plan. The Plan was due to be published in Q2 2024 but ran into unforeseen delays and is now expected by Q4 2024.
- The Hydrogen Route to Market WG are in the process of developing a position paper on Hydrogen production support schemes, which will be discussed with DECC when complete. The paper will use analysis from the EU Hydrogen Bank, HARs and subsidies/incentives from other jurisdictions to inform both the Early Innovation Fund and longer term supports in Ireland.

### Key upcoming deliverables and focus areas:

- The focus over the coming weeks will centre around the development of the position paper on incentivising green hydrogen. This was identified as a key action for the Hydrogen Committee for 2024, and this work will be led out via the Hydrogen Route to Market WG.
- WEI will continue to liaise with DECC regarding progress on the Implementation Plan and status of our position paper, with a meeting to then be arranged to discuss both in more detail. DECC highlighted that they are considering the potential for a dedicated Hydrogen Taskforce to be put in place, which WEI will continue to engage with DECC on.

### Key updates since the last policy brief:

- Membership of Ireland Electrified has continued to increase. Continued growth will be a focus in Q4.
- Held a webinar with Green Tech Skillnet on business benefits to electrification.
- Engagement with stakeholders: DECC, IDA, Dairy Sustainability Ireland, spoke at Energy & Farm Diversification Show.
- Consultation response on ESNB PR6 Strategy from the perspective of Ireland Electrified members.
- Drafting paper on policy barriers for electrification.
- Continuing to develop a paper on pass-through costs (SEMO charges) reform for electrification.
- Planning Ireland Electrified conference in December: Sponsors on board and agenda developing covering heat and transport electrification

### Key upcoming deliverables and focus areas;

- Finalise Agenda for the first Ireland Electrified Conference, taking place in December, and increase awareness of the event.
- Further webinars on electrification technologies and advantages planned.
- Finalise policy paper on Electrification Policy Barriers.
- Publish research papers on electrification covering; training needs for industrial heat electrification, electricity pass-through costs, and electrification advantages and pass-through costs reforms.
- Continued engagement with stakeholders across Government Departments and LEUs in heat and transport.

### Key updates since the last policy brief:

- De-risking Ireland's Floating Offshore Wind Targets (DIFOWT) project Floating Wind Risk Management Series introduced (see project website for chapters 1 and 2, which cover Port distance impact on installation and Port Capacity).
- DIFOWT project advisory group established to gain insight into FLOW industry stakeholders' experiences and challenges. If you'd like to join, please e-mail Gabe Doran ([gabe.doran@windenergyireland.com](mailto:gabe.doran@windenergyireland.com)).

### Key upcoming deliverables and focus areas:

- The Graduate & Career Development Programme Class of 2025 will begin this September and is now enrolling trainees. Please reach out to discover how we can help provide a training resource to improve your employees' capabilities.
- WEI research projects focussed on floating wind to be featured at upcoming Q3 Policy Forum (Ireland's Offshore Wind Future and the Role of Floating Wind) on 18th September.
- We are gearing up to feature research once again at this year's Trade Show on 6-7 November, where we'll be showcasing cutting edge wind energy research in the research and innovation hall.
- T-shore (Technical Skills for Harmonised Offshore Renewable Energy) Irish Centre for Vocational Excellence (CoVE) to be launched at Trade Show.
- Alongside the Trade Show, a DIFOWT project workshop will be held with the project advisory group on 6th November.
- T-Shore Brussels Event to be held in EU Parliament on 14th November.

# Policy Priorities Action Plan



# We will build a secure zero-carbon energy system



#	Strategic Objective	WEI Committee(s) Lead (+ supporting)
1	Develop a roadmap for the delivery of a secure zero-carbon electricity system	Net Zero (+all committees)
2	Work to increase grid capacity, and deliver cost effective and speedy grid connections	Grid, Offshore Grid
3	Monitor and minimise the dispatch down of wind generation	Asset Management (+Grid)
4	Promote a functionally effective planning system, which complies with climate legislation	Planning, Offshore Consenting
5	Promote excellence in Health & Safety standards across the wind industry	Health & Safety
6	Creation of well-functioning routes to market for renewable generation, and supporting technologies	Markets (+Offshore)
7	Promote evolution of sustainable and environmentally responsible development practices	Planning, (+Offshore Consenting, Community, Asset Management)
8	Advocate for legislation, policy, and the most suitable design for energy markets in Ireland and Europe	Markets (+Net Zero)
9	Set out our vision for the delivery of offshore and onshore wind energy in Ireland from 2030 out to 2050	Net Zero, FLOW, Offshore (+all committees)
10	Improve the policies needed to streamline the repowering and life-extension	Planning (+Asset Management)
11	Promote the growth of a strong and resilient domestic supply chain for offshore and onshore wind energy	Offshore (+Grid, Offshore Grid)
12	Support the development of energy storage through our partnership with Energy Storage Ireland	<i>Energy Storage Ireland</i>
13	Progress the development of policy and strategy to deliver on the potential of Green Hydrogen in Ireland	Green Hydrogen
14	Progress the electrification of heat and transport, and support the decarbonisation of large energy users	<i>Ireland Electrified</i> (+Markets, Grid)
15	Position leading energy research at the centre of national policy formation	Separate Research KPIs



# We will build a secure zero-carbon energy system



- During 2024, all committees are placing a focus on delivering the policy objectives in the WEI strategy. All objectives have been assigned across our committee and working group structure, and each group has agreed on focus areas for the year.
- A consolidated action plan has been created and is being reviewed by the Committee Chairs taskforce (meeting quarterly) as well as through WEI board and council meetings. See the full list of actions below. Please contact the WEI rep for the relevant committee to learn more.

