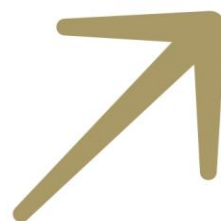
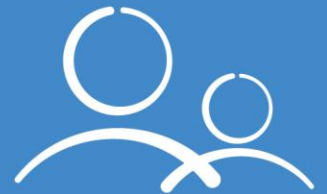


Stakeholder Engagement Plan 2026

Networks Stakeholder
Engagement Evaluation
(NSEE)



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Please note, the timelines in this document refer to the calendar year:

Q1 = January - March

Q2 = April - June

Q3 = July - September

Q4 = October - December

1. Introduction

About this plan

In 2018, the Commission for the Regulation of Utilities (CRU) introduced a new incentive for EirGrid (as the Transmission System Operator), and ESB Networks (as the Distribution System Operator) in relation to stakeholder engagement.

The objective of this incentive, as stated by the CRU, is to promote cultures within the Transmission System Operator (TSO) and Distribution System Operator (DSO) that put stakeholders (i.e., customers, generators, local communities and others) at the centre of what the network companies do. This ensures that the System Operators deliver high quality outcomes for energy customers and the wider public. The CRU formed a Panel made up of representatives from stakeholders to assess and score EirGrid and ESB Networks on the quality, good implementation and effectiveness of their stakeholder strategy in the previous year. This score determines the financial incentive the companies receive, impacting directly on the incentive revenues earned.

This process requires EirGrid to demonstrate our comprehensive, up-to-date stakeholder engagement strategy and delivery, our channels and initiatives for engaging with stakeholders and demonstrable positive impacts on stakeholders, stakeholder groups or the business.

This document sets out our planned engagements for 2026 and how our stakeholders can participate. Our approach to engagement will continue to be influenced by stakeholder feedback across industry, society and statutory bodies.

The context in which we work

We actively engage with policymakers, industry and society at all levels, from local to European, in line with our strategic objectives and Government policy. However, we are also a regulated business, and our engagement takes place within a regulatory environment. Our engagement strategy provides the principles and tools to ensure that, whether we are talking to our customers or local communities, we are clear about our regulatory obligations and our objectives. This plan focuses on our engagement within our remit as a TSO and is a requirement under PR5 [CRU/20/154](#), the CRU's Price Review 5 Regulatory Framework, Incentives and Reporting Decision Paper and is proposed to continue under the Price Review 6 (PR6) arrangements.

Price Review 6

PR6 is the framework through which CRU evaluates and approves the next phase of investment in upgrading Ireland's electricity and related infrastructure.

In July 2025, CRU published the [PR6 Draft Determination](#), a suite of consultation papers, which set out a range of proposals on the allowed revenues for EirGrid and ESB Networks for the period 1st January 2026 to 31st December 2030.

The proposals set out as part of these Draft Determinations are the product of an extensive, multi-year process which has involved wide-ranging engagement, thorough analysis of network companies' business plans, the development of proposals for a regulatory framework that seeks to manage the various risks and uncertainties for companies and customers, and revenue allowances that support transformation of Ireland's energy system. The Draft Determination outlines the intention of the CRU to continue with the evaluation of the Stakeholder Engagement Incentive which includes the publication of the TSO's Stakeholder Engagement Plan and requirement to consult.

At the time of writing, this process is still ongoing with the CRU's Final Determination expected by the end of 2025.

EirGrid's Corporate Strategy

EirGrid's current corporate strategy period of 2020-2025 is now coming to a close. EirGrid Group is currently developing its Corporate Strategy 2026-2030, expected to be launched in 2026. As part of the

development of this strategy, EirGrid has been working closely with stakeholders to ensure that stakeholder needs and views are captured and taken into account as we develop our plans. The new corporate strategy will help to shape our work for the next five years and will highlight the key focus areas for the organisation for this period.

EirGrid's Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

Over the course of 2024, EirGrid greatly enhanced our stakeholder engagement documentation to make it much more structured and detailed, and this was positively received by our stakeholders. In 2025, EirGrid has continued to develop our stakeholder engagement strategy in line with the above-mentioned corporate strategy. This work is currently ongoing.

In anticipation of the PR6 Final Determination from CRU and the new EirGrid Corporate Strategy, it's important to note that EirGrid is in a period of transition and that further information regarding our corporate strategy and aligned approach to stakeholder engagement will be available in 2026.

Foreword



I am pleased to present the EirGrid 2026 Stakeholder Engagement Plan.

This document captures our planned stakeholder engagement for 2026 as Ireland's transmission system operator. It also details the planned outcomes for each of these engagements.

EirGrid, as the transmission system operator for Ireland, has a unique role to play in transforming our power system to help meet the needs of today as well as the future. Achieving this is fundamental to unlocking greater energy independence and security, as well as supporting national and regional economic growth and a resilient and low carbon society.

As we prepare to move into the next regulatory Price Review period (PR6) in 2026, our work will continue to focus on the delivery of critical transmission infrastructure as we continue in our efforts to decarbonise the network while balancing supply and demand. We are also working on making changes to how we operate the power system to ensure system resilience while improving efficiency and capability.

Equally, offshore infrastructure will become a vital contributor in meeting our targets at both a national and European level. Through our integral involvement in the offshore and renewable energy space, EirGrid is playing a central role in Ireland's efforts to reduce emissions and achieve our climate goals. EirGrid also has an additional role, owning and being responsible for offshore transmission assets, which we are currently preparing for.

Market development and reform as well as our reintegration into European markets with the connection of the Celtic Interconnector, remain key priorities while we continue to deliver a competitive framework that supports investment. Delivering these programmes and supporting the necessary changes for market participants requires engagement and collaboration with a range of stakeholders.

By prioritising stakeholder engagement across all of our programmes of work, we aim to ensure that stakeholders have the opportunity to inform our decision making.

I'd like to take this opportunity to say thank you for all of the valuable feedback that we have received to date and look forward to continued collaboration into the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Errol Close'.

Errol Close
Chief Corporate Services Officer at EirGrid Group

2. Our Network Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

Who we are and what we do

EirGrid as Transmission System Operator develops, manages and operates the transmission grid in Ireland. The grid transports power from where it is generated to where it is needed. EirGrid is also leading the secure transition of the electricity grid to a sustainable low-carbon future.

The grid brings power to industry and businesses that use large amounts of electricity. It also powers the distribution network, run by ESB Networks, which supplies the electricity used in homes, businesses, schools, hospitals, and farms.

We are regulated as a monopoly service provider. We perform our services for the benefit of every electricity user and to support the economy. We ensure that electricity is always available when and where it's needed, every second of every day, and for the decades to come. We do this cost effectively and in the interests of all electricity users.

EirGrid, as Market Operator in Ireland, jointly with SONI, as Market Operator in Northern Ireland, run the all-island wholesale electricity market (Single Electricity Market) through the contractual joint venture Single Electricity Market Operator (SEMO), ensuring electricity users always have reliable power at a competitive price. We do this in the most cost-effective way possible, in the interests of all electricity users.

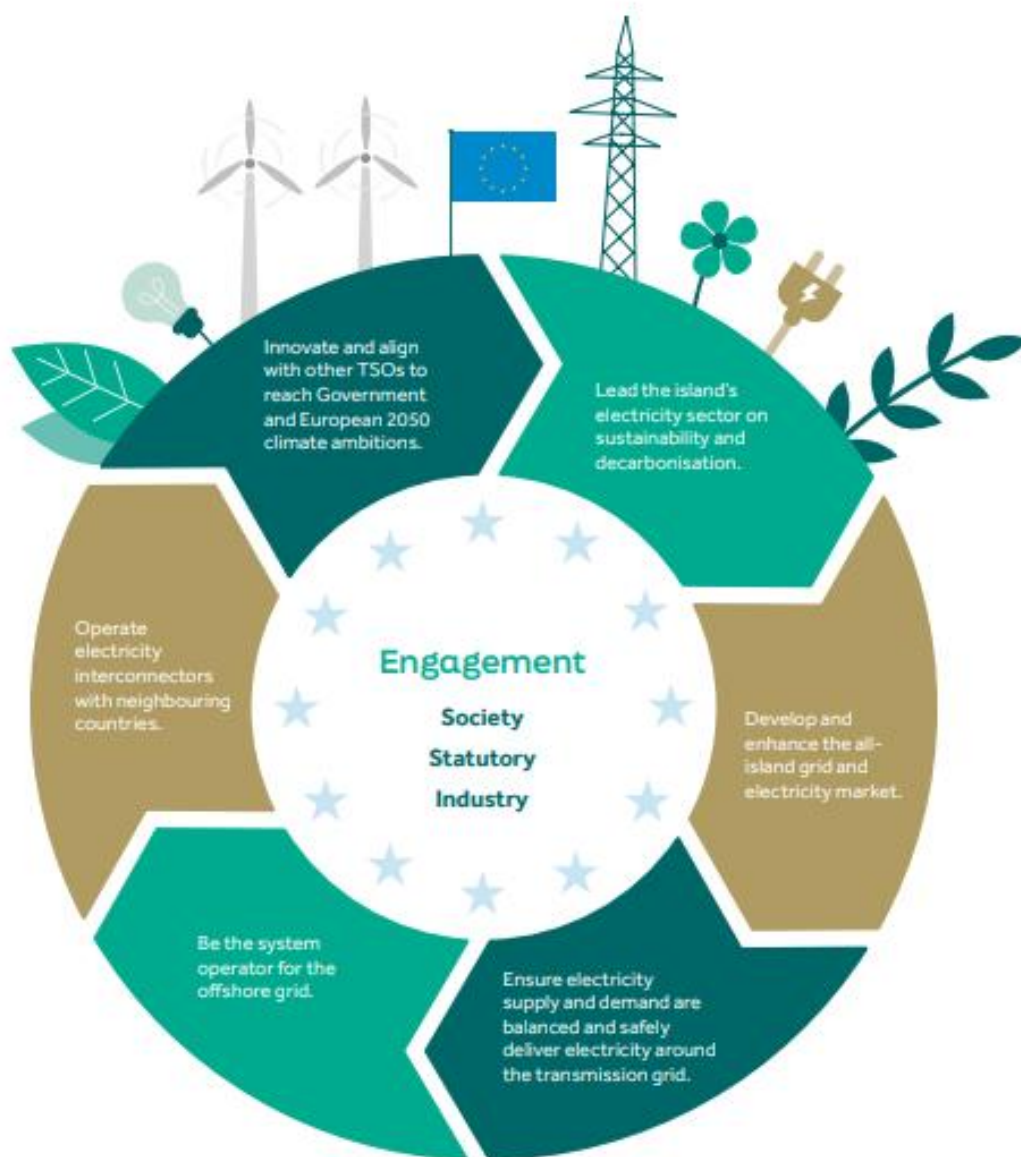
In October 2022, the Utility Regulator (UR) and the CRU respectively re-designated SONI and EirGrid as a Nominated Electricity Market Operator (NEMO) in Northern Ireland and Ireland respectively. The NEMOs, working together as SEMOpx, provide day-ahead auctions and intra-day coupling arrangement for trading in the Single Electricity Market.

The Irish Government's Climate Action Plan places offshore wind power at the centre of the State's commitment to producing 80% of our electricity from renewable sources in line with Government targets. EirGrid has been tasked to develop, operate and own the offshore transmission grid infrastructure that will bring the power generated by offshore windfarms into our national electricity grid.

EirGrid is responsible for developing and operating interconnections with neighbouring grids, such as with the National Grid in the UK via the East West Interconnector. We have future interconnections underway with Northern Ireland (via the North South Interconnector) and France (via the Celtic Interconnector). We also enable interconnections developed and operated by third parties, such as the Greenlink Interconnector. We note ambitions for further interconnection beyond those in existence and under construction are expressed in the Government's [National Policy Statement on Electricity Interconnection 2023](#).

Connected for progress

At EirGrid, we proactively engage with society, industry and statutory stakeholders across Ireland and continental Europe. Collaboration is fundamental to allowing EirGrid to achieve our targets while driving positive change for all.



