



ENERGY IRELAND[®] 2026

Delivering Ireland's energy transition in an uncertain world

17-18 June 2026 • Croke Park, Dublin



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30th Anniversary Conference *Delivering Ireland's energy transition in an uncertain world*

The turbulent geopolitical upheaval of the last decade continues unabated. In 2026 the world order is rupturing. It is against this backdrop that Ireland is transitioning to a low carbon energy system. This year will be the 30th Energy Ireland and it will look back at the progress Ireland has made over the last 30 years in transforming its energy system and consider any lessons for the future.

In 2026, the war in Ukraine continues as Europe weans itself off cheap Russian gas; the US has withdrawn from its climate commitments and Europe continues to face energy security risks. The energy transition towards a zero carbon energy system has met strong headwinds with many challenges facing the delivery of energy infrastructure projects. The growth in renewable energy sources, mostly in electricity, continues and now requires significant investment in the grid. With the Renewable Heat Obligation, Ireland now has a fledgling biomethane sector with several projects underway.

Energy Ireland 2026 will look across the energy sector, covering all technologies and challenges facing it, including a fast growing economy; growing skills gaps and the rise of AI and data centre demand. The main focus will be on the implementation of policy, and regulation to underpin Ireland's energy transition and the delivery of the pipeline of projects to make the transition a reality.





Energy Ireland is Ireland's number one energy conference event and is generally recognised as such throughout the sector. This year will be the 30th year the event has taken place and it comes at a pivotal time in the energy transition. There is radical change right across all aspects of the sector from accelerating renewable energy, the electrification of transport and heat, decarbonisation of the gas grid and a renewed focus on energy security.

Book your place at Energy Ireland 2026 now to ensure that your organisation benefits from the insight of our expert panel of speakers as it discusses the impacts of the latest sectoral developments and new policy direction. The conference also offers an opportunity to network with industry colleagues and establish new relationships. We look forward to seeing you on 17 and 18 June.

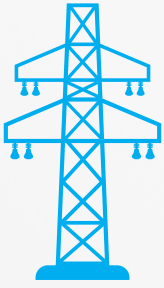


Key themes for the 2026 conference

- ✓ Geopolitical context and impact on energy sector
- ✓ European energy policy developments
- ✓ Financing Ireland's energy transition
- ✓ Electricity grid development
- ✓ Scaling renewable energy
- ✓ Developing Ireland's offshore energy resources
- ✓ AI, data centres and energy
- ✓ Developing renewable gas projects
- ✓ Planning system and energy infrastructure delivery
- ✓ Developing a green hydrogen economy
- ✓ Looking towards an integrated energy system
- ✓ Sustainable heat and heat networks
- ✓ The role of energy users in the energy transition



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Ireland's leading annual energy conference

Energy Ireland® is the leading and most established energy conference on the island of Ireland. It is attended annually by all the key stakeholders in the Irish energy sector, as well as global players who require an insight into its evolution and growth.

Each year, the conference examines the latest developments in the Irish energy sector by way of an expert panel of speakers, including local industry leaders, policymakers, and regulators. In addition, the conference regularly attracts prestigious international speakers who provide wider European and global perspectives. Energy Ireland® is firmly marked in the calendar of anyone aspiring to stay up to date with the latest developments across the Irish energy industry.

Follow Energy Ireland on LinkedIn for conference updates.

10 reasons you should book your place now!

1. Ireland's major annual energy conference is attended by all key stakeholders.
2. Listen to Ireland's energy minister.
3. Hear Ireland's energy leaders in dialogue.
4. High profile international experts provide their perspective.
5. In-depth policy briefings.
6. One-stop-shop for the Irish energy sector's latest developments.
7. Network with over 300 delegates across two days.
8. Regular opportunities to engage in Q&A.
9. Access to high level presentations after the conference.
10. Complimentary copy of the Energy Ireland Yearbook 2026.

Energy Ireland programme overview: Plenary and parallel sessions



Ireland's energy future

The opening plenary session will look at the latest policy and regulatory context for Ireland's energy transition. The session will include an overview of policy developments including addresses from Minister Darragh O'Brien TD and the North's Energy Minister Caoimhe Archibald MLA.

A fractured world

The geopolitical landscape has become increasingly fractured with war in the Middle East and an increasingly chaotic political outlook. This session will look at the strategic issues facing the Irish energy sector in this fast-changing landscape, with an overview of the global energy geopolitics from leading expert Andreas Goldthau and Brian Ó Gallachóir highlighting the issues relevant for the Irish energy sector.

Meeting the challenges

There are many challenges in delivering the energy transition. Energy security will face continued scrutiny amid increasing pressures on the electricity grid and the consequences of conflict are still being felt. Likewise, the challenges of financing the energy transition and delivering energy infrastructure amid a revision of the planning system must also be explored.

Future of electricity

With a target of 80 per cent renewable electricity by 2030 the electricity system must factor in increasing intermittency. To facilitate this, the electricity grid has now connected battery storage capacity of over 1GW and growing. With electrification now central to achieving Ireland's climate ambitions, the development of both the grid and market will be pivotal. The session will look at the development of the electricity grid, including facilitating offshore wind development and includes an overview of electricity market developments.