#	Policy Priorities Action Plan	Responsible WEI Committee(s)	Status
1	Review TES publication with focus on 2035 scenario sensitivity analysis and engage with EirGrid on how these scenarios are brought forward into the next phase i.e., System Needs Assessment.	Net Zero Committee	Ongoing
1	Obtain a wind industry seat on the Accelerating Renewables Taskforce.	Net Zero Committee	Complete
1	Collaborate with external affairs team to provide evidence-based analysis to accompany WEI's election manifestos, to advocate for a net-zero power system and energy independence.	Net Zero Committee	Ongoing
1	Develop a Cybersecurity Minimum Compliance Requirements document to ensure compliance with the NIS2 Directive and help secure the industry from cybersecurity threats.	Asset Management Committee	Ongoing
2	Develop a position outlining how the connection delivery process can be streamlined, and where time and effort could be reduced, considering Design Process, Specifications, and Review, Non-Contestable Programme, Programme Constraints & Approaches and Asset Transfer.	Grid Committee	Complete
2	Complete a grid modelling study to consider the implications of CRU's decision on Firm Access and develop a paper outlining future policy needs. Engage with key stakeholders on the key fundings.	Grid Committee	Ongoing
2	Progress and influence policy on hybrid plants with particular focus on installed capacity cap, multiple legal entities, and dynamic MEC.	Grid Committee	Ongoing
2	Engage with the CRU on the Future Connection Process, ensuring there is a connection process window in 2024, looking at simplifying the process, reviewing cost certainty, and providing at least 2 annual batches from 2025.	Grid Committee	Ongoing
2	Increase engagement with EirGrid, CRU, DECC on offshore grid for both Phase 1 and Phase 2 projects. Seek industry involvement in the Offshore Wind Delivery Taskforce Grid Workstream.	Offshore Grid Committee	Ongoing

# We will build a secure zero-carbon energy system



3	Contribute to study on interconnection, dispatch down, and Ireland's Export Potential, with emphasis on reviewing 2023 data, and identifying the key factors leading to the change in interconnector flows in the near term and solutions that can minimise dispatch down.	Asset Management Committee	Ongoing
3	Set up temporary WEI group with Asset Management, Grid and Markets committee chairs, relevant WG chairs, and WEI leads, along with ESI and RNI representatives to agree priority areas to lobby for constraint reduction and define actions for these priority areas.	Asset Management Committee	Ongoing
4	Create new Offshore Planning Reform WG to engage with the onshore Planning Committee and facilitate sharing of offshore expertise as P&D Bill works its way to finalisation in the Oireachtas. Once the Bill is finalised the WG will keep track of the commencement of key sections of the Act.	Offshore Consenting Committee	Ongoing
4	Develop a robust response to public consultation on ORE Marine Planning Guidelines and follow up meetings with DHLGH.	Offshore Consenting Committee	Planned
4	Continue efforts to solve issue with primacy of local planning policy - engage with Dept/ABP to create short term fix, communication of message of the Circular and investigate the precedents of the SHD decision to disregard national policy.	Planning Committee	Ongoing
4	Develop a summary document on the transposition of RED III, to help focus WEI's attention on most important aspects of the directive. Engage with DHLGH to push for quick transposition of key items (quicker permitting for wind farms and repowering projects).	Planning Committee	Complete
4	Develop joint Grid/Planning position paper in relation to Roads, highlighting lack of consistency and transparency in Road Opening License costs etc. and identifying a suite of actions/recommendations.	Planning Committee	Ongoing
5	Collate, promote and disseminate lessons learned from members' emergency response drills to help the wider industry apply learnings and improve their own emergency response plans.	Health & Safety Committee	Ongoing
5	Engage with the HSA particularly with regard to their plans for unannounced site inspections and increase focus on offshore wind safety and training with the HSA and other relevant key stakeholders.	Health & Safety Committee	Ongoing
5	Complete and promote safety posters for the sector.	Health & Safety Committee	Ongoing
6	Deliver positive changes to RESS 4 T&Cs to reduce auction risks and establish engagement with DECC on RESS 4 & 5+ post consultation period. Engage with DECC on future subsidy support post RESS to ensure longer term certainty for onshore wind.	Markets Committee	Complete
6	Support the development of CPPAs in the Irish Market via a discussion and presentation at a Markets themed Policy Forum.	Markets Committee	Ongoing

# We will build a secure zero-carbon energy system



6	Engage with DECC and key relevant stakeholders on ORESS, to agree and finalise the ORESS 2.1 process (T&Cs, South Coast DMAP & grid development plans) and ensure momentum with successor scheme to ORESS and that there is no fall-off in support between schemes.	Offshore Committee	Ongoing
6	Engage with the CRU, and detail position through consultation response on Phase 2+ Connection Policy and Charging Methodology. Expand on call for evidence paper from 2023.	Offshore Grid Committee	Ongoing
7	Initiate new Sustainability WG in the Asset Management Committee and complete a Circular Economy position paper in line with the deliverable under WEI's sustainability strategy.	Asset Management Committee	Ongoing
7	Engage with stakeholders such as DHLGH, UCC, Marine Institute, NPWS, MARA, IWDG and DECC to encourage alignment for development of a fit-for-purpose underwater noise guidance.	Offshore Consenting Committee	Complete
7	Develop WEI's position on onshore Biodiversity Net Gain and share with relevant stakeholders.	Planning Committee	Ongoing
8	Ensure the transition to, and development of, the system services future arrangements are effective and transparent for members, by engaging proactively with a suite of consultations expected in 2024.	Markets Committee	Ongoing
8	Undertake a review of the UK REMA and European Market Reform works and understand the implications to the Irish market under different outcomes.	Markets Committee	Ongoing
8	Agree a set of recommendations at the Future Market Vision working group, obtain internal approval, and engage with key stakeholders at national and european level on proposals for future market design.	Net Zero Committee	Ongoing
9	Establish Future Onshore Policy working group in the Net Zero committee to develop industry positions on the potential for onshore wind energy in the period post 2030.	Net Zero Committee	Ongoing
9	Develop agreed positions on how floating wind can contribute to the target for 20GW of offshore by 2040, considering what is needed to get first floating turbine in the water - potential to deploy, infrastructure requirements, demonstration, scale etc. Share findings on an iterative basis with DECC.	FLOW Committee	Ongoing
9	Engage in research projects related to FLOW, to support project objectives and deliverables, ensuring the work of the project partners is being shaped and influenced by the relevant experts in industry. Focus on questions of FLOW cost and technology readiness opportunities.	FLOW Committee	Complete
9	Carry out an analysis on Ireland's future interconnection and export potential, with a focus on providing outputs for 2030, 2035, 2040, 2045 and 2050.	Net Zero Committee	Planned