Our Corporate Strategy

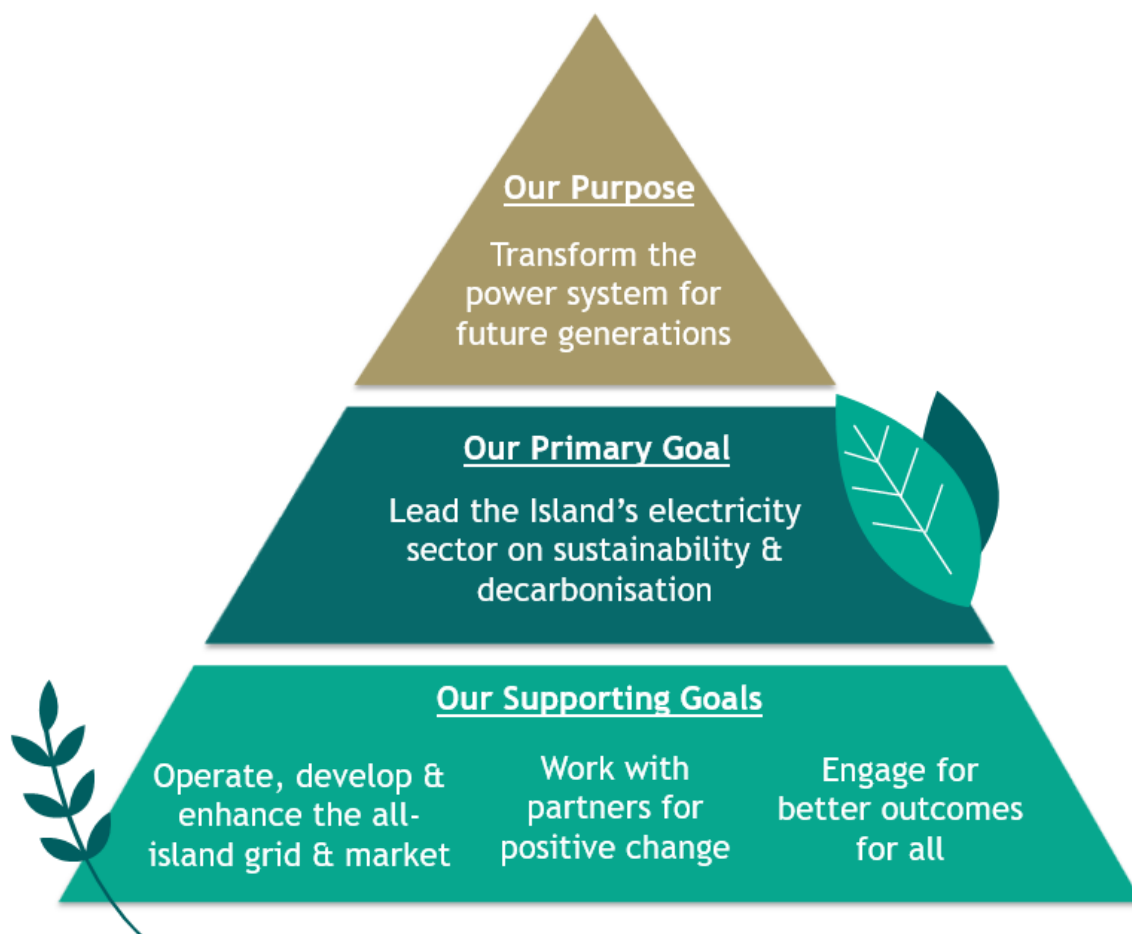
Ireland needs more electricity, and it needs to be cleaner. EirGrid has a unique role to play in transforming the power system and making Ireland renewable ready.

Our 2020-25 strategy is informed by climate change goals and the necessary transition to a low carbon, renewable future. For the strategy to work and achieve these goals, we need a stronger, more flexible electricity grid.

This means more pylons, more overhead lines, more substations and more underground cables. To secure our electricity today and ensure a stable future for the generations to come.

EirGrid Group is currently developing its Corporate Strategy 2026-2030, expected to be launched in 2026. As part of the development of this strategy, EirGrid has been working closely with stakeholders to ensure that stakeholder needs and views are captured and taken into account as we develop our plans. The new

corporate strategy will help to shape our work for the next five years and will highlight the key focus areas for the organisation for this period.



Our 2020-25 Corporate Strategy.

Our stakeholder engagement strategy

Effective stakeholder engagement is essential in allowing EirGrid to transform the power system for future generations and is built into our corporate strategy via the following supporting goals:

Working with stakeholders for positive change & engage for better outcomes for all

We recognise the need for collaboration and open dialogue with all of our stakeholders in order to achieve our goals. As well as engaging with those who are impacted by what we do, we work every day with those who own and build grid transmission assets. We are guided by Government and regulators, and work in partnership with them to realise Government policy.

Enhance the all-island grid and market

To ensure that power and market system operation and development is safe, secure and reliable, we engage on a day-to-day basis and collaborate regularly with our customers, industry representative bodies and other key stakeholders. Through regular, timely and effective stakeholder engagement, we aim to deliver our services in a way that embodies both efficiency and innovation.

Our values

Effective engagement is pivotal to each and every function across our organisation and is underpinned by the EirGrid values. These values embody our sentiment and approach when engaging with all of our stakeholders as well as each other.

We are transparent We are open, honest and proactive in our communications. Transparency builds Trust	We are collaborative We work with our colleagues and our external partners to deliver for our stakeholders. Collaboration generates Success	We are accountable We are confident in our capabilities and are clear on our boundaries. Accountability enables Empowerment	We are ambitious We stretch ourselves to accomplish our goals. Ambition delivers Performance
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Our engagement principles

We developed the EirGrid engagement principles to inform better outcomes in our decision making.

These principles form the basis for all engagement with industry, customers, communities and members of the public.

Meaningful Involve stakeholders as early as possible.	Inclusive Provide information in plain English that is accessible.	Consistent Provide enough time for people to contribute their views.	Collaborative Offer clear opportunities for engagement.	Reciprocal Explain decisions and factors that influence those decisions.	Transparent Communicate with everyone who has engaged with us and explain how feedback shaped our eventual decision.
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How do we engage?

Across our work, stakeholders have opportunities to influence our decisions in different ways.

Whilst there are often regulatory or other factors involved in decision-making, we are open to, and want to actively encourage, collaboration with our stakeholders to develop solutions and new approaches together.

The engagement spectrum

The engagement spectrum is a tool we commonly use to categorise the different approaches to engagement. It enables us to understand how a decision can be influenced and to select the best methods

for effective stakeholder involvement. It is important that we are clear with our stakeholders about the level of influence that is possible on any topic to ensure we have a shared understanding of the purpose of our engagement and that engagements are always transparent.



The Engagement Spectrum.

EirGrid's approach to engagement is always tailored. We consider the varying levels of technical understanding of the stakeholders being engaged as well as the nature of the project or initiative.

For each key project or initiative, we also use a bespoke engagement plan which identifies the channels we will use to provide information to our stakeholders. These can include:

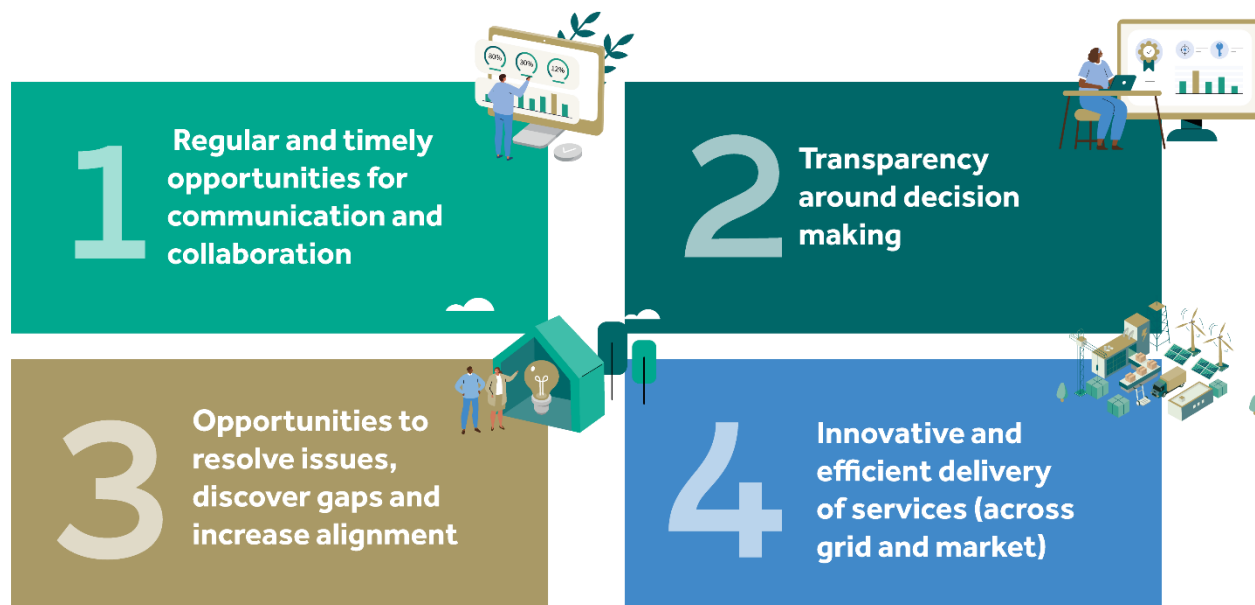
- Direct contact to customers and stakeholders via email and phone
- Providing project brochures and updates via email, website and direct delivery
- Establishment of community forums for all major grid projects
- Active participation in industry / trade conferences engaging directly with developers and suppliers
- Hosting and participating in industry forums, working groups and workshops
- Advertising in local and national press
- Providing information via our website
- Advertising and amplification on EirGrid social media channels
- Advertising on other digital platforms
- Letters to landowners and statutory bodies

- Providing spokespeople for discussions on broadcast media (national and regional)
- Providing spokespeople for interview in print media (national and regional)
- Conducting webinars
- Customer surveys

Stakeholder engagement key focuses

Effective stakeholder engagement is centred around ensuring that those who are impacted by our work have the opportunity to influence an outcome before a decision is made, while understanding EirGrid's regulatory obligations.

By actively engaging with all of our stakeholders, EirGrid aims to provide the following:



Who are our stakeholders?

EirGrid's stakeholder environment is dynamic given the constant changes that occur in the energy ecosystem. Recognising and understanding our stakeholder's changing needs, demands and interests, allows us to improve our engagements by tailoring the activities to address specific stakeholder requirements. To promote inclusivity, we perform this mapping exercise at a granular level, which ensures we capture all our stakeholders. These stakeholders include:

Industry

Our customers include those directly connected to the transmission system. Some customers generate electricity from conventional or renewable sources. Other customers have a high demand for electricity, which only the transmission system can provide. Others provide the services necessary for operating the transmission system, such as demand side and storage units. Interconnector customers provide energy and system services to other electricity systems. We also engage with the electricity suppliers and stakeholders with an interest in the operation and enhancement of the transmission system.

EirGrid aims to deliver quality services to customers and other industry stakeholders within our regulatory constraints. We respond to a wide range of needs across the wholesale energy sector in Ireland. We recognise that many of our customers are key to achieving 80% of Ireland's electricity needs from renewable sources and a low carbon electricity system through:

- Electricity generation
- Electricity storage
- Electricity suppliers
- Interconnection
- Additional technologies
- The supply of necessary services to operate the system securely, especially at times with high penetration of generation from renewable sources.

The Maritime Area Planning Act and the Government's '[Policy Statement on the Framework for Ireland's Offshore Electricity Transmission System](#)' has tasked EirGrid with the development and ownership of a new offshore electricity grid. This introduces an even more diverse range of stakeholders with whom EirGrid will be engaging over the coming years. EirGrid will build on existing relationships with offshore windfarm developers, supply chain organisations, engineering firms, specialist consultancies, Government agencies and the Seafood-ORE Working Group to develop and deliver a new offshore electricity grid. Engagement with customers and other industry stakeholders is important for us to shape how we meet the evolving needs of our customers, and how we plan, develop and operate the transmission system.

Statutory and other

We engage with:

- Businesses,
- Academia,
- Industry representative organisations,
- NGOs and not-for-profit organisations,
- Political authorities, and
- Statutory and other state bodies at all levels.

This helps us to get the insights of those with a specific interest in our plans or on a specific issue. It also ensures that we are engaging on the policy that affects our operations and therefore our customers.

We engage with many special interest groups across many areas such as environment, tourism and heritage. We also engage with relevant Government departments on a regular basis.

Society

EirGrid puts communities at the heart of our decision making when delivering grid infrastructure. When we consider grid development, we consult with local landowners, local communities that may be affected and the general public. This includes:

- Individual landowners or companies that own land,
- Members of local communities,
- Businesses and groups, and
- Local authorities and elected representatives.

The grid requires unprecedented change in the lead up to 2030 and beyond. To support this, we have proportionately increased our engagement with landowners and communities. Learning how best to grow and enhance our engagements is an ongoing key priority.

As we continue working towards Government targets, we will need to continue to develop new grid infrastructure – more than in the last ten years. It's important that we gain the support of individual landowners, their neighbours, and their wider communities in the areas where we are delivering strategic infrastructure. Early engagement is vital to ensure that people's concerns are listened to. We endeavour

in all cases to work closely with stakeholders to ensure, where it is possible, that we optimise the most deliverable projects through engagement with local communities.