Gas markets and networks

Ireland's national gas network provides almost one-third of all primary energy; 40 per cent of heating, and nearly half of Ireland's electricity generation. The session will open with an outlook for the gas market that has been impacted by the disruption of LNG supply from the Middle East. Gas Networks Ireland will set out how it aims to deliver a carbon neutral network by 2025 and the session will detail one of the first AD projects that will come onto the network.

Sustainable heat and heat networks

Although district heating currently accounts for less than 1 per cent of the Irish heat sector, it is a lynchpin of the Government's plan to decarbonise the sector, with the Climate Action Plan 2025 committing to deliver up to 2.7TWhr of district heating by 2030. This session will investigate district heating as one route to decarbonisation alongside retrofitting the built environment and unlocking the potential for geothermal heating schemes.

Securing Ireland's energy future

The concluding session will look to the future energy mix in Ireland. The session will start with an overview of the issues facing the sector over the next decade. This will include issues such as increasing data centre demand, the trend towards electrification, the impact of climate change on networks and the nexus of renewable energy and industrial development. The focus will then turn to emerging energy technologies including technologies in the increasingly important electricity sector and green hydrogen.





ENERGY IRELAND® Visiting speakers for 2026



Energy geopolitics in a fractured world

Andreas Goldthau is Director of the Willy Brandt School of Public Policy and the Franz Haniel Professor for Public Policy at the Department of Economics, Law and Social Sciences, [University of Erfurt](#). His academic work centers on energy security and the international political economy of the clean transition. Goldthau held professorships at the University of London and Central European University, and he conducted research at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, the RAND Corporation, and the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University. He is Senior Advisor for Geopolitics of Energy and Industrial Transformation at the Research Institute for Sustainability in Potsdam and a visiting professor at the College of Europe in Bruges.



Grid congestion: challenges for energy security and transitions

Rena Kuwahata is Programme Lead Grid Modernisation and Electrification at [Agora Energiewende](#). With her team, she works on topics related to electricity grid modernisation and flexible electrification globally. Rena Kuwahata has been with Agora Energiewende since 2025. Prior to joining Agora, Rena Kuwahata worked for the International Energy Agency for three years. As lead and co-author, she was responsible for the agency's special report on Electricity Grids and Secure Energy Transitions and Integrating Solar and Wind reports, and led power system transformation projects with a focus on digitalisation, AI and regional integration.



Future proofing electricity grids: secure, efficient and resilient

Sonya Twohig is the Secretary-General of [ENTSO-E](#), the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity, the Association of 40 TSOs in Europe who provide Security of Supply to over 500 million customers. In this role, she fulfills the mission of the European Transmission System Operators (TSOs) to deliver on the European goals of achieving a carbon neutral continent by 2050. As Secretary General, she plays a direct role in fostering technical cooperation and energy security between system operators, furthering Regional Coordination and ensuring security of supply and resilience across Europe. A critical milestone was achieved in March 2022, shortly after the invasion by Russia and in solidarity with the people of Ukraine where ENTSO-E TSOs decided to accelerate the connection of the power systems of Ukraine and Moldova with the Continental European System.



Financing the energy transition

Andreas F. Brandt is Partner of the Advanced Bioenergy Fund with responsibility for investment origination and execution at [Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners](#). He has over 15 years of energy infrastructure experience and prior to joining CIP, was most recently Group Vice President, General Counsel, and Head of Legal, M&A, and Risk Management at GRUNDFOS, where his main responsibilities were to develop the company's acquisition strategy, managing the Legal and Risk Management functions, and supporting the board of directors in all related matters.



Towards a sustainable, resilient and competitive heating sector by 2050

Luca Neumann brings diverse perspectives to EU affairs, having previously worked for an EU institution, a trade association, and at the Member State level. Throughout his career, he has covered a wide range of policy areas, including cohesion, macroeconomics, climate, environmental and sustainable finance. Before joining [Euroheat & Power](#), Luca served as an advisor to the Chair of the Environment Council during Belgium's Presidency of the Council of the EU in 2024. As EHP's Senior Policy Advisor, he focuses on energy efficiency, renewables and waste heat, working to further advance Europe's decarbonisation efforts.