# We will build a secure zero-carbon energy system



9	Establish Future Framework working group to develop industry positions and collaborate with DECC to establish the joint Government-Industry WG under the OWDT to lead on delivery of FF actions, including priority actions identified in the WEI consultation response.	Offshore Committee	Complete
9	Develop a robust stakeholder engagement plan, with particular focus on key relevant external taskforces and how WEI can influence (e.g., Offshore Wind Delivery Taskforce, Accelerating Renewables Taskforce).	Offshore Committee	Planned
10	Publish research on Repowering and develop an accompanying Position Paper. Once completed circulate to key stakeholders and begin engagement.	Planning Committee	Ongoing
11	Conduct a review of supply chain capacity for onshore wind, identifying where bottlenecks could emerge, and proposing solutions for both projects and infrastructure.	Grid Committee	Planned
11	Engage with DETE following publication of Ireland's Offshore Wind Industrial Strategy, with a particular focus on actions to support the domestic supply chain and interest from the international supply chain.	Offshore Committee	Ongoing
12	Engage with DECC to ensure electricity storage policy contains clear actions/targets for the storage industry and implementation taskforce created.	Energy Storage Ireland	Complete
12	Conduct review of network charges for storage and engage with CRU & UR on revisions to charging policy.	Energy Storage Ireland	Ongoing
12	Ensure a decision on LDES procurement by the end of the year through engaging with DECC, CRU and EirGrid.	Energy Storage Ireland	Ongoing
13	Complete a risk matrix that identifies the key risks and barriers to scaling hydrogen production in Ireland and assesses potential locations for green hydrogen production.	Hydrogen Committee	Ongoing
13	Develop a position paper focusing on future support schemes for green hydrogen.	Hydrogen Committee	Ongoing
13	Develop a targeted plan to increase engagement with key stakeholders, to progress the key actions (as identified by the Green Hydrogen Committee) in DECC's Hydrogen Strategy.	Hydrogen Committee	Complete
14	Launch Ireland Electrified as the new association representing the electrification of the heat and transport sectors; establish governance and expand engagement with stakeholders.	Ireland Electrified	Complete
14	Develop research positions on electrification and further education on the technology and supports in electric heat and transport.	Ireland Electrified	Ongoing

# Wind Energy Ireland

## Strategic Plan 2022-2025

### Goal 2: We will build powerful communities

#### We will deliver this by:

- Building our story to tell Ireland about the benefits of renewable energy.
- Building advocates to champion our story at national and local levels.
- Building partnerships with communities and bodies to enable a just sustainable transition.
- Building education programmes to equip the next generation to continue tackling climate change.

# *We will build powerful communities*



## **Key updates since the last policy brief:**

- Our Clare regional wind energy awareness campaign began in June with the aim of communicating cohesively across different media to a variety of audiences. Our sponsored radio series "Energising Clare" ran for 12 weeks over the summer months. A limited social media campaign ran in August to test Clare audience response and inform further social media activity. Print advertising, PR pieces, an in-person event and reach out to key stakeholders are all upcoming.
- An Onshore Wind focused working group was formed. Work to update the onshore FAQ will be undertaken within this group.
- We launched our pre-budget submission and have had a sustained campaign of engagement with the relevant political parties.
- We had a briefing from the SEAI on the community benefit registration platform and have started work on the annual community benefit report.
- We have started a process of engaging with political parties on our General Election manifesto and have met Fine Gael, Fianna Fáil, Sinn Féin and the Labour Party.

## **Key upcoming deliverables and focus areas:**

- We will have a presence at the Ploughing Championship on September 17, 18 and 19. Approximately 300,000 people, largely rural dwellers will attend the event.
- We will run Wind Energy Ireland's first careers trade show on 25 September in Wexford.
- We will launch a major marketing campaign at the end of September to support the Work in Wind campaign.
- We will develop a Toolkit for the introduction of onshore wind farms.
- We will publicly launch our general election manifesto once the election is called.

# Policy Research Reports from WEI



# WEI Policy Research Reports

- Policy-priming research is a key focus for WEI, driven by need to deliver evidence and analysis that can move the dial on policy development in key areas of our strategy. A summary of the key reports published to date in 2024 is included below.
- Continued support from members of the [WEI Policy & Research Fund](#) unlocks further opportunities for investment in priority areas.
- Research reports published year to date:
  1. [Cutting Carbon, Cutting Bills Report - Wind Carbon and Fuel Savings](#)
  2. [Building our Potential – Ireland’s Offshore Wind Skills and Talent Needs](#)
  3. [Repowering Ireland: repowering Ireland’s operational wind farms](#)
- Research reports in final drafting stage:
  1. *Assessment of Electricity vs. Gas Pricing Structures*
  2. *Grid modelling to consider CRU’s decision on Firm Access*
  3. *Electrification & Commercial Retrofitting*
- Analysis and research is underway in the follow areas:
  1. *Interconnection and Dispatch Down study*
  2. *Incentivising Electrification – flexibility and charging study*