Stakeholder list

Some examples of the stakeholders we engage with most frequently are listed in the table below. Each engagement has a different audience and there is no prioritisation. The ordering of the list does not imply importance. This list is non-exhaustive.

INDUSTRY	Stakeholder Group	Including
	Customers	Generators, interconnectors, large energy users, energy suppliers, demand-side aggregators, energy storage providers
	Energy Industry	Distribution System Operator (DSO), Transmission Asset Owner (TAO) Gas Networks Ireland, Industry Representative Groups, Sectoral Representative Groups, Developers, Suppliers
	Transmission System Operators (TSOs)	Réseau de Transport d'Électricité (RTE), National Energy System Operator (NESO) and others
SOCIETY	Industry Bodies	Irish Business and Employers Confederation (IBEC), American Chamber, Chambers Ireland, French Chamber, British-Irish Chambers, Business in the Community Ireland, Wind Energy Ireland (WEI), Irish Solar Energy Association (ISEA)
	Communities, landowners, Elected Representatives, Voluntary & Community Organisations	Communities with major infrastructure projects, elected representatives, and others
	Education Partners, Electricity Consumers, Energy Citizens, the Public	Broader societal engagements & partnerships
STATUTORY	Government and Government Agencies	Relevant departments and relevant agencies
	European Union (EU)	European Commission, European Parliament, European Council
	Government Advisory Boards	Ireland: Climate Change Advisory Council, National Competitiveness Council, National Economic and Social Council (NESC), Heritage Council. UK: Climate Change Committee (CCC,UK)
	Local authorities	Local councils, planning authorities, City and County Managers Association (CCMA)
	Public agencies	Relevant public agencies
	Infrastructure	Iarnród Éireann, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, Uisce Éireann, Roads Management Office (RMO),

Stakeholder Group	Including
Regulatory	Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU), Single Electricity Market (SEM) Committee, Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA) Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (OFGEM), French Energy Regulatory Commission (CRE), URNI (Utility Regulator Northern Ireland), Commissioners of Irish Lights
Media	Print (regional & national), broadcast (regional & national), trade, financial, farming, marine, digital and social
NGOs	Friends of the Earth, Irish Farmers' Association (IFA), Irish Environmental Network, SciFest, Young Social Innovators (YSI),
Technology Partners	Third-party technology providers creating, maintaining, and supporting the hardware and software technology solutions and services that enable the existing and future grid and market operations
Think Tanks, Research and Policy Institutes	The Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI), Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA), International Energy Agency (IEA), European Policy Centre (EPC), Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Irish Research Council (IRC) CIGRE (International Council on Large Electric Systems)
Academia	Universities and research bodies
Chartered Institutions	Engineers Ireland, Chartered Accountants, Planning Institute, Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET)
Non-Political - Europe	European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E), Coordination of Electricity System Operators (CORESO), Registered Gas Installers (RGI), European Investment Bank (EBI), Joint Allocation Office (JAO), European Subsea Cable Association, ACER



Improving our stakeholder engagement

EirGrid TSO's performance in relation to the Price Review 5 (PR5) Stakeholder Engagement Incentive¹ is assessed annually by the NSEE Panel.

In considering our approach to this plan we have taken into consideration the Network Stakeholder Engagement Evaluation (NSEE) Panel's feedback and recommendations for the TSO (as documented in the [2024 Close Out Report](#)) as we continue to build and strengthen our stakeholder engagement strategy and activities.

We have highlighted some of the key initiatives that EirGrid is already working towards, relevant to these recommendations, below:

Further information regarding benchmarking would be useful to gather a greater perspective of the engagement work being completed by EirGrid. Internal benchmarking should be clearly conducted to compare performance and metrics and practices within the TSO to help identify best practices and areas for improvement. It would be beneficial for the report to document if engagement is in line with best practice. This would be helpful particularly in relation to international benchmarking and knowledge exchange.

As we continue to enhance the stakeholder experience, EirGrid has been proactively engaging with other TSOs, not just across Europe but on a global scale, to share insights regarding stakeholder engagement best practice. As we develop our new corporate strategy and corresponding stakeholder engagement approach, we will take these observations into account.

For public and community engagement, the TSO appears to be employing innovative approaches and is active across the country engaging with diverse communities including landowners, farmers and fisheries. There may be scope to draw on these communities to evaluate the impact and effectiveness of their engagement activities including community forums and community benefit funding.

In December 2021, to comprehensively evaluate the impact of community engagement activities on the construction of electricity infrastructure in Ireland and its effect on the acceleration of the wider energy transition, EirGrid launched a three-year research programme with the MaREI Centre research team. MaREI is the world-leading Science Foundation Ireland Research Centre for Energy, Climate and Marine, coordinated by the ERI at University College Cork.

The aim of the project was to explore EirGrid's evolving public engagement strategy through empirical and qualitative research, and to map and benchmark it against international trends and examples of public engagement with energy grid infrastructure. This included drawing multidisciplinary insights on public engagement with interconnectors, an area that has received limited attention worldwide. The project also sought to assess the impact of community benefit funding using a comparative analysis of three different case studies in Ireland.

The premise was that Ireland's energy transition demands more than just technical grid infrastructure upgrade but also calls for a deep societal shift in how communities engage with and benefit from energy systems. Through the STEPS project, researchers examined how EirGrid is placing public engagement at the heart of its infrastructure strategy to help achieve this change. They worked alongside, shadowed, attended, and critiqued the extensive engagement carried out by EirGrid, speaking directly with stakeholders and communities, comparing international approaches, and examining the impact of these actions through multi-disciplinary research methods.

¹ Section 7.7 of [CRU/20/154](#), the CRU's PR5 Regulatory Framework, Incentives and Reporting Decision Paper sets out detail regarding EirGrid TSO's PR5 Stakeholder Engagement Incentive.

Key findings included:

- Community Benefit Funds are seen as valuable tools for supporting affected communities and promoting grassroots climate action but require stronger capacity-building and alignment with long-term national sustainability goals.
- Effective engagement requires strong organisational support and alignment between strategic goals and local initiatives.
- EirGrid's six-step strategy and community forums offer inclusive spaces for dialogue, enabling communities to influence technology choices and support broader sustainable development goals.
- Interconnector research benefits from a multidisciplinary lens, incorporating cultural and heritage perspectives to deepen community engagement.

Critically, the project also produced recommendations for long term public engagement development, including impact evaluation guidance and strategies to foster energy citizenship.

In conclusion, the research highlights the importance of early, inclusive, and adaptive community engagement in the delivery of Ireland's energy transition. MaREI's research will help EirGrid refine its approach, ensuring that collaboration with communities continues to evolve robustly and strengthen as Ireland moves toward a more sustainable energy future.

The premise was that Ireland's energy transition demands more than just technical grid infrastructure upgrade but also calls for a deep societal shift in how communities engage with and benefit from energy systems. Through the STEPS project, researchers examined how EirGrid is placing public engagement at the heart of its infrastructure strategy to help achieve this change. They worked alongside, shadowed, attended, and critiqued the extensive engagement carried out by EirGrid, speaking directly with stakeholders and communities.

TSO to demonstrate more senior management support of the stakeholder engagement strategy, to review progress, unblock issues and commit resources. It would be beneficial if the TSO illustrated how stakeholder engagement is endorsed by the senior leadership team and how they are actively involved in supporting the strategy.

EirGrid's stakeholder engagement is fully endorsed by our executive team who also meet regularly with industry stakeholders to ensure their insights and feedback continue to be captured at a senior level.

In addition to our regular engagement, members of the EirGrid executive team have also been engaging with customers and representative bodies to ensure industry stakeholders are actively involved in supporting the development of the 2026-2030 EirGrid Group Corporate Strategy.

The Panel recommended that the TSO should demonstrate clearer market participation and engagement in connection policy and process. The effort needs to be timelier and more transparent. This should be improved through the continued engagement with industry representatives to receive input on the existing connection offers process in regard to RED III Directive and Enduring Connection Policy. It was noted that the TSO should continue to improve collaboration and engagement for projects in all stages of the connection process.

Regarding the REDIII Directive, in December 2024 and in January 2025, EirGrid met with industry representatives seeking input on the existing offer process from experienced customers and from industry representative groups following the REDIII Directive and publication of the Enduring Connection Policy - Generator and System Services ('ECP-GSS') Direction. Initial feedback and concerns were provided by industry stakeholders to help shape our new process proposal that was submitted to the CRU on January 31st, 2025. This will introduce a new High Level Technical Assessment ('HLTA') process, to accelerate offer process timelines and allow for earlier engagement.

Through these engagements, EirGrid aims to better understand the requirements of our stakeholders as well as provide an opportunity to incorporate feedback where we can, whilst offering clarity regarding our regulatory obligations and objectives.

In respect of the connection offer process, changes are being introduced following the requirement to comply with RED III and the introduction of ECP-GSS that will see a two-stage clinic process to ensure that customers have sufficiently mature projects on application to the process. The two-stage clinic will allow for meaningful early engagement and the opportunity to identify issues earlier in the process. A new online application portal will also facilitate a smoother journey for customers.

A Panel member suggested that the TSO should consider creating a “Renewables Industry Liaison Group”, for large scale-scale developers and offshore developers, to enable renewables to have an improved engagement with the TSO.

EirGrid agrees that continued collaboration is key. A working group was originally set up and facilitated by CRU and EirGrid attended with other key stakeholders. Should this forum be reinstated, EirGrid would be very willing to engage again. In the meantime, EirGrid continues to engage with customers and industry stakeholders across a number of different fora.

It was noted that 22 research projects were supported in 2023 but there was no information provided on project numbers for 2024. It would be beneficial if the metrics could be provided for 2024 and previous years, with key findings from these projects.

EirGrid acknowledges this recommendation from the panel and will endeavour to include updates on our innovation programmes in the 2025 Stakeholder Engagement Report. In the meantime, we have included a link to EirGrid’s 2024 [Annual Innovation Report](#) in this document where updates can be tracked in more detail.

The TSO should provide a schedule of all upcoming consultations as far in advance as possible to enable stakeholders to plan effectively.

EirGrid understands the need for effective planning and preparation regarding consultations. As such, all known consultations for the year ahead are included at the end of each Stakeholder Engagement Plan.

EirGrid also endeavours to allow ample time for industry to respond to any additional consultations, while also ensuring the consultation is complete within the timeframe set.

It was recommended for the TSO to be more specific about how mechanisms are used to keep stakeholders informed and how responses are monitored and reported within EirGrid. Furthermore, it would be useful to see how engagement mechanisms are monitored and reported within the company and across different workstreams, for example, if learnings in one area are utilised for other projects.

As we continue to develop the EirGrid stakeholder engagement strategy, one of our key focuses is to ensure consistency and clarity across all of our engagements. For example, EirGrid has continued to enhance the Future Power Market Workshops which has been positively received by participants. As a result, EirGrid is now reflecting many of these enhancements across other areas of the business including the Market Operations User Group (MOUG).

It was also recommended that EirGrid could conduct regular independent sentiment or trust assessments with stakeholder groups.

Throughout 2026, EirGrid will continue to work on initiatives to enhance and improve our engagement with industry and customer stakeholders, as detailed in the Customer and Connections chapter in this plan.

As our new corporate strategy is being developed and a corresponding stakeholder engagement approach, EirGrid notes this recommendation to conduct a regular independent sentiment or trust assessment.

In May 2025, Stakeholder Engagement team invited Market Participants to share their feedback through our first Market Operator User Group (MOUG) survey. We received positive feedback and valuable suggestions, many of which can be brought forward to future meetings. The results of the survey were shared at September's MOUG meeting [here](#).

Going forward, we plan to issue further surveys to continue gathering participants' feedback and to ensure their suggestions are reflected in upcoming meetings. In turn, this will help strengthen our engagement with market participants and build strong, collaborative relationships.