Hear the latest from Irish industry leaders



Dave Kirwan
Country Chair of **Bord Gáis Energy** and Managing Director of **Centrica Power**



Geraldine Heavey
Executive Director Enterprise Services, **ESB**



Cathal Marley
Chief Executive Officer **EirGrid**



David Kelly
Chief Executive Officer **Gas Networks Ireland**



Laura Brien
CEO **Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA)**



Fergal Mulligan
Chairperson **CRU**



William Walsh
Chief Executive Officer **SEAI**



Denis O'Sullivan
Director of Development **Centrica Power**




Karen Doyle
Head of Business Development **Gas Networks Ireland**



Brian Ó Gallachóir
Associate Vice-President of Sustainability, **University College Cork**

Day 1: Wednesday 17 June 2026

08.15 REGISTRATION AND MORNING COFFEE

Energy Ireland 
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09.00 Chair's welcome and introduction:
Kevin O'Sullivan, Columnist, **Irish Times**

09.05 **IRELAND'S ENERGY FUTURE**

MINISTERIAL ADDRESSES:

Ireland's energy policy priorities

Darragh O'Brien TD, Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment

The path to net zero energy

Caoimhe Archibald MLA, Minister for the Economy Northern Ireland



Delivering the transition to a low carbon grid

Cathal Marley, Chief Executive, **EirGrid**

Creating a cleaner energy future for Ireland

William Walsh, Chief Executive, **Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland**

Question & answer session / Panel discussion

11.00 COFFEE/EXHIBITION NETWORKING BREAK

11.30 IRELAND'S ENERGY TRANSITION IN A FRACTURED WORLD

Energy geopolitics in a fractured world

Andreas Goldthau, Director, **Willy Brandt School of Public Policy, University of Erfurt**

Ireland's energy transition over the past 30 years and the next 30 years

Brian Ó Gallachóir, Associate Vice President of Sustainability and Director, Sustainability Institute
University College Cork

Question & answer session / Panel discussion

PANEL DISCUSSION: IRELAND'S ENERGY TRANSITION IN A FRACTURED WORLD

Geraldine Heavey, Executive Director Enterprise Services, **ESB**

John Reilly, Head of Renewable Energy, **BnM**

David Kelly, Chief Executive Officer, **Gas Networks Ireland**

Senior representative, **SSE Airtricity**

Denis O'Sullivan, Director of Development, **Centrica Power**

13.00 CONFERENCE LUNCH

Sponsored by **ARTHUR COX**



Day 1: Wednesday 17 June 2026

14.00 MEETING THE CHALLENGES IN DELIVERING IRELAND'S ENERGY TRANSITION

CHAIR: Úna Nic Giolla Choille

Looking back on 30 years of Energy Ireland: Lessons for the future

John FitzGerald, Adjunct Professor, Department of Economics, TCD

Financing the energy transition

Andreas F. Brandt, Partner, Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners

A regulatory framework for a secure, decarbonised energy system

Fergal Mulligan, Chairperson, Commission for Regulation of Utilities

Legal aspects of implementing regulation and project delivery

Niamh McGovern, Partner and Energy & Renewables Sector Lead, Arthur Cox

The energy transition: from ambition to delivery

James Delahunty, Partner, Head of Energy & Natural Resources, KPMG

Question & answer session / Panel discussion

16.00 ENERGY IRELAND DRINKS RECEPTION

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Day 2: Thursday 18 June 2026

08.30 REGISTRATION AND MORNING COFFEE

09.00 SÉISCHOMHRÁ



Dave Kirwan, Country Chair of **Bord Gáis Energy** and Managing Director of **Centrica Power**

In dialogue with



Jude Webber, Ireland Correspondent **Financial Times**

09.30 FUTURE OF ELECTRICITY I

CHAIR: Stacy Feldmann
Chair, Wholesale Markets Committee
Electricity Association of Ireland (EAI)

Future proofing electricity grids: secure, efficient and resilient

Sonya Twohig, Secretary-General, **ENTSO-E**

Future grid: looking beyond the 2030 network plan

Errol Close, Chief Corporate Services Officer
EirGrid

A regulatory framework for developing Ireland's offshore energy resources

Laura Brien, CEO
Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA)

Question & answer session / Panel discussion

09.30 GAS MARKETS AND NETWORKS

CHAIR: Úna Nic Giolla Choille

Outlook for gas markets in an uncertain world

Lucy Field, Principal, **AFRY**

Biomethane: Towards a carbon-neutral gas network

Karen Doyle, Head of Business Development, **Gas Networks Ireland**

Turning agricultural waste into renewable gas at scale

Charles Kane, Chief Executive Officer
Greengate Biogas

Pathways to renewable liquid gas

Alan Farrell, Senior Director of Government Affairs and Policy, **Liquid Gas Ireland**

Question & answer session / Panel discussion

11.00 COFFEE/ EXHIBITION NETWORKING BREAK

Day 2: Thursday 18 June 2026

11.30 FUTURE OF ELECTRICITY II

CHAIR: Stacy Feldmann, Chair, Wholesale Markets Committee, **Electricity Association of Ireland (EAI)**

Grid congestion: challenges for energy security and transitions

Rena Kuwahata, Programme Lead Grid Modernisation and Electrification
Agora Energiewende

Electricity market developments

Richard Murphy, Partner, **Pinsent Masons**

Regulating electricity markets and networks

Jillian Ferris, Head of Networks, **Utility Regulator**

Supporting the energy transition: modernising the grid

Rhonda Doyle, Country President Ireland
Schnieder Electric

Question & answer session / Panel discussion

11.30 SUSTAINABLE HEAT AND HEAT NETWORKS

CHAIR: Pauline O'Reilly, Chief Executive Officer
Irish District Energy Association

