

# ENERGY CORK

IRELAND'S SOLAR ENERGY  
FUTURE CONFERENCE

**29 JANUARY 2016**

CLARION HOTEL, CORK



THERE ARE TREMENDOUS OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR IRELAND IN THE SOLAR ENERGY SECTOR, BUT ALSO SOME UNIQUE CHALLENGES.  
IRELAND'S SOLAR ENERGY FUTURE WILL BE THE LARGEST CONFERENCE EVER HELD IN IRELAND  
DEVOTED TO THE DISCUSSION OF THE SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INDUSTRY.

In just 90 minutes, enough sunlight strikes the earth to provide the entire planet's energy needs for the entire year. With this opportunity in mind, and the requirement to decarbonise our energy future, solar power will undoubtedly play a key role in our energy mix. Ireland is poised to leverage this opportunity and solar photovoltaic technologies, either building mounted or ground mounted, are likely to play an important role in our energy future.

However there are challenges from policy development to power delivery, and this conference will serve to discuss and address many of these important issues.





# IRELAND'S SOLAR ENERGY FUTURE

Deployment of PV in Ireland: The Challenges & Opportunities

29TH JANUARY 2016 - CLARION HOTEL, LAPPS QUAY, CORK

**0830 – 0900 Registration and Networking**

**0900 – 0920 Introduction**

**0900 – 0910 Lord Mayor of Cork : Cllr. Chris O'Leary**

**0910 – 0920 Chairman of Energy Cork: Michael Quirk**

Michael Quirk is Chairman of Energy Cork as well as being a wind farm developer and operator through IQ Wind. He is a tillage farmer and sustainable energy entrepreneur. He owns and manages IQ Solar which is developing solar energy projects in Ireland.

**0920 – 1050 Session 1: Chaired by: David Maguire, Irish Solar Energy Association (ISEA)**

David is a Director of BNRG Renewables a solar specialist that has been developing, constructing and operating large scale solar since 2006. The company has commissioned over Euro 180MW of solar projects in Europe and has offices in Ireland, the UK, Africa and the USA.

**0920 – 0935 Solar Power in Europe: Market Trends and System Integration**

**Thomas Döring, Solar Power Europe**

Thomas works for SolarPower Europe as a Policy Analyst on Technology and Market trends. Prior to joining SolarPower Europe he gained experience in leading companies and organisations such as RWE and GIZ.

**0935 – 0950 The CER Review of Connection and Grid Access Policy to the Electricity System**

**Eamonn Murtagh, Commission for Energy Regulation**

Eamonn Murtagh is a Director with the Commission for Energy Regulation (CER) and a member of the CER Senior Management Team since June 2015. Eamonn is responsible for the CER's Energy Networks division which regulates the electricity and natural gas networks in Ireland, including setting network development and connection policy, approving charges for access to and use of the networks and resolving connection disputes. Eamonn has a degree in Management Science from Trinity College and a Masters of Arts – Public Management from the IPA.

**0950 – 1005 Energy in Ireland: Trends and Projections**

**Martin Howley, Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland**

As Manager of Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland's (SEAI) Energy Policy Statistical Support Unit (EPSSU), Martin Howley oversees the EPSSU and has a lead role in developing and maintaining comprehensive national and sectoral statistics for energy production, transformation and end use, including energy prices. He has worked for almost 37 years in various energy related roles in the antecedents of SEAI from IIRS through Eolas, Forbairt, Enterprise Ireland and the Irish Energy Centre

**1005 – 1020 Communities and Renewables – Living together**

**Thomas Ryan, Irish Farmers Association**

Thomas Ryan is the Environment and Infrastructure Executive with the Irish Farmers' Association. He is a graduate of University College Dublin, Dublin Institute of Technology and the Irish Management Institute. He holds degrees in Agricultural Science and Property Studies and a diploma in Business Management. He previously worked with Kerry Group plc and currently represents IFA on two recycling organisations IFFPG and Farm Plastic Recycling Ltd. He is an associate member of the Society of Chartered Surveyors of Ireland and a member of the Agricultural Science Association and Irish Environmental Law Association. He is also the Programme Manager of the on-farm voluntary cost saving initiative, Smart Farming.