2026 EirGrid stakeholder engagement at glance

Below is a summary of EirGrid's key stakeholder engagement initiatives for 2026:

Grid upgrade projects and public engagement

- Enable accelerated delivery of grid infrastructure through a comprehensive programme of proactive stakeholder engagement
- Inform interested parties about upcoming and ongoing works on a proactive basis, and actively seek stakeholder feedback to inform decision making
- Maximise project benefits through the Community Benefit Fund, the Biodiversity Strategy, and Social Impact Assessment

Customer and connections

- Augment and enhance the EirGrid customer experience with proactive customer engagement
- Enhance the pre-engagement process to support the connection offer process
- Enhance and tailor the annual customer survey

Enduring Connection Policy (ECP)

- Prioritise clear and consistent communications with all stakeholders
- Continue to invite stakeholder feedback (where possible)
- Consult on future connection policy

Wind and Solar Dispatch Down

- Engage via the Dispatch Down Working Group to collaborate on the objectives identified in the Terms of Reference
- Jointly present findings on the key objectives of the Dispatch Down Working Group to the Shaping Our Electricity Future Advisory Council
- Create a space for open dialogue and knowledge sharing on this highly complex topic

Operating and developing the grid and market

- Provide regular updates on project developments and status through the Future Power Markets Workshops
- Initiate EirGrid's new Technical Liaison Groups (TLGs) and deliver structured engagement to facilitate deeper technical discussions as delivery progresses
- Ensure transparency and collaboration across various programmes including: FASS, SMP, SDP and EirGrid LDES
- Complete the Offshore Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (ORESS) Lí Ban Auction
- Commence the procurement process for the delivery of Low Carbon Inertia Services Phase 2
- Consult on the Contractual Arrangements for Long Duration Energy Storage and publish subsequent recommendations paper to CRU on the topic

European, Government and policy engagement

- Support policy development across a number of key initiatives
- Continue to engage with key stakeholders across Europe including other TSOs
- Support the Government in preparation for the Irish Presidency

Offshore

- Work collaboratively to support the delivery of offshore infrastructure and connect renewables to the grid
- Ensure alignment of offshore transmission system development alongside key stakeholders
- Support EirGrid's readiness for our role as transmission asset owner

Our partnership with the Transmission Asset Owner (TAO)

- Work with the TAO to support the safe, secure, efficient and cost-effective delivery of infrastructure
- Further enhance collaboration and cooperation between EirGrid and the TAO
- Ensure continued alignment across our joint programmes of work (TSO and TAO)

Our partnership with the Distribution Systems Operator (DSO)

- Continue to enhance the coordination between the TSO and DSO
- Jointly address system needs and deliver whole system solutions
- Work collaboratively to progress core operating model design activities

Security of supply

- Continue to work with key stakeholders to meet the needs of electricity demand growth in Ireland
- Work alongside key stakeholders to enhance emergency preparedness
- Continue to support CRU in implementing the updated requirements of the Risk Preparedness Plan

Energy research

- Work with various academic institutions to grow our CleanerGrid initiative
- Build new academic relationships to develop initiatives identified in our Innovation and Research strategy
- Engage with academia to support innovation and research in areas relevant to EirGrid's Innovation and Research strategy

Sustainability

- Engage to drive climate action and transformation of the electricity system
- Continue our partnerships in supporting the development of a sustainable society
- Engage to drive our sustainability initiatives and be a responsible organisation

Strategic planning and future networks

- Work collaboratively across Ireland and Europe to develop strategic plans for the future transmission network
- Work with Gas Networks Ireland to coordinate planning of the future decarbonised power system and gas systems
- Continue to develop the work required to enable a net-zero network

3. Our 2026 Network Stakeholder Engagement Plans

Grid upgrade projects and public engagement

Overview

Engaging with the public and other stakeholders is essential for our work. It is only with public and stakeholder support that we can achieve our climate action targets and secure a sustainable supply of electricity for future generations.

Our Public Engagement Strategy outlines how we develop relationships on-the-ground and get feedback on projects before they start so that we can achieve better outcomes for all.

Before we develop or upgrade the grid, we engage with landowners, community representatives, interest groups, local stakeholders to better understand both their needs and the local area, while also sharing information in a timely and inclusive manner.

Additionally, we proactively work with specialist environmental groups, and other relevant statutory stakeholders such as Government departments and agencies, planning authorities and other prescribed bodies to ensure EirGrid's projects are consistent with national, regional and local planning policy. EirGrid also aims to leave a positive planning and environmental legacy. For example, enhancing Ireland's biodiversity while limiting any potential impact of critical strategic infrastructure development.

Finally, we are always looking to improve our stakeholder engagement and continue to work innovatively while incorporating feedback on the work that we do.

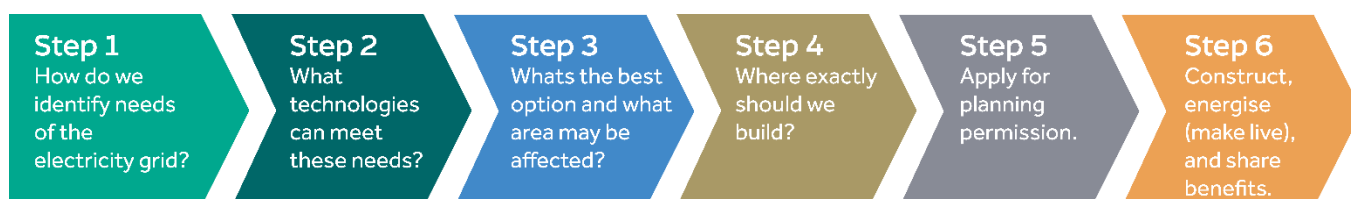
Strategy

How we approach engagement

As part of our approach, we use a consistent, six-step process as a framework to explore options and make decisions. This means we follow the same steps for every project. The decision-making tools we use, and the amount of engagement we carry out at each step, depends on the scale and complexity of each project.

Engagement with the public, local communities, landowners and other stakeholders typically takes place during steps 3 and 4, and again at steps 5 and 6 on our Community Benefit funds. However, the nature of the engagement is tailored to the project at each stage whilst considering the needs of the interested stakeholders. For instance, we will always seek to undertake formal consultation at a time when stakeholders are able to inform decision making but also when there is substantial information to present. This is to avoid the appearance of a 'check box exercise' and potentially delaying the delivery of key projects.

Engagement with our customers, the wider energy industry and statutory and other stakeholders can take place at every step.



Six-Step Grid Development Process

For each key project or initiative, we also use a bespoke engagement plan which identifies the channels we will use to provide information to our stakeholders. In terms of public engagement, these can include:

- Establishment of community forums for all major grid projects.
- Emails to customers and stakeholders.
- Project brochures, newsletters and updates.
- Letters to landowners and statutory bodies.
- One on one meetings.
- Information days.
- Community events.
- Advertising in local and national press, on social media channels and other digital platforms.
- Providing information via our website.

For grid development projects, our stakeholder engagement also includes promotion in public locations and open days in the local area where members of the public can meet the project team and have their queries addressed. Stakeholders are invited to provide feedback in multiple formats including feedback forms online and at open days, through forums and webinars and by email or letter. Stakeholders can also engage directly with dedicated Community Liaison Officers (CLO), Agriculture Liaison Officers (ALO) and Fisheries Liaison Officers (FLO) for each grid development project. Customers can engage directly with their Customer Account Manager.

Grid planning

Engaging with statutory and non-statutory stakeholders (including prescribed bodies) is also essential for our projects. For Statutory stakeholder engagement on projects, (and indeed for other non-project activities) our Planning & Environmental team will reach out directly to relevant stakeholders, and will generally present the project in its wider strategic development context, relevant governing policy and plan context, and will discuss a variety of technical, environmental and ecological issues arising as part of agreeing the scope of a project proposal.

In addition to this, EirGrid engages with Statutory stakeholders in two other main formats:

1) Pre-Application Consultation and Engagement

During the various stages of project development, EirGrid will engage in specific pre-application consultation with the relevant consent authority, and other identified prescribed bodies. This includes formal pre-application consultation with An Coimisiún Pleanála (ACP) and/or the relevant planning authorities, as well as outreach to environmental and other stakeholders such as the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, and the various relevant divisions of local authorities.

This allows us to build relationships with those prescribed bodies who will be making submissions to, or ultimately determining, a project proposal in a generally open and transparent manner - to present the evolving proposal and to obtain formal advice as to its scope and other relevant matters. It also allows us to present an outline of alternatives considered for a project, as well as presenting an overview of the strategic need and planning and policy context for a proposed development.

Finally, it ensures that any constraints and opportunities arising from those various statutory stakeholders can be considered and incorporated into the eventual planning application proposal, which will ensure its robustness and is intended to ensure its efficient and timely progress through the consenting system - for example avoiding any significant Requests for Further Information (RFIs).

Working in this way allows EirGrid to understand any concerns or issues arising for those stakeholders from their specific perspective, so that they can be addressed as early as possible, thereby ensuring a planning application that is robust, and presents a proposal that is in accordance with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development.

2) Planning engagement

EirGrid's planning team prepares a Grid Implementation Plan, currently every five years. This is a national-level plan, which is subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment. Its preparation and timebound updating mirrors the statutory development plan-making process followed by planning authorities, including publishing a draft for public consultation, and ultimate adoption. However, it is by its nature a strategic plan that reflects the scope and planning approach taken for the National Planning Framework (NPF).

At a regional level, EirGrid is in the process of preparing and publishing three strategic frameworks for Grid Development, to reflect the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSEs) prepared by the three Regional Assemblies, and which must, by law, cascade to the local planning system. These plans provide a comprehensive picture of planned grid development at national and regional levels, along with our approach to design, consenting, environmental care and delivery.

Finally, at a local level, EirGrid is also developing a number of project-specific framework documents.

Community engagement

Through effective stakeholder engagement, we aim to achieve continued support of our work and ensure delivery is aligned with project timelines.

We also aim to build awareness about EirGrid's work and our mission to achieve better outcomes for all. A key part of this is to build knowledge in the community so that stakeholders have a strong understanding of our work.

In our role as Transmission System Operator, we have a pivotal role in decarbonising the electricity sector, supporting the roll-out of renewable generation, and helping the Government achieve Ireland's climate ambitions while also supporting the economic and social development of the State.

Finally, building strong relationships across the regions where we are active is extremely important to us at EirGrid. Not only so that we can build trust but also so that we can ensure the right working relationships are in place to facilitate future acceptance, development and delivery.

Landowner engagement

Landowner engagement is key to overall acceptance and delivery of grid infrastructure. EirGrid has a Land Management Unit with a team of Agricultural Liaison Officers (ALOs) who engage with landowners on projects at the earliest stages of development. We engage with landowners when seeking to route or place all infrastructure. The role of the ALO is to provide project information to landowners, and to understand the specific interests and constraints with regards to each individual landholding. By developing this knowledge, the ALOs are able to work closely with landowners to gather feedback and address any queries or concerns raised with regards to proposed transmission projects.

Community and Industry Forums

Through our Community and Industry Forums, we help to ensure that those being impacted have regular opportunities to directly feed into the planning of the work proposed in their area.

Each community forum is independently chaired, and membership includes representatives of local community groups as well as local county councillors and chamber of commerce members. Our stakeholder forums include:

- **Community Forums** (various across all new grid development projects) e.g. Celtic Community Forum, North Connacht and Kildare Meath.
- **The Powering up Dublin Business Forum** (The Powering Up Dublin Business Forum provides a forum for dialogue between stakeholders and the EirGrid project team. Members represent the views of local businesses in relation to Powering Up Dublin and provide feedback and guidance on local needs and priorities. The reports for these meetings are published on the [Dublin Programme website](#) capturing the feedback from both forums making it publicly available. **Number of members: 10**)
- **Powering Up Dublin Stakeholder Engagement Forum** (This is a unique forum for Powering Up Dublin and brings together stakeholder managers from a number of different public bodies who operate in and around the city. **Number of members/bodies: 8**)
- **Shaping our Electricity Future (SOEF) Advisory Council** **Number of members: 30 plus invited guests** (*Please see our chapter on the Shaping our Electricity Future (SOEF) Advisory Council for more information on the SOEF Advisory Council.*)
- **The Dublin Infrastructure Forum** (The Dublin Infrastructure Forum give us the opportunity to work closely with other state agencies and statutory bodies to share ideas and information on planned infrastructure works across the city. **Number of members: 45**)
- **The HV Interface Forum** (The HV Interface Forum was established by EirGrid in late 2022. With an independent Chair, it has been a critical enabler in bringing together key stakeholders from the electricity and roads sectors. Work under this specific forum is coming to a close and this group is in a period of transition. **Number of members/bodies: 8**)

Community benefit funds

- We recognise the importance of local communities in supporting our grid development projects and because of this, EirGrid set up the Community Benefit fund scheme. Through this scheme, we empower each Community Forum to fund various renovation and enhancement projects in their local area.
- Each Community Forum collectively decides on how the funding will be best spent with the money often going towards opportunities to support both the physical and mental wellbeing of the local community.
- Through this vital scheme, we're able to actively give back to the areas that are impacted by our work.

Social Impact Assessment

In 2026, EirGrid will pilot a new Social Impact Assessment (SIA) methodology which will ensure that decisions made throughout the steps of the Framework for Grid Development are taken with consideration of the positive and negative impacts they will have in terms of a receiving community's sense of place and other intangible values.