Decarbonising Ireland's heat demand

Brian Carroll, Assistant Secretary, **Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment**

Accelerating the deployment of thermal energy storage to support the grid

John O'Shea, Heat & Electricity Lead
Codema, Dublin's Energy Agency

Towards a sustainable, resilient and competitive heating sector by 2050

Luca Neumann, Senior Policy Advisor
Euroheat & Power

District heating development and delivery

Steve Smith, Principal Engineer and Head
Renewable Heat Team, **Natural Power**

Question & answer session / Panel discussion

13.15 LUNCH AND EXHIBITION NETWORKING BREAK

14.00 SECURING IRELAND'S ENERGY FUTURE

CHAIR: Neil Walker, Director, **Walker Energy Consulting**

Key trends and issues facing the Irish energy sector over the next decade

Paul Deane, Research Fellow, **University College Cork**

Powering Ireland's energy revolution

Brendan Kelly, Head of Commercial, **BnM**

Green hydrogen's role in the future energy mix

Ivana Jemelkova, Chief Executive Officer, **Hydrogen Council** *(invited)*

Emerging technologies for the path to net zero

John Walsh, Emerging Technology and R&D Manager, **ESB**

Question & answer session / Panel discussion

16.00 ENERGY IRELAND CONFERENCE CLOSE





Caoimhe Archibald MLA became the North's **Minister for the Economy** in February 2025, after a two-year stint as Minister of Finance. Archibald has been a Sinn Féin MLA in the East Londonderry constituency since May 2016. She holds a BSc and PhD in molecular mycology.



Laura Brien has been CEO of the **Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA)**, since its establishment in July 2023. MARA has responsibility for regulatory oversight of development Ireland's maritime area, in particular implementation of a new streamlined consenting system. Prior to joining MARA, Laura was Chief Executive/Registrar of the Health Insurance Authority, and also held senior management positions at ComReg and Commission for Regulation of Utilities.



Andreas F. Brandt is Partner of the Advanced Bioenergy Fund with responsibility for investment origination and execution at **Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners**. He has over 15 years of energy infrastructure experience and prior to joining CIP, was most recently Group Vice President, General Counsel, and Head of Legal, M&A, and Risk Management at GRUNDFOS, where his main responsibilities were to develop the company's acquisition strategy, managing the Legal and Risk Management functions, and supporting the board of directors in all related matters.



Brian Carroll is the Assistant Secretary at the **Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment** leading on built environment; retrofit and heat policy where key priorities include: the National Retrofit Programme; the Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme; the Energy Efficiency Directive; the Renewable Energy Directive; Public Sector Energy Efficiency; and Renewable Heat Policy.



Errol Close was appointed Chief Corporate Services Officer in August 2024, having previously held the roles of Head of Group Regulation and Head of Strategy and Sustainability at **EirGrid**. Errol has over 20 years experience in the sector having also held senior roles in the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment; and SSE.



Paul Deane is a research fellow at **UCC's** Environmental Research Institute and a fellow at the Payne Institute, Colorado School of Mines. He is a scientific advisor to a number of international research projects on clean energy futures. His research focuses on scientific methods to understand future energy systems.



James Delahunt is Head of Energy & Natural Resources and a corporate finance partner at **KPMG** specialising in M&A and Financing transactions. James has advised some of Ireland's leading businesses and entrepreneurs on financing strategy and sale options including to domestic and international trade, private equity and venture capital firms. James also co-leads the Deal Advisory work of KPMG Sustainable Futures, the firm's dedicated Renewable Energy and ESG advisory practice. He has advised on transactions with a cumulative value in excess of €5 billion.



Karen Doyle is the Head of Business Development at **Gas Networks Ireland** and has responsibility for the development of renewable gas and provision of route to market for biomethane and green hydrogen. Karen has worked in the energy sector for over 17 years, having previously been Head of Energy and Infrastructure at Ulster Bank.



Alan Farrell is the Senior Director of Government Affairs & Policy at **Liquid Gas Ireland**, representing the LPG and BioLPG industry. A former public representative with more than 20 years' experience in local and national politics, Alan previously chaired Oireachtas Committees and his Parliamentary Party. He now leads policy development to advance renewable liquid gas production in Ireland and promotes LPG and renewable liquid gases as practical, lower carbon solutions for off natural gas grid homes and businesses.



Stacy Feldmann began her career in the CRU and later moved to Ofgem. Specific areas of expertise include regulatory incentive monitoring, connections regulation, wholesale market monitoring, networks disputes, market codes, and price control development. Stacy was recently appointed Regulation Manager (Renewables) at ESB. Prior to this she worked for SSE. Stacy is Chair of the **Electricity Association of Ireland (EAI) Wholesale Markets Committee**. In this role Stacy is helping to shape and elevate the all-island industry voice at an exciting time of market evolution.