**1020 – 1035 Grid Connection for Solar PV**

**Ivan Codd, ESB Networks**

Ivan Codd is the Renewable Planning Manager at ESB Networks, the Distribution System Operator in Ireland. He has worked in ESB Networks for more than 16 years in a number of roles, chiefly in network planning; in Network Investment North as a planning engineer and more recently as manager. He has been involved in the renewable generator connection process since 2002 and is currently a member of the CER Generator Connections Liaison Group.

**1035 – 1050 Questions & Answers**

**1050 – 1110 NETWORKING BREAK**

**1110 – 1245 Session 2: Chaired by: Michael Quirk, Energy Cork**

**1110 – 1125 Lending to small solar PV developers/community projects**

**Philip Bazin – Triodos Bank**

Philip is an experienced project and asset finance professional who joined Triodos Bank in 2013 to manage the Environment Team that provides debt finance to projects and businesses including community groups focused on generating renewable energy and delivering positive environmental outcomes across Ireland and the UK.

## 1125 – 1140 Crowdfunding

**Rebecca Kelly – BNRG Renewables**

Rebecca is a Chartered Accountant, having trained with Ernst & Young. Rebecca joined BNRG in 2012 from Telefonica O2, where she held several roles including managing the transition of O2's network to a shared network within a Joint Venture with Eircom and leading the budgeting process for the organisation. Rebecca was also finance manager for Yahoo in both its Dublin and London offices. Rebecca has a B.A. in Accounting & Finance from DCU.

## 1140 – 1155 Rooftop Solar in Ireland – Opportunities and Challenges

**Robert Goss – Solar Electric Ireland**

Robert is the co-owner of Solar Electric Ireland based in Wexford. Solar Electric Ireland are market leaders in commercial scale Solar PV in the Republic of Ireland. The largest projects being; 190 kWp across public buildings in Tipperary in 2014 and 250 kWp at O'Shea Farms, Kilkenny in 2015. Previously Robert has worked as Managing Director for Conergy UK – building that company from zero to 200 MW of installed capacity in 5 years.

## 1155 – 1210 A Developer's perspective on the potential challenges within the Irish Solar Market

**Sofie Van den Bergh – Vento Ludens**

Sofie is a Project Developer with Vento Ludens responsible for leading the development of solar projects in the UK and Ireland. She has a Masters in environmental science and over 6 years of experience as a developer in the renewable energy sector. Sofie has worked on solar and onshore wind projects within the UK, Ireland, Europe and South Africa.

## 1210 – 1225 Insurance Aspects of Solar PV

**Oliver Litterick – RKH Speciality**

As Division Director for RKH Speciality, Oliver has over seven years of experience in the renewable energy sector. He specialises in project specific insurance placements, working closely with both insurers and clients. RKH Speciality provides flexible insurance and reinsurance solutions to clients across the entire natural resources spectrum.

## 1225 – 1245 Questions & Answers

## 1245 – 1345 NETWORKING LUNCH

## 1345 – 1505 Session 3: Chaired by, Xavier Dubuisson – XD Sustainable Energy Consulting Ltd

Xavier Dubuisson is a consulting engineer with close to 20 years of experience in the field of renewable energy and energy efficiency, of which 15 in Ireland where he has been instrumental in developing the Irish market for solar technologies. He created XD Sustainable Energy Consulting in 2011 to continue empowering a wide range of stakeholders here and abroad for their transition to a low-carbon, resilient future

## 1345 – 1400 Solar: The Way to Meet 2020 Renewable Targets

**John Mullins – Amarengo Solar**

John Mullins is Chief Executive of Amarengo, a fast growing company which is focused on solar asset development, financing and ownership in Europe. Previous to this role, John Mullins was Chief Executive of Bord Gáis from December 2007 until the end of 2012. During this time, BGE established a significant electricity business and developed renewable and conventional generation assets. He has held senior management positions with ESB, ESB International, PricewaterhouseCoopers(UK) and NTR plc. Group.