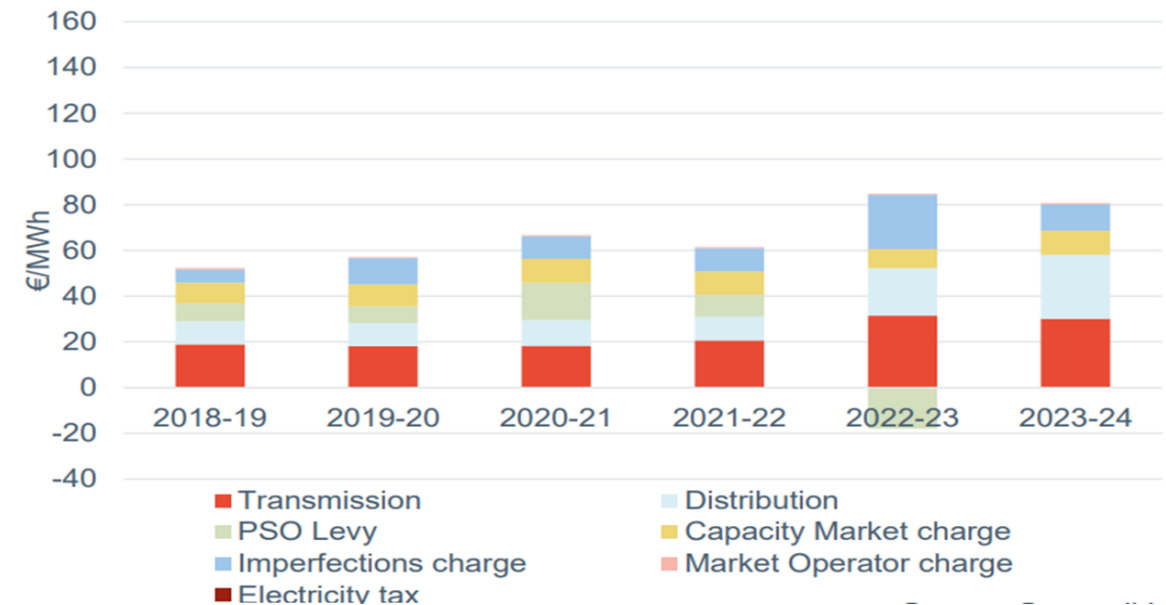




## Assessment of Electricity vs. Gas Pricing Structures – final report available shortly

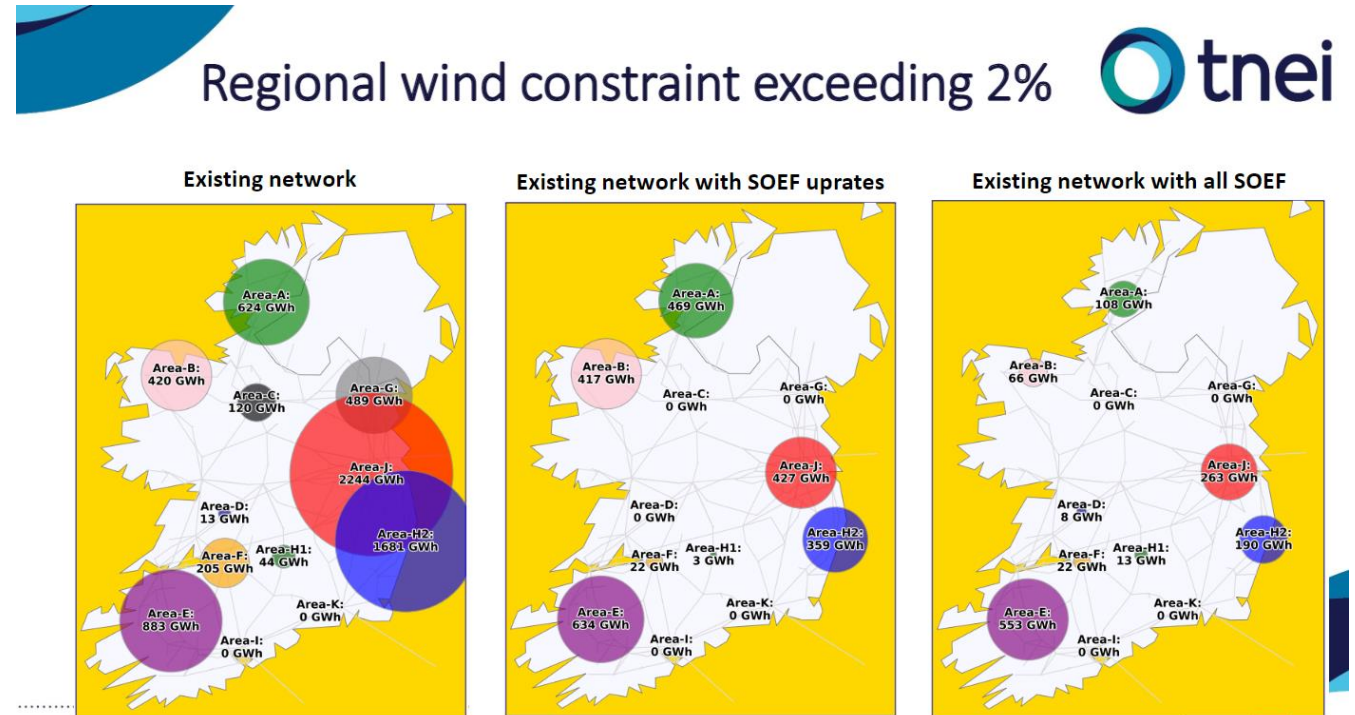
- This report is supported by the WEI Policy & Research fund and developed in collaboration with Ireland Electrified.
- Report seeks to understand the 'Spark Gap' and the price ratio between electricity and gas is vital for the growth of electrification.
- The study outlines the amount of the electricity price that is comprised of pass-through costs in the electricity price structure. The gas pass-through costs are also presented.
- Reasoning for each cost is analysed and broken down through different demand user types.
- This will provide a bases for future analyses of pass-through costs to help lower electricity price, while also rewarding the benefits electrification can provide, such as more flexibility and helping addressing curtailment and constraints, reducing oversupply and lowering emissions.