Jillian Ferris has extensive experience in energy regulation in Northern Ireland across public and private sectors. As Head of Networks at the **Utility Regulator**, she oversees a range of projects including developing the regulatory regime for offshore wind, planning the electricity smart meter roll out programme, monitoring the licence compliance of network companies and driving forward strategic development projects to get best value from the electricity network.



Lucy Field is a Principal at **AFRY**. Lucy has 30 years' experience in the energy business, most of which has been spent evaluating gas assets, studying security of supply and projecting energy transition scenarios. Most recently Lucy's work has been in developing global gas supply-demand scenarios, including LNG, and the development of green gases – biomethane and green hydrogen.



John FitzGerald is one of Ireland's leading economists and a Research Affiliate with the **Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI)** and an Adjunct Professor in **TCD**. He was a member of the Northern Ireland Authority for Energy Regulation from 2003 to 2006 and he was a member of the government's Climate Change Advisory Council from 2016 to 2024 and Chair of that Council from 2016 to 2020.



Andreas Goldthau is Director of the **Willy Brandt School of Public Policy** and the Franz Haniel Professor for Public Policy at the Department of Economics, Law and Social Sciences, **University of Erfurt**. His academic work centers on energy security and the international political economy of the clean transition. Goldthau held professorships at the University of London and Central European University, and he conducted research at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, the RAND Corporation, and the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University. He is Senior Advisor for Geopolitics of Energy and Industrial Transformation at the Research Institute for Sustainability in Potsdam and a visiting professor at the College of Europe in Bruges.



Geraldine Heavey was appointed Executive Director, Enterprise Services, **ESB** in June 2018. Prior to this, she held the role of Group Finance and Commercial Manager. Geraldine has worked in finance and managerial positions in ESB since 1993, including Financial Controller of BSC and Electric Ireland, Manager in ESB Trading and Financial Controller of ESB Power Generation. Geraldine is an accountant and holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Dublin City University (DCU). Geraldine is an external member of the DCU Educational Support Services DAC and chairs its Audit Committee.



Charles Kane is Chief Executive Officer at **Greengate Biogas**. has over a decade of senior leadership experience in anaerobic digestion (AD) and biomethane development, with a proven track record of taking large-scale projects from conception through development, operation, and exit. He has extensive experience delivering complex AD portfolios, managing funder relationships, and implementing industry-leading standards.



Brendan Kelly is the Head of Commercial at **BnM** Renewable Energy and is responsible for developing commercial strategies and full commercialisation of Bord Na Móna's 2GW+ development pipeline. He is also leading the diversification strategy for the company specifically in the areas of Offshore Wind, Energy Parks, Renewable Gas, Power to X, and Flextech. Brendan has over 12 years' experience in the Utility and Energy sector. Prior to joining Bord Na Móna, Brendan held several senior management positions with Smart Wires, an Energy Technology company, based out of the Bay Area in California.



David Kelly is the Chief Executive Officer at **Gas Networks Ireland**, the semi-state organisation responsible for operating Ireland's €3 billion, 14,725km national gas network, and ensuring the safe and reliable delivery of gas to almost 725,000 homes and businesses across the country. Gas Networks Ireland is aiming to deliver a repurposed, resized and fully decarbonised gas network. David was appointed CEO in February 2026, having previously served Director of Customer and Business Development at Gas Networks Ireland since 2022.



Dave Kirwan is Country Chair of **Bord Gáis Energy** and Managing Director of **Centrica Power**, shaping global power investment and accelerating the transition to a sustainable energy future. He represents Bord Gáis Energy on Centrica's leadership team and works closely with government and regulators to influence policy and drive change. Dave has held senior roles across Centrica, including Managing Director of Bord Gáis Energy. He holds a BE in Electronics from UCD, an MBA and DBA from UCC, and is a Fellow of Engineers Ireland. Dave also serves on Ibec's Executive Committee and Focus Ireland's Philanthropy Council.



Rena Kuwahata is Programme Lead Grid Modernisation and Electrification at **Agora Energiewende**. With her team, she works on topics related to electricity grid modernisation and flexible electrification globally. Rena Kuwahata has been with Agora Energiewende since 2025. Prior to joining Agora, Rena Kuwahata worked for the International Energy Agency for three years. As lead and co-author, she was responsible for the agency's special report on Electricity Grids and Secure Energy Transitions and Integrating Solar and Wind reports, and led power system transformation projects with a focus on digitalisation, AI and regional integration.



Cathal Marley was appointed as Chief Executive of **EirGrid**, the State's electricity grid operator, in April 2025. Marley has over 30 years' experience in the utilities and infrastructure sector, having worked in senior roles across the electricity and water sectors, as well as serving as Chief Executive of Uisce Éireann and Gas Networks Ireland (GNI) between 2019 and 2025. He holds an MBA from the Michael Smurfit Business School, UCD, is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Chacellor of Dublin City University (DCU) and Chair of Swim Ireland. His early career was spent with EY in Dublin and eastern Europe.



Niamh McGovern is an energy and construction partner at **Arthur Cox**. Niamh has a broad skillset in this area and routinely advises developers, sponsors, banks and public bodies on energy projects in Ireland.