This ambitious new approach to SIA seeks to build upon international best practice and will assist us in not only mitigating the potential social impacts felt by communities but also enhancing the positive impact and benefits that our projects can have.

Engagement with environmental groups

At EirGrid, restoring Ireland's nature is as integral to our strategy as decarbonisation. And since the Irish government declared the biodiversity and climate emergency in 2019, we have greatly accelerated our biodiversity action to ensure our impact is both positive and progressive.

Our inhouse Ecological Team lead on all of EirGrid's biodiversity initiatives and ensures biodiversity is integrated into decision-making.

EirGrid is an influential member within the following biodiversity focus groups and fora:

- The Offshore Coalition for Energy and Nature (OCEaN).
- The Renewable Grid Initiative's Integrated Vegetation Management Working Group
- The Renewable Grid Initiative's TSO Knowledge Exchange on BirdLife-related Issues
- The national forum on Appropriate Assessment chaired by the Department of Heritage Local Government and Heritage.
- The national Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) forum chaired by the Irish Environmental Authorities for SEA.
- The Irish industry working group on Biodiversity Net Gain.
- The Irish Section Ecology Conference of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM).
- Business for Biodiversity.
- We are also a signatory to the Business for Nature pledge.

Engagement with fishing communities

EirGrid's dedicated Fisheries Liaison Officer engages with the fishing community specifically on offshore projects. The fishers are a key stakeholder in the development of offshore energy and the FLO engages with marine communities all year round.

EirGrid is also part of the Seafood ORE Working Group - a group established by government to facilitate discussion on matters arising from the interaction of the seafood and offshore renewable energy industries, promoting best practice and encouraging liaison with other sectors in the marine environment.

Energy Citizen Roadshows

Following the success of our Energy Citizen Roadshow events, we will look to continue these events in 2026. These events, in partnership with ESNB, SEAI and supported by relevant local authorities, are aimed at informing local communities on how EirGrid plans to future-proof the electricity grid, while sharing information on microgeneration, home retrofitting, energy upgrades and regional energy development issues. Over the coming year, we will continue to build on this successful model of engagement to enhance the understanding of communities with how they can support Ireland's progress towards a cleaner, more renewable future.

Implementation: planning

EirGrid has a significant portfolio of projects which all have their own engagement strategies. Due to the sheer volume of work taking place, the list below only contains the major engagements with regards to planning and delivery and is not exhaustive.

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Strategic Frameworks for Grid Development (for the three Regional Assemblies)	Planning engagements: EirGrid will engage regularly with statutory stakeholders such as the three Regional Assemblies, relevant local planning authorities, environmental agencies, and other prescribed bodies.	Planning engagements: These engagements provide an early opportunity for communication of, and engagement on, our grid development requirements - including identifying grid projects planned for a particular region or administrative area, and our

		strategic approach to grid development. They also provide opportunities for us to incorporate our plans and policies into future statutory development plans.
Deliver projects through the planning and consenting process	Pre-planning meetings: We will continue to request pre-planning meetings for individual projects requiring planning permission with the respective planning authority (onshore) - An Coimisiún Pleanála (ACP) and the relevant planning authority, and with the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA) (offshore) where a Maritime Area Consent (MAC) and Marine Usage Licence (MUL) is required. EirGrid will also look to engage with the relevant prescribed bodies. In 2026, we plan this to be 2-3 specific pre-application consultation engagements.	Pre-planning meetings: This initiative provides us with the opportunity to advise ACP and/or relevant local authorities of upcoming projects which have known planning and/or other consent requirements. These meetings will also enable us to share information, discuss any issues or opportunities arising, and establish ways of working to successfully deliver the projects through the consenting process. This will also assist in supporting timely consideration and decision making of applications through the planning process.
Scoping update to evidence based environmental studies	Scoping EirGrid's Evidence Based Environmental Studies: We are updating EirGrid's Evidence Based Environmental Studies to refresh the scientific evidence base to optimise accuracy of both impact prediction and mitigation specification. Particular focuses include underground cable projects and offshore projects. EirGrid will engage with the following bodies: • Environmental Protection Agency. • Other SEA authorities. • Academic partners	Scoping EirGrid's Evidence Based Environmental Studies: The aim of these engagements is to: • Validate the scientific evidence base. • Align with upcoming policy and legislation. • Align with upcoming EPA-funded research programme.
Engagement with Planning and Environment Team with ESB Networks	Engagement with ESB Networks: We will continue to regularly engage with the ESB Planning and Environmental Teams throughout	Engagement with ESB Networks: This forum gives EirGrid and ESB the opportunity to work closely to identify common issues, share information and identify opportunities to improve the

	2026, including quarterly whole team meetings	delivery of transmission infrastructure through the planning, environment and consenting process. This shared approach to electricity infrastructure planning and consenting also benefits ACP and the local authorities in dealing with planning applications.
Engagement with planning and environmental teams of other statutory undertakers	Wider planning engagement: We will continue to engage closely with the planning and environmental teams of other statutory undertakers such as Uisce Éireann, ESB Networks, DAA, and Irish Rail. This is in order to use our collective expertise to explore opportunities for a more streamlined, efficient and consistent approach to planning and consenting of critical State infrastructure. We will meet quarterly in 2026 with additional workshops as required.	Wider planning engagement: These engagements will give EirGrid the opportunity to work closely with other state agencies and statutory bodies to identify opportunities for collaboration and to share ideas and information on how to improve the delivery of strategic infrastructure through the planning, environment and consenting process.
Connecting with businesses	Dublin Infrastructure Forum: EirGrid will continue to use any opportunities for collaboration with DIF members and will continue to engage on all three bulk supply projects as part of the next phase of EirGrid's Dublin programme. This engagement will help minimise disruption, improve stakeholder relationships and allow EirGrid to work as efficiently as possible across the Dublin region. We will meet quarterly in 2026 with additional workshops as required.	The Dublin Infrastructure Forum: The Dublin Infrastructure Forum gives EirGrid the opportunity to work closely with other state agencies and statutory bodies to identify opportunities for collaboration and to share ideas and information on planned infrastructure works across the city.
	The Powering Up Dublin Business Forum: The Powering Up Dublin Business Forum will meet 3-4 times in 2026. The purpose of these meetings is to engage on both the Dublin cable and central substation projects.	The Powering Up Dublin Business Forum: Through the Powering Up Dublin Business Forum, we have been able to better identify the intricacies of the areas impacted by proposed development work so that we can ensure the best

		performing route and best possible outcome for all. Through regular engagement with the forum throughout 2026, our aim is to ensure (where possible) we include the requirements of the business community as the project progresses.
HV Interface Forum	HV Interface Forum: In May 2025, three of the five working groups (WG1, 2, and 3) achieved their goals and have been closed. The publication of the Engagement Protocol was a key milestone. As part of the Engagement Protocol, a standing committee will meet on a regular basis to explore potential for synergies or collaboration with other national infrastructure developments.	HV Interface Forum: Two of the five working groups (WG 4 and 5) are closing out their goals and new standards on design and financial matters will be agreed in 2026. Engagement will continue until the goals are met.
Powering Up Dublin Forum engagement	Powering Up Dublin Stakeholder Engagement Forum: The Powering Up Dublin Stakeholder Engagement Forum will meet 3-4 times in 2026. The purpose of these meetings is to engage on both the Dublin cable and central substation projects.	Powering Up Dublin Stakeholder Engagement Forum: The Stakeholder Engagement Forum facilitates our collaboration with bodies such as the Land Development Agency as well as large organisations such as SEAI, An Post and Dublin Bus. Our engagement with this forum throughout 2026 is to ensure that the key stakeholder groups are informed of the overall project timings and planned activities which may impact on their businesses and services.
Protecting fisheries	Seafood Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) Working Group: In 2026, EirGrid will continue to participate in The Seafood Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) Working Group and its subgroups.	Seafood Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) Working Group: These engagements will facilitate the discussion on matters arising from the interaction of the seafood and offshore renewable energy industries, promote and share best practice, and encourage liaison with other sectors in the marine environment.

Action for Nature	Irish Industry Working Group on Biodiversity Net Gain: The Irish Industry Working Group on Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) will meet quarterly in 2026, to discuss emerging policy, engage with industry and Government experts and the outcome of pilots to test the SSE Project toolkit (and once available other biodiversity toolkits adapted to Ireland).	Irish Industry Working Group on Biodiversity Net Gain: Through these engagements, we aim to share EirGrid experience from piloting the SSE Project toolkit. We are also aiming to learn best practice tools and approaches from other public authorities.
	Business for Biodiversity (BFB): In 2026, EirGrid will engage with BFB with the aim of growing biodiversity awareness across our organisation while mapping key biodiversity initiatives against The Taskforce on Nature-Related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) targets.	Business for Biodiversity (BFB): Business for Biodiversity Ireland is a not-for-profit organisation whose focus is to support Irish businesses to incorporate nature into their decision-making. Through our engagements, we are seeking to leverage BFB's workforce webinars to further promote biodiversity across EirGrid.
	Over-cable planting strategy: In 2026, EirGrid will work closely with ESB's Asset Management Team to conduct evidence-based research to risk assess planting shallower-rooting shrubs over high voltage cables.	Over-cable planting strategy: Through these engagements, EirGrid will look to agree (with ESB) the scope of the lab-based tests required to determine if shrub planting over a root barrier membrane interferes with HV cable rating or not.
	Marine Nature Inclusive Design: EirGrid will consult relevant academics, industry experts and state bodies to implement EirGrid and DCEE shared policy objectives on Marine Nature Restoration.	Marine Nature Inclusive Design: Through these engagements, EirGrid aims to integrate National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) Nature Restoration plans into EirGrid Marine Nature Inclusive Design.
Monitoring EirGrid's Grid Implementation Plan: Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	Monitoring-Related Strategic Environmental Assessment: In 2026, EirGrid will engage with the Environmental Protection Agency on the outcome of years one and two of our SEA monitoring analyses.	Monitoring-Related Strategic Environmental Assessment: Through these engagements, EirGrid aims to publish the findings following review and input by UCD and the EPA.

New Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Methodology	Planning engagements: The SIA pilot will include a scoping report, undertaken during Stage 3 of a high-profile project. Existing touch points, including information events and CLO engagement, will be used to collect information on social impacts. The SIA pilot will also apply a new methodology to other projects at different steps of our 6-step approach to project development, which will be integrated with current approaches to project consultation and engagement. Work will also be undertaken to assess what baseline data can be collected from completed projects.	Planning engagements: This pilot and the baselining exercise will enable EirGrid to confirm an SIA methodology that can be embedded across all future projects from the earliest stage. EirGrid will also seek to share lessons learnt and best practice with stakeholder organisations as appropriate.
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Implementation: Delivery

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Kildare Meath grid development project		
Kildare Meath grid development project	Kildare Meath project engagements: In 2026, EirGrid will continue to share updates with local stakeholders including the community forum as well as with local councillors. The fund administrator will also work with the forum to establish a funding strategy and guidelines. To support these activities, EirGrid will plan a number of local information events across the project route to provide details to all local communities. Finally, EirGrid will continue to work on local sponsorships with local chambers of commerce and community groups to help build awareness and strengthen our partnerships. Throughout 2026, working closely with ESB Networks, we will continue engagement with landowners to agree land access.	Kildare Meath project engagement outcomes: Effective engagement with stakeholders is key, particularly as we embark on this critical stage of the Kildare Meath project. Promoting the community fund will assist in achieving milestone construction timelines all the while giving back to the communities and businesses impacted during construction. Through our engagements, EirGrid also aims to strengthen our partnerships with impacted communities.
Kildare Meath community forum activity	Community forum engagement: In 2026, the community forum will continue to meet bi-annually with the facilitator and will focus on project and construction updates. The	Community forum engagement: By meeting regularly with the community forum for the