Figure 25: Electricity, 2023-24 prices



## Grid modelling to consider implications of CRU's decision on Firm Access – final report available shortly

- WEI have commissioned TNEI to undertake a piece of modelling work to investigate the effects of the 2% Firm Threshold decision made by the CRU.
- The study modelled three scenarios for a 2%, 5%, and 7% Firm Threshold. Using EirGrid's regional breakdown of Ireland, the analysis considered three different buildouts for grid based on Shaping Our Electricity Future were used to highlight the level of wind that exceeds the 2% Firm Threshold.
- The study is in its final stages from a modelling perspective with the final report and key recommendations being prepared.





**WIND ENERGY  
IRELAND**

**POLICY & RESEARCH FUND**

## *Future WEI Policy Research Reports*

In addition, a number of possible future studies in the areas of planning system reform, future power markets, grid and export development, future onshore wind vision, the economics of wind energy, offshore floating wind and hydrogen are at early scoping stage and will be considered by the WEI board and council on 18<sup>th</sup> September.

# Policy Consultation Responses from WEI



# Consultation Responses 2024 (year to date)



Institution/Company	Consultation Name	Link to Consultation	WEI Committee / WG Responsible	Date WEI Response Submitted	Link to WEI Response
Department of Transport	Public Consultation for Review of National Ports Policy	<a href="http://www.gov.ie">gov.ie - Public Consultation for Review of National Ports Policy (www.gov.ie)</a>	Offshore - Supply Chain	15/01/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/weisubmissiondotnationalportspolicyconsultation-final.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/weisubmissiondotnationalportspolicyconsultation-final.pdf</a>
EirGrid	EirGrid Stakeholder Engagement Plan 2024	<a href="https://consult.eirgrid.ie/en/consultation/draft-stakeholder-engagement-plan-2024">https://consult.eirgrid.ie/en/consultation/draft-stakeholder-engagement-plan-2024</a>	Grid Committee	19/01/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240119-wei-response-to-eirgrid-draft-engagement-plan-2024.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240119-wei-response-to-eirgrid-draft-engagement-plan-2024.pdf</a>
CRU	ESBN: Demand Flexibility Procurement	<a href="https://www.cru.ie/publications/27832/">https://www.cru.ie/publications/27832/</a>	Electrification WG	19/02/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/esbn-demand-flexibility-procurement.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/esbn-demand-flexibility-procurement.pdf</a>
CRU	CRU: National Energy Demand Strategy	<a href="https://www.cru.ie/about-us/news/national-energy-demand-strategy-consultation-paper/">https://www.cru.ie/about-us/news/national-energy-demand-strategy-consultation-paper/</a>	Electrification WG	19/02/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/final-cru-national-energy-demand.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/final-cru-national-energy-demand.pdf</a>
CRU	CRU: Connection Policy Consultation	<a href="https://www.cru.ie/publications/27833/">https://www.cru.ie/publications/27833/</a>	ECP WG	16/02/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/final-wei-connection-policy-call-for-evidence.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/final-wei-connection-policy-call-for-evidence.pdf</a>
NPWS	Draft Hen Harrier Threat Response Plan 2024-2028	<a href="https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/c18d2-public-consultation-on-the-draft-hen-harrier-threat-response-plan-environmental-report-and-natura-impact-statement/">https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/c18d2-public-consultation-on-the-draft-hen-harrier-threat-response-plan-environmental-report-and-natura-impact-statement/</a>	Planning Committee	20/02/2024	<a href="https://www.windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240220-wei-response-to-threat-response-plan-for-the-hen-harrier-2024-2028-final.pdf">https://www.windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240220-wei-response-to-threat-response-plan-for-the-hen-harrier-2024-2028-final.pdf</a>
DECC	Consultation on the ORE Future Framework Policy Statement	<a href="http://www.gov.ie">gov.ie - Consultation on the offshore renewable energy (ORE) Future Framework Policy Statement (www.gov.ie)</a>	ORE Future Framework WG	26/02/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/weisubmissionorefutureframeworkconsultation-final.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/weisubmissionorefutureframeworkconsultation-final.pdf</a>
BirdWatch Ireland	Ireland IBA / KBA consultation	<a href="http://office.com">Ireland IBA / KBA consultation (office.com)</a>	Offshore Consenting	06/03/2024	Online Form
CRU	Asset Treatment for Merchant Phase 1 Offshore Wind Projects Consultation	<a href="https://www.switchon.ie/publications/27951/">https://www.switchon.ie/publications/27951/</a>	Offshore Grid Committee	15/03/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240414-wei-response-to-the-asset-treatment-for-merchant-phase-1-offshore-wind-projects-consultation.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240414-wei-response-to-the-asset-treatment-for-merchant-phase-1-offshore-wind-projects-consultation.pdf</a>
CRU	Review of Large Energy Users Connections Policy	<a href="https://www.cru.ie/about-us/news/cru-opens-consultation-on-large-energy-user-connections-policy/">https://www.cru.ie/about-us/news/cru-opens-consultation-on-large-energy-user-connections-policy/</a>	Electrification WG	19/03/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/final-cru-review-of-large-energy-users-connection-policy.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/final-cru-review-of-large-energy-users-connection-policy.pdf</a>