Fergal Mulligan has been a Commissioner with the **CRU** since May 2024 and was appointed Chairperson in March 2026. Fergal previously worked as the Director of the Digital Connectivity Office in the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications and prior to that was a Senior Manager at the Irish telecoms regulator, ComReg. He has been a Chartered Certified Accountant since 1998 and has in recent years received diplomas in Corporate Governance from UCD and Economics and Competition Law from Kings College London.



Richard Murphy is a Partner and Head of Energy (Ireland) at **Pinsent Masons LLP**. His energy expertise and experience in Ireland include advising clients on energy markets and policy work, M&A and joint ventures, revenue model licences and route to market agreements. Richard is rated as a leading individual for energy work across the island of Ireland. Richard sits on the Renewable NI committee and Wind Energy Ireland's markets group. He has a particularly strong presence in the offshore wind sector in Ireland and has been very active advising both Phase 1 and Phase 2 projects in Ireland.



Luca Neumann brings diverse perspectives to EU affairs, having previously worked for an EU institution, a trade association, and at the Member State level. Throughout his career, he has covered a wide range of policy areas, including cohesion, macroeconomics, climate, environmental and sustainable finance. Before joining **Euroheat & Power**, Luca served as an advisor to the Chair of the Environment Council during Belgium's Presidency of the Council of the EU in 2024. As EHP's Senior Policy Advisor, he focuses on energy efficiency, renewables and waste heat, working to further advance Europe's decarbonisation efforts.



Úna Nic Giolla Choille is a former Principal Officer in the Department for the Environment, Climate and Communications, heading the Electricity Regulation Division. She previously worked in the Department of Finance, in the Offices of the Houses of the Oireachtas and of the Revenue Commissioners and also with the Policy Institute in Trinity College. Having a primary degree in economics and geography, she also holds a master's degree in Public Sector Analysis, both from TCD.



Brian Ó Gallachóir is Associate Vice-President of Sustainability at **University College Cork** and Director of UCC's Sustainability Institute. Brian established energy systems modelling capacity in Ireland over the past 20 years and is a recognised global leader, currently elected Chair of the International Energy Agency Technology Collaboration Programme on energy systems modelling. His research has underpinned Irish and EU energy and climate policies and energy company strategies.



Darragh O'Brien TD is the **Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment**, and Minister for Transport. O'Brien is a Fianna Fáil TD for Dublin Bay East and served as Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage between 2020 and 2025.



Pauline O'Reilly is the CEO of the **Irish District Energy Association**, which promotes district heating and cooling in Ireland. Prior to taking up this role Pauline served as a Senator, city councillor, and Chairperson of a political party. She also worked as a solicitor in Galway and has been in leadership roles across the environmental, educational and social justice sectors in Ireland.



John O'Shea is the Heat & Electricity Lead for **Codema – Dublin's Not-for-Profit Energy Agency**. He has expert knowledge of low-carbon heating, district energy, energy planning, and policy development. John has worked on the development of heat transition roadmaps across Europe and has been a key contributor to European policy and research on waste heat utilisation, and is Ireland's representative on the International Energy Agency's Technology Collaboration Programme on district heating and cooling.



Denis O'Sullivan is Director of Development at **Centrica Power**, leading the implementation of the company's investment and growth strategy across its European portfolio of conventional, renewable, nuclear and power storage assets. Denis joined Centrica in 2023 after senior leadership roles at Ervia, including Networks Managing Director and Chief Operating Officer. With more than 20 years' experience delivering major infrastructure projects, he has extensive expertise in energy policy and regulate on at national and EU level and is advancing the adoption of new technologies for sustainable energy generation and storage.



Kevin O'Sullivan is a columnist with **The Irish Times** on Energy and Climate issues. Kevin is an environmental consultant and currently sits on the advisory board of SupergridEurope. He is the former Environment and Science Editor and lead journalist reporting on climate change with The Irish Times. He served as Editor of the paper from 2011 to 2017.



John Reilly is Head of Renewable Energy at **BnM**. He is a member of Bord na Móna's Senior Leadership team with specific responsibility for the operation and continued development of Bord na Móna's expanding portfolio in the Irish electricity market. His team is currently leading a €1.6 billion investment programme which will see the company add at least 1GW of new renewable assets to its fleet by 2030.



Sonya Twohig is the Secretary-General of **ENTSO-E**, the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity, the Association of 40 TSOs in Europe who provide Security of Supply to over 500 million customers. In this role, she fulfills the mission of the European Transmission System Operators (TSOs) to deliver on the European goals of achieving a carbon neutral continent by 2050. As Secretary General, she plays a direct role in fostering technical cooperation and energy security between system operators, furthering Regional Coordination and ensuring security of supply and resilience across Europe.



Steve Smith is the Principal Engineer and head of the Renewable Heat Team at **Natural Power**. He has experience in designing, specifying and installing a range of heat technologies, including biomass heat and power, HP steam turbines, CHP, solar thermal, geothermal (flash turbines and binary systems) and an coupling these with district heating.