	forum will also meet with the newly appointed fund administrator to develop a community benefit strategy.	Kildare Meath project, we are ensuring we provide regular and timely communications and project updates. The community forum is also central to the development of the community benefit strategy.
Kildare Meath community benefit fund activity	Community benefit fund: In 2026, EirGrid will work closely with the fund administrator, as well as the community forum to finalise the funding strategy. This process will also involve an extensive consultation process with key stakeholders, public representatives and the wider community. We will work to launch the first phase of this fund in Q3 2026, in line with construction timelines. Pending construction commencement, €1.7 million in funding will be made available to community groups along the cable route as part of this funding phase.	Community benefit fund: The delivery of this community benefit strategy will ensure that the funding process is delivered in a way that's transparent and informed by local stakeholders, while building trust and strengthening relationships. These engagements will also ensure key stakeholders and elected representatives are kept up to date with the community benefit fund development plans as well as provide an opportunity for them to contribute and offer any strategic support with planning, potential considerations and implementation.
East Meath North Dublin grid reinforcement project		
East Meath North Dublin grid reinforcement project	East Meath North Dublin project engagements: In 2026, EirGrid will work closely with the fund administrator, as well as the community forum to finalise the funding strategy. This process will also involve an extensive consultation process with key stakeholders, public representatives and the wider community. Throughout 2026, working closely with ESB Networks (as TAO), we will continue engagement with landowners to agree land access. Finally, we will continue to build awareness via local sponsorships in the area.	East Meath North Dublin project engagement outcomes: Effective engagement with stakeholders is key, particularly as we embark on this critical stage of the East Meath North Dublin project. Promoting the community fund will assist in achieving milestone construction timelines all the while giving back to the communities and businesses impacted during construction.
East Meath North Dublin community forum activity	Community forum engagement: In 2026, the forum will continue to meet bi-annually with the facilitator and will focus on project and construction updates.	Community forum: By meeting regularly with the community forum for the Kildare Meath project, we are ensuring we are providing regular and timely

		communications and project updates. The community forum is also central to the development of the community benefit strategy.
East Meath North Dublin community benefit fund activity	Community benefit fund: In 2026, EirGrid will work closely with the fund administrator, as well as the community forum to finalise the funding strategy. This process will also involve an extensive consultation process with key stakeholders, public representatives and the wider community. EirGrid is planning to launch the first phase of this fund in Q3 2026 in line with construction timelines. Pending construction commencement, €1.39 million in funding will be made available to community groups along the cable route as part of this funding phase.	Community benefit fund: The delivery of this community benefit strategy will ensure that the funding process is delivered in a way that's transparent and informed by local stakeholders, while building trust and strengthening relationships. These engagements will ensure key stakeholders and elected representatives are kept up to date with the community benefit fund development plans as well as provide an opportunity for them to contribute and offer any strategic support with planning, potential considerations and implementation.
Laois Kilkenny grid development project		
Laois Kilkenny grid development project	Laois Kilkenny project engagements: As this project nears energisation, EirGrid will continue to support engagement with those communities impacted by its delivery as required. EirGrid will continue to engage with key stakeholders in the area, including with forestry owners along the project route.	Laois Kilkenny project engagements: Through effective stakeholder engagement, we aim to achieve continued support of our work as we move towards the final stages of construction on this project. Engagement with forestry owners is being progressed to finalise forestry easements along the project route.
Laois Kilkenny community forum activity	Community Forum: In 2026, the forum will continue to provide updates on the project's progression as well as the status of the community benefit fund. EirGrid will also review phase 2 of the community benefit fund to ensure feedback from key stakeholders is captured and community views are reflected in the final phase of the fund.	Community Forum: Continued engagement ensures that the forum is kept up to date on the project's progress. Forum members have an opportunity to bring key information to the attention of the EirGrid team. The forum is also kept up to date on the administration of community benefit funds. This approach

		builds transparency and strengthens our community relations.
Laois Kilkenny community benefit fund activity	Community Benefit fund: EirGrid will continue to engage with the community projects that have been selected for phase 2 funding. We will prepare for the opening of phase 3 of the funding following energisation.	Community Benefit fund: Through continued engagement in 2026, we will monitor the progression of funded projects while continuing to build relationships with the local community.
North Connacht grid development project		
North Connacht grid development project	North Connacht project engagements: Construction on the North Connacht project is scheduled to begin in 2026. In preparation, EirGrid will engage with key stakeholders to provide updates on project timelines and milestones. As construction progresses, we will carry out focused engagement with communities directly affected by the works. This will include information on traffic management and potential disruptions. Engagement will include in-person engagements, digital updates and local advertising to ensure accessibility and awareness. Once construction is underway, we will activate the Community Benefit Fund associated with this project. Funding will be issued to successful applicants from the first phase, supporting initiatives that deliver lasting value to local communities.	North Connacht project engagements: These engagements will help to facilitate project awareness and will also provide opportunities for the community to give feedback and raise any concerns as construction progresses. By providing regular and timely updates, EirGrid also aims to ensure the public stay informed and that any traffic disruption is minimised.
North Connacht community forum	Community forum: EirGrid will continue to engage with the community forum in 2026 as they will receive updates on the projects progress and on the administration of Community Benefit fund Phase 1.	Community forum: The forum plays a key role as advocated for their communities and in the dissemination of critical information on the project. We will ensure that the forum is kept up to date on project progress and on the community benefit fund.
North Connacht community benefit fund	Community benefit fund: In 2026, EirGrid will engage with the community projects that have been selected for phase 1	Community benefit fund: By working collaborating closely with the community on the

	funding. This will include tracking project progress as well as various engagements to encourage applications for the next phase of funding.	selected phase 1 projects, EirGrid aims to build awareness as well as strengthen relationships with the local community.
Fingal-East Meath grid development project		
Fingal-East Meath grid development project	Fingal-East Meath project engagements: In 2026, Engagement will include an information campaign which will target local residents and key stakeholders such as businesses, local councillors and local authorities. EirGrid will also seek further sponsorship and partnership opportunities in the area. We will also continue to work in partnership with Fingal Chambers of Commerce to promote the project.	Fingal-East Meath project engagements: The desired outcome of engagements in 2026 is to submit our planning application for this project. In addition, the engagements and relationships built will provide community support for this critical infrastructure.
Kildare-Dublin grid development project		
Kildare-Dublin grid development project	Kildare-Dublin project engagements: In 2026, EirGrid will hold a number of public consultations focusing on the circuit route options as they progress. EirGrid will also engage with communities and stakeholders to publish the best performing options for two new substations that will form the centre of the Grid Reinforcement project following the consultation that took place in May 2025.	Kildare-Dublin project engagements: The consultation and associated engagement will provide valuable local and community insights in areas that EirGrid has not operated in before. This will allow for a more robust design and will feed into the proposals that will be presented to the public again at a later date.
Kildare-Dublin community forum	Community Forum: In 2026, EirGrid will establish a community forum as the project study area is refined.	Community Forum: By establishing the community forum for this project, EirGrid aims to work closely with the local community, gather feedback and continue to build trust as the project progresses.
Powering Up the North West		
Powering Up the North West (grid development projects)	North West project engagements: In 2026, EirGrid will continue to engage with landowners, members of the public, and community groups. This engagement will involve partnering with chambers of commerce, community groups and public representatives in the region.	North West project engagement outcomes: Following the initial consultation, EirGrid will seek to maintain strong relationships with key stakeholders across the region to ensure that communities are kept up to date

		on the project's progress throughout 2026.
Powering Up the North West community forum	North West community forum: In 2026, EirGrid will develop the community forum strategy for this project ahead of further consultation in 2026.	North West community forum: Through our engagements, we aim to ensure a transparent and fair process for the convening of a community forum which is representative of the project area.
Powering up Dublin		
Powering up Dublin	Powering up Dublin project engagements: In 2026, EirGrid will continue our engagement via planned school outreach activities including TY and primary school interactive workshops. These events will involve an educational experience on the work of EirGrid and the Powering Up Dublin project. EirGrid will also hold resident association briefings in communities impacted by the cable routes to provide project updates and relay any concerns around delivery back to the relevant project managers. We will also continue community group outreach along the cable routes and targeted outreach to communities impacted by substation works in East Wall and the Poolbeg area. Finally, we will continue to sponsor cultural, sporting and community organisations to raise awareness of the project and build relationships along the routes.	Powering up Dublin project engagements: Through these engagements, we aim to increase awareness of both Powering Up Dublin and EirGrid in the Dublin area. These activities will keep an open line of communication with members of the public and communities that will ultimately host our infrastructure, allowing the team to keep them up to date on proposals, timelines and planned activities. Working with community groups and schools will also assist in the formulation of the Community Benefit Fund and spread awareness of the policy. EirGrid has piloted engagement with schools in Dublin and Wicklow and as the success of this approach continues to grow, we intend to mirror this activity across a number of grid infrastructure projects in the future.
Powering up Dublin community forum activity	Community Forum: The Community Forum will meet 3-4 times in 2026, to allow for input into the five 220 kV cable projects, Poolbeg and the Central Dublin Substation Project. Community Forum meetings will focus on project updates, on the 5 cable routes and two new substations. A consultation on the BPO routes for the 2 Inchicore - Poolbeg Circuits will commence in 2026.	Community Forum: These engagements will allow EirGrid to provide regular communications with the forum while maintaining open channels of communication, to build awareness as well as provide regular project updates. These will also allow for the development of the associated

	We will begin to share information around Community Benefit Funds in 2026 as the project moves to the next phase and a funds administrator for the fund is established. We will also review and grow membership of the forum to ensure that all engagement areas within Powering Up Dublin are represented. In 2026, the forum will also begin to feed into community benefit fund plans and strategy. A new community forum facilitator has been appointed to this project who will work with members on the community benefit strategy and approach. This will ensure a transparent strategy that will work best for the community needs being represented.	Community Benefit Strategy, to identify potential projects that EirGrid will be able to support during the construction phase of the project.
Powering up Dublin community benefit fund activity	Community Benefit fund: In 2026, a fund administrator for the Powering Up Dublin funds will be in place to commence the development of Community Benefit Strategies for this project in collaboration with the community forum and wider stakeholders. Strategy development and fund issuance will commence in line with construction timelines.	Community Benefit fund: In 2026, EirGrid will provide the community forum and key stakeholders with the opportunity to input into the fund strategy at its early stages to ensure it is developed transparently and with local knowledge at its centre. Depending on construction timelines, funds will be issued to communities impacted by the project to recognise those hosting this critical infrastructure.
Powering Up Wicklow		
Powering Up Wicklow	Powering Up Wicklow project engagements: In 2026, we will continue our engagement with local communities and stakeholders via five planned school outreach activities including TY and primary school interactive workshops. These events will involve an educational experience on the work of EirGrid and the Powering Up Wicklow project. In 2026, EirGrid will continue engaging with landowners and the community on the construction of a 220 kV substation in the Ballybeg area.	Powering Up Wicklow project engagements: EirGrid's engagement in this area will support the identification of the Best Performing Option for the Ballybeg substation site. This is also a key opportunity for EirGrid to build awareness as well as strengthen relationships in the area as we continue to progress the Powering Up Wicklow programme. EirGrid has piloted engagement with schools in Dublin and Wicklow and as the success of

	Engagement will support progress in 2026 for projects in North Wicklow as part of the Powering Up Wicklow programme.	this approach continues to grow, we intend to mirror this activity across a number of grid infrastructure projects in the future.
Other onshore project engagements		
Overhead line (OHL) uprate and refurbishment projects and substation redevelopment projects	Other project engagements: In 2026, EirGrid will be progressing a number of uprate and refurbishment projects and station redevelopment projects. These include Letterkenny 220 kV substation, Maynooth 220 kV substation, with uprate projects ranging across the country. Engagements will include targeted door-to-door visits and leafleting to those living in close proximity to proposed station works. Landowner engagement will take place on the uprate projects to advise of the proposed works and seek access for survey activities where necessary.	Other project engagements: Through our engagements, EirGrid aims to secure land access for survey works where required. It is also an opportunity to raise awareness in the community of the proposed works at the station locations.
Celtic interconnector project		
Celtic interconnector	Celtic project engagements: Throughout 2026, we will continue to engage via regular and timely communications with the public to ensure they are kept up to date with project developments. Engagement will include letters, emails, text alerts, website updates, radio adverts, billboard advertising as well as print and digital media. Our dedicated Celtic Quarterly Newsletter - remains the cornerstone of our public communications as the project progresses. Stakeholder engagement and information events will also be a critical part of our strategy as we continue to share progress and updates with those involved in or who are impacted by our work and those interested in sharing learnings. Another important part of our engagement work includes briefings for local councillors and elected representatives which we will continue to do across 2026, to ensure transparency as well as alignment.	Celtic project engagement outcomes: Through effective stakeholder engagement, we aim to achieve continued support of our work as we move towards the final stages of the Celtic interconnector project. The project continues to be of great general and stakeholder interest, adding value to both project stakeholder and public engagement objectives as well as the overall EirGrid objective of increasing public knowledge and awareness of the changing role of the power system.