# Consultation Responses 2024 (year to date)

Institution/Company	Consultation Name	Link to Consultation	WEI Committee / WG Responsible	Date WEI Response Submitted	Link to WEI Response
DECC	Terms and Conditions for the fourth onshore competition under the Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS 4)	<a href="https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/cd156-terms-and-conditions-for-the-fourth-onshore-competition-under-the-renewable-electricity-support-scheme-ress-4/#how-to-make-a-submission">https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/cd156-terms-and-conditions-for-the-fourth-onshore-competition-under-the-renewable-electricity-support-scheme-ress-4/#how-to-make-a-submission</a>	Route to Market WG	28/03/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/we-response-to-ress-4-terms-and-conditionsfinal.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/we-response-to-ress-4-terms-and-conditionsfinal.pdf</a>
DECC	Public Consultation on Climate Action Plan 2024	<a href="https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/25114-public-consultation-on-climate-action-plan-2024/">https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/25114-public-consultation-on-climate-action-plan-2024/</a>	Multiple	05/03/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/wind-energy-ireland-submission-to-the-climate-action-plan-2024-public-consultation.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/wind-energy-ireland-submission-to-the-climate-action-plan-2024-public-consultation.pdf</a>
DECC	Consultation on draft Guidance on Safety of Navigation Emergency Response: Part One	No Website	Offshore Consenting	26/03/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240405-appendix-to-wei-submission-part-one-additional-comments.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240405-appendix-to-wei-submission-part-one-additional-comments.pdf</a>
DECC	Consultation on draft Guidance on Safety of Navigation Emergency Response: Part Two	No Website	Offshore Consenting	05/04/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240405-wei-submission-part-two-guidance-for-ore-navigation.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240405-wei-submission-part-two-guidance-for-ore-navigation.pdf</a>
CRU	Offshore Revenue Recovery Model	<a href="https://www.cru.ie/publications/27954/">https://www.cru.ie/publications/27954/</a>	Offshore Grid Committee	19/04/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/wind-energy-ireland-response-to-the-offshore-revenue-recovery-model-consultation-paper.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/wind-energy-ireland-response-to-the-offshore-revenue-recovery-model-consultation-paper.pdf</a>
CRU	Phase 2 Offshore Grid Charging Policy Consultation Paper	<a href="https://www.cru.ie/publications/27964/">https://www.cru.ie/publications/27964/</a>	Phase 2 Grid WG	20/04/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240419-wei-response-to-phase-2-grid-charging-policy-consultation.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240419-wei-response-to-phase-2-grid-charging-policy-consultation.pdf</a>
Eirgrid	FASS Programme Day-Ahead System Services Auction (DASSA) Design Consultation Paper	<a href="https://consult.soni.ltd.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/consultation/493/FASS-DASSA-Consultation-Paper-March-2024-SONI.pdf">https://consult.soni.ltd.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/consultation/493/FASS-DASSA-Consultation-Paper-March-2024-SONI.pdf</a>	Future Services/ ESI DS3 Future Arrangements	24/05/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/esi-rni-and-wei-response-to-tso-dassa-consultation.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/esi-rni-and-wei-response-to-tso-dassa-consultation.pdf</a>
CRU	EirGrid Transmission Development Plan 2024 – 2033 Consultation	<a href="https://www.cru.ie/publications/27996/">https://www.cru.ie/publications/27996/</a>	Grid Capacity WG	19/05/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240524-wei-response-to-the-public-consultation-on-the-transmission-development-plan-2024-2033.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240524-wei-response-to-the-public-consultation-on-the-transmission-development-plan-2024-2033.pdf</a>
CRU	Price Review Six Strategy Paper Consultation	<a href="https://www.cru.ie/publications/28026/">https://www.cru.ie/publications/28026/</a>	Grid / Markets / Offshore Grid	29/05/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240521-wei-response-to-price-review-six-strategy-paper-consultation.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240521-wei-response-to-price-review-six-strategy-paper-consultation.pdf</a>

# Consultation Responses 2024 (year to date)



Institution/Company	Consultation Name	Link to Consultation	WEI Committee / WG Responsible	Date WEI Response Submitted	Link to WEI Response
Ogfm	Ogfm Interconnection Initial Project Assessment Consultation	<a href="https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/consultation/initial-project-assessment-third-cap-and-floor-window-electricity-interconnectors">https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/consultation/initial-project-assessment-third-cap-and-floor-window-electricity-interconnectors</a>	Offshore Grid Committee / SuperGrid WG	31/05/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/30042024-wei-response-to-ofgem-initial-project-assessment-consultation-response.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/30042024-wei-response-to-ofgem-initial-project-assessment-consultation-response.pdf</a>
DECC	Consultation on ORESS 2.1 Auction Design: Draft Terms and Conditions	<a href="https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/6ac43-consultation-on-oress-21-auction-design-draft-terms-and-conditions/">https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/6ac43-consultation-on-oress-21-auction-design-draft-terms-and-conditions/</a>	Phase 2 Route to Market WG (Phase 2 Coordination & Offshore RESS WGs merged)	07/06/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240607weisubmissionoress21drafttermsandconditionsconsultation.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240607weisubmissionoress21drafttermsandconditionsconsultation.pdf</a>
DECC	Public Consultation on the Draft South Coast DMAP for ORE	<a href="https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/72a5c-south-coast-designated-maritime-area-plan-for-offshore-renewable-energy/">https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/72a5c-south-coast-designated-maritime-area-plan-for-offshore-renewable-energy/</a>	Temporary SC-DMAP WG (Offshore Consenting)	14/06/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240614-wei-draft-sc-dmap-submission-final.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240614-wei-draft-sc-dmap-submission-final.pdf</a>
DECC	Draft update to Ireland's National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP)	<a href="https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/47d63-consultation-on-the-draft-update-to-irelands-integrated-national-energy-and-climate-plan/">https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/47d63-consultation-on-the-draft-update-to-irelands-integrated-national-energy-and-climate-plan/</a>	Multiple	27/06/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/wind-energy-ireland-submissiondraft-update-to-irelands-national-energy-and-climate-plan-necp27062024.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/wind-energy-ireland-submissiondraft-update-to-irelands-national-energy-and-climate-plan-necp27062024.pdf</a>
CRU	Public Service Obligation Levy 2024-25 Decision Paper	<a href="https://consult.cru.ie/en/consultation/public-sector-obligation-levy-2024-25-decision-paper">https://consult.cru.ie/en/consultation/public-sector-obligation-levy-2024-25-decision-paper</a>	Markets Committee	02/07/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240702-wei-response-to-public-sector-obligation-levy-2024-25-decision-paper.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240702-wei-response-to-public-sector-obligation-levy-2024-25-decision-paper.pdf</a>
CRU	CRU Strategic Plan 2025-2027	<a href="https://consult.cru.ie/en/consultation/cru-strategic-plan-2025%E2%80%932027">https://consult.cru.ie/en/consultation/cru-strategic-plan-2025%E2%80%932027</a>	Grid / Markets / Offshore Grid	15/07/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/wei-response-to-the-cru-strategic-plan-20252027.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/wei-response-to-the-cru-strategic-plan-20252027.pdf</a>
EirGrid / SONI	DASSA Product Review and Locational Methodology	<a href="https://consult.eirgrid.ie/ga/consultation/soef-markets-%E2%80%93-future-arrangements-system-services-%E2%80%93-dassa-product-review-locational-methodology">https://consult.eirgrid.ie/ga/consultation/soef-markets-%E2%80%93-future-arrangements-system-services-%E2%80%93-dassa-product-review-locational-methodology</a>	Joint WEI / ESI response	18/07/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240718-wei-esi-rni-consultation-response-dassa-product-review-and-locational-methodology.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240718-wei-esi-rni-consultation-response-dassa-product-review-and-locational-methodology.pdf</a>
SEMC	Imperfections Charges October 2024 - September 2025 Consultation Paper	<a href="https://www.semcommittee.com/news/imperfections-charges-october-2024-september-2025-consultation-paper#:~:text=The%20Charge%20is%20made%20up,for%20Tariff%20Year%202023%2F24.">https://www.semcommittee.com/news/imperfections-charges-october-2024-september-2025-consultation-paper#:~:text=The%20Charge%20is%20made%20up,for%20Tariff%20Year%202023%2F24.</a>	Energy Market Implementation WG	26/07/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240726-wei-response-to-semc-imperfections-charges-consultation.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240726-wei-response-to-semc-imperfections-charges-consultation.pdf</a>
SEMC	TSO Proposed Definitions of Curtailment, Constraint and Energy Balancing	<a href="https://www.semcommittee.com/publications/sem-24-044-tso-proposed-definitions-curtailment-constraint-and-energy-balancing">https://www.semcommittee.com/publications/sem-24-044-tso-proposed-definitions-curtailment-constraint-and-energy-balancing</a>	Energy Market Implementation WG	26/07/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240726wei-consultation-response-sem-24-044.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240726wei-consultation-response-sem-24-044.pdf</a>