Neil Walker is a Director at **Walker Energy Consulting**. Neil provides advice to Irish businesses seeking to develop and implement sustainability strategies. He also assists clients on regulatory issues, including ESG reporting and corporate due diligence. Previously, he acted as Ibec's Head of Infrastructure, Energy and Environment. His long career in business and industry also included a variety of senior management positions in the UK and Ireland. Between 2015 and 2022 he chaired the Environment Committee of Business Europe. Neil continues to advise Ibec and its members on sustainability issues, and he remains its nominee on An Forám Uisce.



John Walsh is the Emerging Technology and R&D Manager at **ESB**, collaborating with a diverse array of companies, charities, start-ups, and research groups. With a strong passion for leveraging technology in social enterprises he has extensive experience in the energy sector, having held various operational, engineering, commercial, and management roles. His expertise spans retail electricity supply, energy services, electric mobility, sustainability, health, safety, wellbeing, and innovation.



William Walsh is Chief Executive Officer in **SEAI**, having previously held the position of both Chief Operations Officer and Chief Financial Officer. William joined SEAI in 2013. Prior to joining SEAI he worked for IFI where he held a number of roles including Assistant Chief Executive Officer and Director. Before this he held senior management positions in the private sector. William is a Chartered Accountant, holds a Bachelor of Business Studies from Dublin City University and a Graduate Diploma in Strategy, Innovation and Change from UCD.

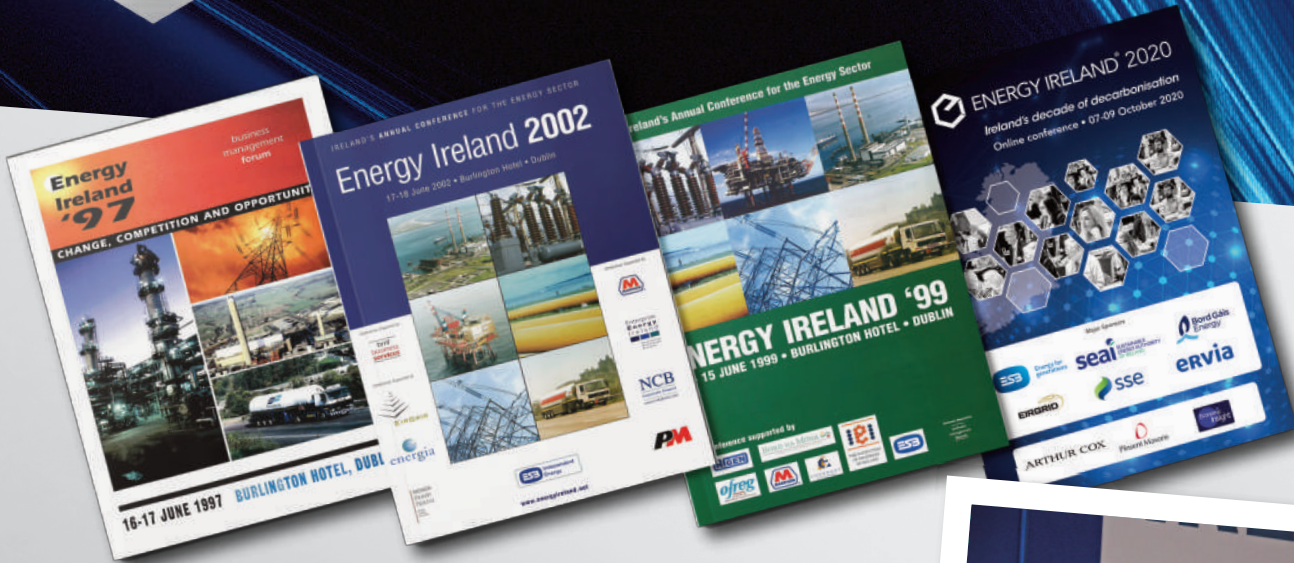


Jude Webber is Ireland correspondent for the **Financial Times**, covering all developments in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. Jude moved to her current role after 21 years in Latin America, covering most of the continent including Peru, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay and most recently Mexico and Central America. Prior to joining the FT in 2007, she worked for 15 years as a foreign correspondent for Reuters.



ENERGY IRELAND®

Through the years...







The networking experience



Networking is a key element of the Energy Ireland® experience. With 300+ attendees from right across the industry, north and south, the conference is a valuable forum for meeting new contacts and renewing old acquaintances. Throughout Energy Ireland® 2026 there are plentiful opportunities for networking and business development.



Exhibition

Energy Ireland® 2026 will feature a lively exhibition and display area. Exhibition stands offer the chance to speak with the developers of new industry projects, product and service providers and expert industry advisors.



Coffee breaks

The two days of Energy Ireland® are punctuated by regular and frequent coffee breaks – in recognition that almost as much business gets transacted in the margins of the conference as in the plenary and workshop sessions!



Q&A sessions

An important feature of the conference is the opportunity to engage with the speakers during the Q&A / panel discussions at the end of each plenary and workshop session.