	Through these engagements we aim to build awareness and spread positive messaging through local sponsorships in the area. In 2026, we will also continue to build relationships between French and Irish Celtic Interconnector communities.	
Celtic marine activity	Celtic Interconnector Marine Operations and Engagements 2026: In 2026, EirGrid will focus on the following engagements: • Project updates. • Potential nearshore cable laying campaign. EirGrid will also hold in-person presentations with marine stakeholders, outlining updates on the lessons learnt from 2025 and the upcoming potential scope of works for 2026. In 2026, we will also continue to meet with specific subsets of the seafood sector via organised group meetings, site visits and pier visits. EirGrid will also continue to leverage WhatsApp groups to give progress updates of vessel activities during operations in 2026. EirGrid will also keep stakeholders up to date via regular email communications as well as through the Seafood/ORE working group. Marine Notices will be issued on gov.ie prior to any commencement of works to inform all marine users of the operations being undertaken.	Celtic Interconnector Marine Operations and Engagements 2026: Through effective stakeholder engagement, we aim to achieve continued support of our work as we reach the final stages of the Celtic interconnector project and ensure delivery is aligned with project timelines.
Celtic community forum activity	Celtic community forum activities: In 2026, we will hold a minimum of four Celtic Community Forum meetings which will focus on: • Gathering community feedback. • Project updates. • Updates on fisheries activity. • Community Benefit Fund delivery and learning. • Activation of Phase 2 of the Community Benefit Fund. • Increased international communication with our French communities.	Celtic community forum activities: Working with the Celtic Community Forum, we aim to maintain transparency and continue to build trust between EirGrid and the communities impacted by our work. In addition, we aim to ensure the effective rollout of Phase 2 of the Community Benefit Fund.

Celtic community benefit fund activity	Community benefit fund activities: Following the rollout of Phase 2 of our Community Benefit Fund in late 2025, we will continue to monitor the progress of these projects throughout 2026. We will make necessary preparations for the rollout of the final phase of funding on this project, depending on the progress of the construction of the project.	Community benefit fund activities: Through these engagements, we aim to ensure that the funding from Phase 2 is well-monitored and positively impacts the community. EirGrid will also prepare for the final phase of funding in line with project timelines.
Offshore development		
Offshore development Powering Up Offshore South Coast	Emerging Best Options: In 2026 EirGrid will consult with the public on Emerging Best Options across landfall zones, grid connection points and technology. This consultation will include engagement with local authorities, public representatives, key stakeholders on the south coast and the wider community through public information days, as well as wider communications via regional and social media. Landowner and fisheries engagement for the project is ongoing.	Emerging Best Options: Expected outcomes in 2026 will be the determination of landfall locations for the Cork and Waterford/Wexford areas, confirmation of offshore platform locations, onshore station location and the grid connection points.
Offshore marine activity with Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA)	MARA engagements: In 2026, our engagement activities will include: Maritime Usage Licence (MUL) - Engagement with respect to marine surveys compliance assurance, as required. - General updates regarding 2026 survey plans under MUL. Maritime Area Consent (MAC) (2026/2027 timing TBC): - General updates as the project progresses in anticipation of making a MAC application. - Pre-application MAC engagement.	MARA engagements: The purpose of these engagements is to brief MARA on the status of the Powering Up Offshore South Coast project as well as to clarify any items related to the MAC application. We will also seek feedback and guidance from MARA to aid EirGrid's preparation ahead of the MAC application.
Powering Up Offshore, South Coast, Marine Operations	Marine Survey Operations and Engagements: In 2026, EirGrid will continue to engage marine stakeholders to increase awareness of our work with regards to the 'Tonn Nua' grid connectivity project as well as the future areas identified in the Designated Maritime Area Plan (DMAP).	Marine Survey Operations and Engagements: By engaging with the marine communities across the South Coast, EirGrid plans to gather stakeholder feedback on activities to date and take this into consideration into the

	Marine stakeholder engagements will commence in 2026 ahead of upcoming marine operations. EirGrid will also hold information gathering sessions to understand how we can build on lessons learned from the previous year. In 2026, geotechnical surveys will commence on the 'Tonn Nua' site as well as the potential cable route corridors and landfall locations. EirGrid will also liaise with seafood representative organisations and the Seafood/ORE working group on a regular basis with up-to-date information regarding the marine surveys scope and progress of works for 2026. In 2026, EirGrid will also be focused on maintaining and strengthening existing relationships with affected fishing and marine communities throughout the south coast.	future project development stages. The Marine survey activities are planned to conclude this year subject to any weather constraints.
Powering Up Offshore, South Coast community forum	Community forum activities: In 2026, we plan to have the community forum in place, subject to which update meetings will take place at regular intervals throughout 2026.	Community forum activities: The key outcome in 2026 is to have the community forum in place and cadence of meetings established.
Powering Up Offshore, South Coast community benefit fund	Community benefit fund activities: In 2026, EirGrid will work with the community forum to raise awareness of the community benefit policy, its likely value for this project and for the wider community to consider the types of projects that could apply for funding.	Community benefit fund activities: In 2026, the fund will not be in place, so our focus is to prepare for the following stages of the fund by building awareness along with a list of potential projects suitable for funding.

For more information on our public engagement please get in touch via [our contact page here](#) (with 'Public Engagement' in the email subject).

Customer and connections and connections projects

Overview

What we do

Connecting new customers is an extremely important part of what we do at EirGrid and requires a significant level of close collaboration and regular communication, so that we can successfully connect sources of renewable energy onto the grid.

Managing this process are the Customer and Connections team, and the Connection Projects team, who together, support EirGrid customers across the full customer journey. This includes being the single point of contact before they apply for a connection, managing the connection offer process and the delivery stage, and being the main point of contact after connection delivery when the customer is fully operational.

How we work

As part of the pre-engagement process, we provide guidance to our customers on preparations for the connection process (managed through our customer clinics). This support is continued through the application stage by working collaboratively to determine the best connection option for their projects. We also support our customers in ensuring they meet the requirements for executing their connection offer and once energised, the team will be the main point of contact, providing an account management service.

Enhanced Engagement

Throughout 2026, we will continue to work on initiatives to enhance and improve our engagement with industry and customer stakeholders. The customer team is committed to increasing engagement levels with all customers throughout 2026. Our customer account managers (CAMs) will be reaching out to all connected customers to offer at least one meeting with the EirGrid customer team in 2026, whilst ensuring continued meaningful engagement with customers who already meet with the team on a regular basis.

Within the connection offer process there are many interactions and touch points between customers and EirGrid, and a key focus for us is to ensure we identify and resolve any potential issues as quickly and efficiently as possible. This approach is being supplemented by the introduction of an enhanced pre-engagement process with potential customers looking to apply via the new ECP-GSS policy as well as the introduction of an online application portal to facilitate a smoother and more efficient journey throughout the process.

Through these initiatives, we aim to better understand and predict when customers require additional support from EirGrid while providing consistency in our approach in response to the stakeholder panel feedback.

Strategy

EirGrid Customer Vision

The EirGrid Customer Vision has been running since 2023 and aims to enhance the relationship between EirGrid and our customers. The objective is to ensure a continuously improving and evolving customer experience, while aligning with rapid changes within the industry.

In 2026, focuses for this initiative include:

- Scoping of a customer information portal to improve accessibility of key information and data for industry.
- Proactive engagement regarding customer meetings.
- Improved access to experts.
- An enhanced pre-engagement customer clinic process for RED III projects.

Customer clinics

The purpose of the [EirGrid Customer Clinics](#) is for EirGrid to facilitate meaningful engagement between customers and the relevant EirGrid Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) on proposed grid connection projects, prior to submission of a connection application. Existing customers looking to expand or modify their sites can also request clinic meetings. The objective of the Customer Clinic is to facilitate early project interaction with EirGrid SMEs before application, providing technical expertise and support to customers.

A Customer Clinic Survey is completed after the clinic to ensure feedback is received from the customer which respects to the effectiveness of the clinic. These surveys are used to improve future clinics.

In respect of the connection offer process, changes are being introduced following the requirement to comply with RED III and the introduction of ECP-GSS that will see a two-stage clinic process to ensure that customers have sufficiently mature projects on application to the process. The two-stage clinic will allow for meaningful early engagement and the opportunity to identify issues earlier in the process. A new online application portal will also facilitate a smoother journey for customers.

Measurement of Customer Sentiment

As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, the EirGrid customer team conducts several customer surveys during the year to stay up to date with customer sentiment.

Most prominent of these surveys is the annual customer survey which is used to gather structured feedback on customer experience. This feedback is a key enabler for identifying lessons learned which leads to process improvements. The survey identifies what went well and what should be repeated, in addition to what could have been done better and the improvements that can be implemented as a result.

Survey results are circulated and tracked within EirGrid. Customer feedback is also addressed and where possible, incorporated into EirGrid's Customer Vision work.

To further enhance the customer experience, EirGrid will be working on a re-format of the customer survey in 2026 to streamline the scope of the survey as well as tailor it to individual customers, which will allow for the provision of more meaningful and targeted feedback.

In addition, EirGrid will also be introducing a new initiative in 2026 where post-engagement satisfaction surveys will be implemented, to allow customers to rate how effective the meeting, interaction or issue-resolution was. These surveys will allow us to more accurately measure and track customer sentiment and trust.

A theme from previous surveys has been a request for access to experts within EirGrid through improved engagement and increased accessibility to information. This work is currently in progress and is being driven at a senior level.

Account Management Engagements

EirGrid provides a range of bespoke engagements across our customer base including monthly and quarterly customer engagements, webinars and periodic industry body engagements. We also support ad hoc engagement as required for specific issues.

EirGrid account managers offer dedicated support as well as a single point of contact for customers to raise specific issues, as well as discuss individual requirements. The EirGrid customer team is planning on coordinating with customers to arrange at least one in-person engagement with each of our transmission connected customers at their sites. Our account management team will work with our customers throughout 2026 to schedule these visits.

Through these engagements, EirGrid aims to strengthen our working relationships with customers and obtain meaningful feedback that we can use to enhance future engagements.

Customer Relationship Management (CRM) tool

Fully utilising our Customer Relationship Management tool is imperative in providing a modern and enhanced customer experience. EirGrid's CRM tool enables EirGrid to manage customer queries more effectively and efficiently. It also provides an additional method of access and engagement across our customer facing teams. Following its initial roll out, the tool is already delivering more structure to query management while facilitating faster response times. For example, customer queries are captured and triaged based on aspects such as priority and query type, which allows EirGrid to track activities and respond more efficiently. In 2026, we are planning continued CRM uptake across all teams.

Transmission Outage Programme (TOP) 2026

The Transmission Outage Programme 2026 (TOP26) is the programme for all outages of transmission infrastructure which are planned to occur during 2026. The TOP26 will include planned outages for capital works, for example, plant upgrade/refurbishment, connection of new plant and customer connections, and maintenance work outages.

There is a large volume of customer connections to be delivered in 2026, the support from customers during TOP26 is a key priority. Any works impacting our customers, (for example, the offloading of customer plant for maintenance works) will require extensive engagement to optimise.

Once again in 2026, TOP26 will be supported by the EirGrid CAM. The CAM will be the key representative for the customer, ensuring that their needs are considered in both the development and implementation of the programme of works.

Tri-Party Forum

In 2024, EirGrid set up the Tri-Party Forum. The forum consists of EirGrid, ESB Networks and industry representatives and meets on a quarterly basis to discuss challenges, improvements, lessons learned and best practices. These engagements are already helping to streamline the customer connection delivery process, reducing delays and ensuring the timely delivery of new customer projects.

Shaping Our Electricity Future Advisory Council

EirGrid and SONI formed the Shaping Our Electricity Future (SOEF) Advisory Council in 2022. The council is made up of representatives from across the energy sector including developers of storage, conventional and renewable generators, academia, large energy users, demand response, new technology, gas

networks, manufacturing and consultancy. The council meets every four months in Dublin, with every fourth meeting in Belfast.

Following an invitation for membership earlier in 2024, the SOEF Advisory Council now comprises 30 council members with 12 invited guests. Invited guests at the meetings include Government, the Distribution System Operators and the Regulatory Authorities from both Ireland and Northern Ireland.

This activity, to broaden the Advisory Council, was in response to NSEE stakeholder panel feedback.

The meeting is chaired by EirGrid and SONI. The objective of these meetings is to engage with stakeholders on how best to achieve our SOEF goals across networks, markets, public engagement and operations.

Joint Outage Transformation Programme (JOTP)

Outage management is a critical issue for the delivery of the Irish Government's Climate Action Plan (CAP). It is also an area that is very challenging for several reasons such as the exceptional scale and pace of change needed to deliver new infrastructure.

EirGrid and ESB Networks have been working closely on this as a priority. Our [Joint Outage Transformation Programme \(JOTP\)](#) is underway and delivering positive impacts. The JOTP consists of 7 workstreams with 18 interventions to increase outage availability, maximise utilisation and effectiveness of outages. These interventions will be developed and deployed as business as usual (BAU) processes to optimise outage management. Joint TSO and TAO workstream leads have been responsible for and collaborate on each workstream. The JOTP aspires to provide additional outage availability and increase the utilisation of outages taken on the system.