## 1400 – 1415 Solar Energy in Ireland – An overview of the legal aspects

**Elaine O'Driscoll – PJ O'Driscoll & Sons**

Elaine O'Driscoll is the Managing Partner of P.J.O'Driscoll & Sons Solicitors a firm which, since its foundation in 1899, has played a central role in business and development in Cork. Elaine has vast experience of the law of commercial transactions generally with a particular interest in the role of the developer. She is a member of the Steering Group of Energy Cork and is Chairman of its Finance & Investment Committee

## 1415 – 1430 Cathal Hennessy – Lightsource – Driving Innovation

Cathal is Lightsource's Business Development Manager for Ireland. Cathal leads the development of Lightsource ground-mounted and rooftop solar installations, guiding customers through the whole development process, from initial site identification to energy generation. He is an expert in the regulatory, policy and operating environment for Ireland's solar energy market, and his advice and expertise are crucial in helping customers to make the right decision for them when weighing the installation of a solar project. He has extensive expertise in Ireland's renewable energy sector, with eight years' experience in Coillte, Ireland's largest forestry, land and natural resources company, developing the biomass, wind and hydro-energy business units.

## 1430 – 1445 Solar PV – Next Generation Technology for ESB

**Cera Slevin – ESB Solar**

Cera has 15 years experience in the energy sector, working in projects in Ireland, UK, Middle East, Australia and Africa. Cera has worked in technical and commercial roles across varying functions and asset classes; construction, commissioning, operations and maintenance, Energy efficiency, Front office trader and Middle office analyst on gas turbine, boiler, steam turbine, solar PV, battery storage, onshore wind, offshore wind, wave energy, tidal stream, tidal lagoon, rainwater harvesting, off-grid solutions and demand side management. She is most interested in the low carbon future and the opportunity for this "once in a generation chance" to transform how energy is delivered and consumed.

## 1445 – 1505 Questions & Answers

## 1505 – 1515 CONFERENCE CONCLUSIONS & CLOSE







Energy Cork is an industry-driven cluster pursuing coordinated actions to strengthen enterprise and employment within the energy sector in the Cork region. Supported by Cork City Council and Cork County Council through their respective Economic Development Funds, Energy Cork was conceived by Cork Chamber with a view to building on the unique opportunities for the region to secure competitive advantage in the energy sector.

#### The vision of the Energy Cork cluster is

- To be a recognised and influential focal point for the energy sector in the Cork Region
- To help consolidate and raise awareness of Cork's position at the forefront of economic, commercial, research and educational activity in the energy sector in Ireland and to actively contribute to economic growth and job creation in Cork.

This vision will be achieved by building upon the extensive natural resources, physical infrastructure, human capital and tradition of innovation in the Cork Region.

#### Are you interested in joining Energy Cork?

Play an active role in contributing to job creation and economic development in the energy sector in Cork.

Help to build the profile and identity of the energy sector in Cork and ensure recognition for its important role in the national economy.

Influence local, regional and national policy in the energy sector via a strong, effective voice.

Benefit from participating in networking, business development and training events organised by Energy Cork.

Grow your organisation's profile amongst Cork's key energy professionals.

Keep informed of current commercial, research and educational activities and opportunities in the energy sector in Cork.

**Complete the details below to receive our membership pack -**



Name

Company Name

Position

Company Address

Email

No. of Employees

Years in Business

**Please return completed application forms to:**  
Energy Cork, Room 310 City Hall, Anglesea Street Cork

**This event is made possible through the support of**



Cork  
City Council  
Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí



Cork  
County Council  
Comhairle Contae Chorcaí



Cork  
CHAMBER  
IN BUSINESS FOR BUSINESS