Networking lunches

An opportunity to refuel for the afternoon sessions but also, more importantly, to speak to fellow delegates and speakers while overlooking the impressive pitch at Croke Park!



Drinks reception

The Day 1 drinks reception, sponsored by Pinsent Masons, offers delegates the perfect opportunity to relax and unwind over a glass of wine at the end of a day's discussion and debate. It is a prime time for catching up on the latest news from the day's proceedings and across the industry.



Workshops

Alongside the plenary sessions in the main halls, Energy Ireland® 2026 will feature a programme of workshops which allow for in-depth examination of key issues at the forefront of Irish energy. There will be maximum opportunity for Q&A and discussion in all of the workshop sessions.

Energy Ireland® exhibition area

Energy Ireland® is Ireland's largest and most long-established energy conference, attended every year by all the key players in the Irish energy sector, as well as many from further afield who maintain an interest in how the energy sector in Ireland is developing.

Each year the conference examines the latest developments in the Irish energy sector by way of an expert panel of speakers, including local industry leaders, policy-makers and regulators. In addition, the conference regularly attracts high-level international speakers who look at major energy issues in the wider European or global context. Energy Ireland® should be firmly marked in the calendar of anyone wanting to stay up to date with what's happening across the Irish energy industry.

Selling fast!



Benefits of exhibition:

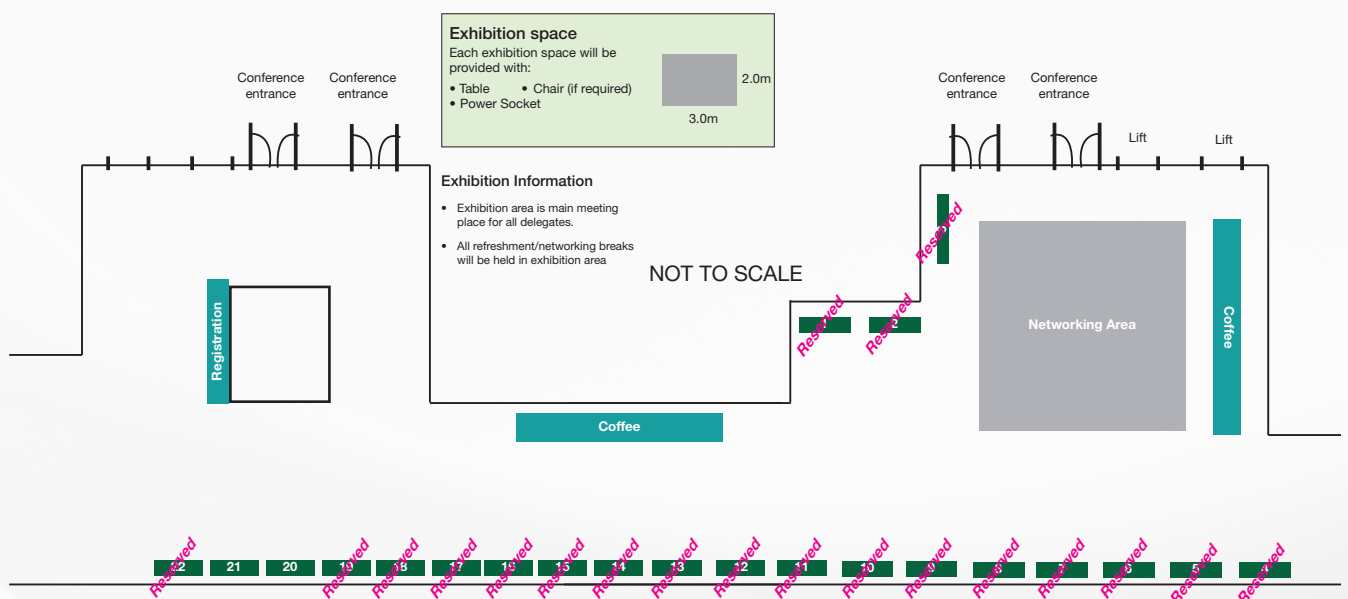
- ✓ Raise your organisation's profile
- ✓ Excellent networking opportunities
- ✓ Showcase your organisation's expertise
- ✓ Opportunity to attend all the conference sessions and interact directly with speakers and delegates
- ✓ Business development opportunities



Sponsorship opportunities

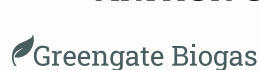
There are still a number of sponsorship opportunities available at this conference. For further information on the sponsorship packages remaining and speaking opportunities at the event call **Sam Tobin** on **+353 (0)1 661 3755**.

Energy Ireland® exhibition area



Limited partnership opportunities available

Join Ireland's leading energy organisations in partnering with Energy Ireland®. An excellent way to showcase your brand in association with Ireland's major annual energy conference, there are a small number of high profile packages available. For further information, contact us directly on **+353 (0)1 661 3755** or email jillian.wallace@energyireland.ie



ARTHUR COX



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information. It covers all aspects of energy policy across all sectors, including numerous listings and profiles.

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