# Consultation Responses 2024 (year to date)

Institution/Company	Consultation Name	Link to Consultation	WEI Committee / WG Responsible	Date WEI Response Submitted	Link to WEI Response
DHLGH	DHLGH Statement of Strategy	<a href="https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/3be76-statement-of-strategy-2023-2025/">https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/3be76-statement-of-strategy-2023-2025/</a>	Planning Committee	09/08/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240809wei-submission-on-dhlgh-statement-of-strategy.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240809wei-submission-on-dhlgh-statement-of-strategy.pdf</a>
DECC	Draft SC-DMAP for ORE: Additional Public Consultation (Environmental Data Log)	<a href="http://gov.ie/en/publication/3be76-statement-of-strategy-2023-2025/">gov - Draft South Coast Designated Maritime Area Plan for Offshore Renewable Energy (SC-DMAP): Additional Public Consultation Period (August 2024) (www.gov.ie)</a>	Temporary SC-DMAP WG (Offshore Consenting)	30/08/2024	<a href="https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240830-wei-submission-on-sc-dmap-environmental-data-log-final.pdf">https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/20240830-wei-submission-on-sc-dmap-environmental-data-log-final.pdf</a>
EirGrid	Offshore Phase 1: Transmission Connection Agreement & Asset Sale and Purchase Agreement	<a href="https://consult.eirgrid.ie/en/consultation/offshore-phase-1-transmission-connection-agreement-asset-sale-and-purchase-agreement">https://consult.eirgrid.ie/en/consultation/offshore-phase-1-transmission-connection-agreement-asset-sale-and-purchase-agreement</a>	Phase 1 Grid Legal WG	06/09/2024	n/a
DHLGH	Draft Revision of National Planning Framework	<a href="https://consult.housing.gov.ie/en/consultation/draft-first-revision-national-planning-framework">https://consult.housing.gov.ie/en/consultation/draft-first-revision-national-planning-framework</a>	Planning Committee	12/09/2024	<a href="#">Coming soon</a>
ESBN	Investment Plan for Price Review 6	<a href="https://www.esbnetworks.ie/publications">https://www.esbnetworks.ie/publications</a>	Grid Committee	13/09/2024	<a href="#">Coming soon</a>
NPWS	Public consultation on review and update of Wildlife Legislation	<a href="https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/01388-public-consultation-on-review-and-update-of-wildlife-legislation/">https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/01388-public-consultation-on-review-and-update-of-wildlife-legislation/</a>	Onshore Environment WG & Offshore Environment WG	13/09/2024	<a href="#">Coming soon</a>
EirGrid	All-Island System Services Supplier Charge Consultation	<a href="https://consult.eirgrid.ie/en/consultation/all-island-system-services-supplier-charge-consultation">https://consult.eirgrid.ie/en/consultation/all-island-system-services-supplier-charge-consultation</a>	Future Services/ ESI DS3 Future Arrangements	18/09/2024	<a href="#">Coming soon</a>



# Supporting Information



# WEI Committees & Working Groups



	Working Group	Chair	WEI Rep
<b>Asset Management Committee</b>  WEI: Éabhín Byrne Chair: Joe Dalton Vice: David Dunne	Rates	Alan Edwards	Eva
	Dispatch Down	Rory Mullan	John
	Sustainability	TBC	Éabhín
	Cybersecurity	John Gartland	Eva

	Working Group	Chair	WEI Rep
<b>Planning Committee</b>  WEI: Denis Devane Chair: Brian Keville Vice: Caroline Donnelly	National Planning Framework	Denis Devane	Denis
	Planning System Reform	Claire Walsh	Denis/Chloe
	Roads	James McDermott	Denis/Chloe
	Repowering	Alan Clancy	Denis
	Onshore Environment	Elaine Dromey	Éabhín

	Working Group	Chair	WEI Rep
<b>Green Hydrogen Committee</b>  WEI: Caoimhe McCarthy Chair: Joe Devlin Vice: TBC	Hydrogen Production	TBC	Davis/Brenn
	Energy Systems Integration	Gearóid Fitzgerald	John
	Communications	TBC	Davis/Brenn
	Route-to-Market	Kevin Gleeson	John

	Working Group	Chair	WEI Rep
<b>Floating Wind Committee</b>  WEI: Caoimhe McCarthy Chair: Val Cummins Vice: Ronan O'Flynn			
	FLOW Demo (Temp)	Stella Burke	Caoimhe

	Working Group	Chair	WEI Rep
<b>Grid Committee</b>  WEI: Marcos Byrne Chair: Margaret Nee Vice: John McDonagh	Connection Policy	Donal Smith	Cathal
	Grid Capacity	Laura Mehigan	Marcos
	Connection Delivery	Joe Colleran	Marcos
	Grid Code	TBC	John
	Hybrids	Kate Garth	Cathal

	Working Group	Chair	WEI Rep
<b>Health &amp; Safety Committee</b>  WEI: Éabhín Byrne Chair: Declan Corrigan Vice: Allie Byrne	Emergency Response	Kieran O'Regan	Éabhín
	Wind Turbine Safety Rules	Robert O'Malley	Eva
	Construction Safety Awareness	Brendan Heneghan	Eva
	Offshore Safety	Michelle Ruane	Eva
	Nacelle Hoist Safety	Declan Corrigan	Eva

	Working Group	Chair	WEI Rep
<b>Markets Committee</b>  WEI: Marcos Byrne Chair: Andrew Burke Vice: Cian Fitzgerald	Route to Market	Kate Garth	John
	Energy Market Implementation	Andrew Burke	Marcos
	Future Services	Paraic Higgins	Cathal

	Working Group	Chair	WEI Rep
<b>Offshore Consenting Committee</b>  WEI: Denis Devane Chair: Tina Raleigh Vice: Caroline Roche	Offshore Marine Planning Guidelines	Chris Turner	Chloe
	Offshore Planning Reform	Helen O'Keeffe	Denis
	Offshore Environment	Caroline Roche	Éabhín

	Working Group	Chair	WEI Rep
<b>Offshore Committee</b>  WEI: Caoimhe McCarthy Chair: Peter Lefroy Vice: Ciaran McManus	Supply Chain	Paul Doherty	Caoimhe
	Fishing	Paul Kelly	Justin
	Phase 1 Projects	TBC	Caoimhe
	Phase 2 Coordination/Route to Market	Eoin McPartland / Laura Paton	Caoimhe
	ORE Future Framework	Patricia Comiskey	Caoimhe

	Working Group	Chair	WEI Rep
<b>Net Zero Committee</b>  WEI: Dave Linehan Chair: Bernice Doyle Vice: Paul Blount	Future Networks	Jack Counihan	Marcos
	Enabling Technologies	Paul Blount	Dave
	EU Energy Policy	Christian Kjaer	John
	Future Market Vision	Peter Harte	Dave
	Future Onshore Wind	Eoin McGurk	Dave

	Working Group	Chair	WEI Rep
<b>Offshore Grid Committee</b>  WEI: Marcos Byrne Chair: Rory Mullan Vice: John McGuckin	Offshore Grid Code	Paul Doyle	John
	Phase 1 Grid	Rory Mullan	Chloe
	Phase 2 Grid	John McGuckin	Marcos

	Working Group	Chair	WEI Rep
<b>Community Engagement Committee</b>  WEI: Justin Moran Chair: Emma Kerins Vice: Rosy Billingham	Offshore Comms & Engagement	Jodie Neary	Justin
	Community Benefit	Conor Dolan	Eva

To join a Wind Energy Ireland Committee please contact [Amanda.mcguinness@windenergyireland.com](mailto:Amanda.mcguinness@windenergyireland.com)

# Team Overview



**Dave Linehan**  
Head of Policy & Research  
Net-Zero Committee



**Caoimhe McCarthy**  
Policy Manager  
Offshore, FLOW & Hydrogen  
Committees



**Marcos Byrne**  
Policy Manager  
Grid, Offshore Grid & Markets  
Committees



**Sarah Kandrot**  
Research Manager,  
WEI Research Programme



**Denis Devane**  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Planning & Offshore Consenting  
Committees



**Eabhin Byrne**  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Health & Safety and Asset  
Management Committees



**Dáire Horgan**  
Research & Development Analyst  
WEI Research Programme



**Gabe Doran**  
Research Communications Specialist  
WEI Research Programme



**John Bourke**  
Policy Analyst  
Grid, Net-Zero & Markets Committees



**Eva McCarthy**  
Graduate Policy Analyst  
Offshore, Health & Safety & Asset  
Management Committees



**Chloe Furley**  
Graduate Policy Analyst  
Offshore Grid, Planning & Offshore  
Consenting



**Davis Rusmanis/Brenn Liddy**  
Graduate Policy Analyst  
FLOW & Hydrogen Committees



**Justin Moran**  
Director of External Affairs  
Community Engagement  
Committee



**Yvonne O'Brien**  
Regional Public Affairs Manager  
Community Engagement  
Committee



**Cathal Murphy**  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Ireland Electrified  
Grid, Markets Committees



**Bobby Smith**  
Head of Energy Storage Ireland  
Energy Storage Ireland



**Pat Lambert**  
ESI Policy Analyst  
Energy Storage Ireland



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