As part of the JOTP, the Customer and Industry workstream has been identified as an efficient mechanism to engage with stakeholders on improvements in project delivery.

Since the workstream formation in 2024, there have been 3 workshops held with EirGrid, ESB Networks and industry stakeholders. These workshops have enabled several new initiatives to be developed based on feedback from all stakeholders through our engagements.

(Please see the chapter on 'Our Partnership with the TAO' for more information on workstreams within the Joint Outage Transformation Programme).

Implementation: Customer and Connections

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Continued enhancement of the EirGrid customer experience	Account management: In 2026, EirGrid is planning to implement post-engagement satisfaction surveys to gather vital stakeholder feedback as well as further enhance the customer experience. We are also planning key engagements via industry-focused webinars and events to share important information and updates to customers.	Account management: Through these engagements, EirGrid aims to further enhance the customer experience by regularly gathering customer feedback and using it to tailor our approach. We are also working to ensure that information is made more accessible so that we can keep industry stakeholders up to date.
Increase the level of bespoke one-to-one interactions with our customers	Increased engagements: In 2026, our focus will be to ensure regular and predictive engagements with all of our customers. This work will include increasing our engagement with	Increased engagements: Through these engagements, we aim to strengthen our working relationships with our customers, discuss any ongoing issues that

	customers who we do not currently engage with as frequently. We also plan to roll out a greater number of in-person monthly and quarterly meetings.	they are facing while sharing insights. Through increased, more personalised engagements, we aim to work more collaboratively with our customers. We also aim to ensure EirGrid is proactive in contacting customers when issues emerge. These engagements will also support better planning and understanding of customer expectations. Finally, we aim for these engagements to support improved consistency in EirGrid-customer interactions.
Continued improvement of our customer service with the roll out of the 2026 customer survey	2026 customer survey: EirGrid will continue to engage with our customers via our 2026 customer survey, which aims to gather feedback on the EirGrid customer experience while offering opportunities for improvement. In 2026, we are planning to overhaul how we conduct the customer survey to ensure a more tailored and bespoke approach to obtaining meaningful feedback from our customers. Following the survey, EirGrid will also host monthly customer clinics. As part of our follow up, we will also engage via site and office visits to discuss any issues that fall outside of BAU that are impacting customer experience. Finally, EirGrid will also conduct a customer outage planning survey in Q2 2026.	2026 customer survey: All survey feedback will be assessed, prioritised and actioned where appropriate/possible. The annual survey outcomes will be communicated to customers and relevant internal EirGrid staff, facilitating a more efficient, and transparent closeout of the survey. EirGrid's account management team will also contact customers individually to acknowledge feedback as well as proactively inform them of any changes that have been incorporated as a result of their feedback.
Scoping of a new customer information portal	Customer extranet portals: In response to stakeholder feedback, EirGrid plans to scope the potential of a customer information portal in 2026. The aim of this will be to empower customers to independently access key data of interest.	Customer extranet portals: The aim of a customer information portal will be to empower stakeholders to independently obtain key information and data to help them make informed decisions, as well as improve EirGrid efficiency.
Transmission Outage Programme (TOP) 2026	Transmission Outage Programme fora: The following engagements will take place in 2026:	Transmission Outage Programme fora:

	TOP26 Mid-Year Review EirGrid will host this forum mid-year (2026). TOP26 Lookback and TOP27 Overview EirGrid will host this forum late in the year (2026).	These fora will support the increased knowledge and transparency across industry of the Transmission Outage Programme (TOP) 2026. This workshop will include programme risks and the potential impacts of outages on constraints.
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Customer and industry working group engagements

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Enhance the delivery of customer connections	Quarterly customer and industry working group meetings: In 2026, we will regularly engage with industry bodies to discuss challenges, improvements, lessons learned and best practices.	Quarterly customer and industry working group meetings: These engagements will help streamline the customer connection delivery process, reducing delays and ensuring the timely delivery of new customer projects. By the end of 2026, our goal is to minimise the average connection delays, ensuring projects are delivered as close to their planned timelines as possible.
Increase quality assurance of contestable builds	Connection delivery workshops: Throughout 2026, EirGrid will host a number of customer workshops focused on the connection delivery process, addressing commissioning snags, specifications, design review and asset transfer.	Connection delivery workshops: These workshops aim to enhance the quality of contestable builds, reduce commissioning snags, minimise project delays, boost customer satisfaction and increase the annual volume of connections.
Improve Customer and System Operator programme alignment	Review project programmes: EirGrid will continue to formally request and collect project programmes from developers delivering TOP 2026 projects and seeking TOP 2027 outages. Receiving these programmes on a quarterly basis will help identify potential conflicts, delays, opportunities and coordination needs.	Review project programmes: By driving regular, in-depth engagement between EirGrid and customers, we aim to ensure improved alignment and accuracy on project activities and resource requirements in planning for TOP 2026. EirGrid also aims to prioritise in-person quarterly meetings in 2026 to further support regular risk and progress reviews. This will ultimately support the accelerated delivery of transmission infrastructure.

Issue project lessons learned surveys	Issue lessons learned surveys: In 2026, we will issue lessons learned surveys to developers who completed projects in 2024 and 2025.	Issue lessons learned surveys: Through these surveys, we aim to capture shared and common issues. We will then feed these back through the tri-party forum to implement process efficiencies as a result of the feedback received.
Tri-Party Forum activity	Tri-Party Forum activity: In 2026, engagement between EirGrid, ESB Networks and industry will continue via our quarterly Tri-Party Forum meetings, to share key learnings on relevant topics and share learnings.	Tri-Party Forum activity: This engagement will allow EirGrid to collect industry feedback on improvements regarding the design, review and commissioning stages of projects. As well as supporting members with a greater awareness of each other's challenges, the Tri-Party Forum is also a space for collective problem solving that includes all relevant parties.

For more information on our customer and industry stakeholder engagement please get in touch via [our contact page here](#) (with 'Customer and Connections' in the email subject).

Enduring Connection Policy (ECP)

Overview

Connecting new generators and storage technologies to the grid is essential for meeting electricity demand and supporting the transition to a decarbonised power system in line with government targets. However, these connections are both technically and commercially complex.

The Enduring Connection Policy (ECP) outlines the process for grid connection in Ireland. As part of our role, we provide a constraints analysis report to ECP customers. This report details the levels of renewable generation that we might experience in the future, including surplus, transmission curtailment and constraints. Two batches will be processed per year going forward.

The ECP is updated regularly to ensure security of supply, promote optimal use of existing grid infrastructure, and support the development of future sustainable infrastructure, all while delivering value to consumers.

Our key stakeholders in this process are ECP customers (and any associated developers or consultants), the CRU, DCEE and ESB Networks. ECP customers rely on these reports to get vital updates on potential levels of dispatch down. EirGrid ensures they are kept up to date via regular and timely communications.

Strategy

Webinars

Throughout the year, we host a number of webinars to engage with ECP customers, industry stakeholders and statutory institutions such as CRU and DCEE. These webinars are on the wind and solar constraint modelling associated with the upcoming ECP connection batch. We discuss the draft and final assumptions to gather feedback and collate suggestions for improvements, while ensuring the modelling process is robust and meets both industry needs and regulatory expectations. We present the initial and final results to all stakeholders to ensure that they fully understand the insights and analyses produced.

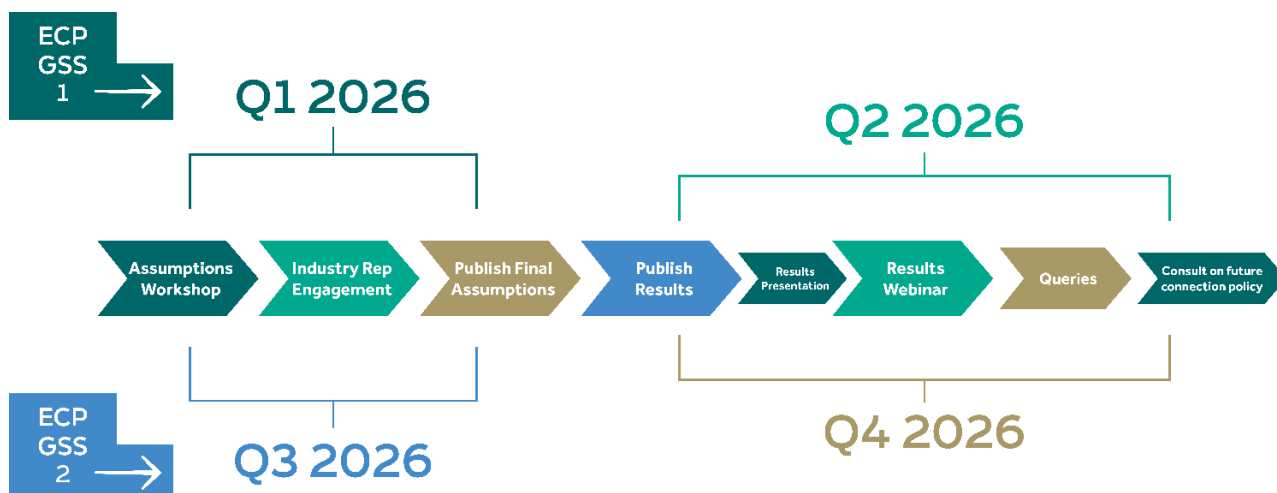
Constraint reports

Each year, we publish 12 area [constraint reports on the EirGrid website](#). The ECP Constraint Reports show the results of studies for a range of generation scenarios including the levels of total dispatch down that solar and wind generation might experience in the future across surplus, curtailment and constraints.

Implementation

Following ECP-2.5, the new ECP-GSS policy introduces bi-annual batch processing and in turn two sets of constraint reports will be published in 2026 (as per CRU2024101 Electricity Connection Policy - Generation and System Services Decision Paper).

The below diagram illustrates the stakeholder engagement and publication timeframe for ECP-GSS 1 (Q1-Q2 2026) and ECP-GSS 2 (Q3-Q4 2026).



Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Initial Assumptions Workshop	Initial Assumptions Workshop: EirGrid will provide industry and CRU/DCEE with information on the initial assumptions of the modelling process associated with the ECP constraint reports and seek feedback.	Initial Assumptions Workshop: EirGrid will liaise with CRU, DCEE, ECP customers and industry, on relevant sensitivities during the assumptions gathering phase. This will ensure that we include all stakeholders in the modelling assumptions process as well as better understand their requirements and ultimately provide robust assessments to help inform their understanding of the potential dispatch down relevant to their future projects. Through these engagements, we are looking to gain greater alignment while ensuring as much as possible that the needs of our stakeholders are met.

Engage with industry representatives	Engage industry representatives: Following the assumptions workshop, EirGrid engages with industry representatives to gather feedback and collaborate with EirGrid to add additional case studies and propose changes. This is a key opportunity for the industry-elected representatives to suggest improvements as well as additional requirements that they would like to be considered.	Engage industry representatives: Industry representatives will provide a number of industry-requested studies along with additional details\data or improvements to aid industry decision making, support knowledge sharing and also support EirGrid's understanding of industry needs.
Publish final assumptions	Publish final assumptions: EirGrid will provide industry and CRU/DCEE with information on the assumptions of the modelling process associated with the ECP constraint reports.	Publish final assumptions: This will ensure that all stakeholders understand the assumptions to ultimately provide robust assessments to help inform their understanding of inputs considered that could potentially affect levels of surplus, curtailment and constraint with regards to their future projects.
Initial results presentation	Initial results presentation: EirGrid will present the initial results of the ECP constraint reports to industry and CRU/DCEE.	Initial results presentation: This is an opportunity for EirGrid to present the initial ECP constraint reports for the next iteration of the ECP. The timely delivery of this presentation helps to ensure our stakeholders have as much time as possible to offer their insights on the initial results.
Results webinar	Results webinar: EirGrid will present in depth results of the ECP constraint reports, with details of the potential dispatch down levels on a geographical basis.	Results webinar: Through this engagement, we aim to ensure the timely delivery of clear communications of the ECP surplus, curtailment and constraint results while ensuring that all stakeholders fully comprehend the insights and analyses. This is extremely important because it helps to

		ensure our customers have a chance to gain clarity on the details of what we're proposing while also offering the opportunity to ask questions.
Publish 24 area constraint reports (Two sets of 12 area constraint reports)	Constraint reports: EirGrid will provide ECP customers and relevant stakeholders with information on possible levels of renewable generation output reduction in Ireland for a range of future scenarios.	Constraint reports: EirGrid will provide generation developers with timely communications on possible levels of renewable generation output reduction in Ireland for a range of future scenarios. This will enhance development planning to support the transition to a decarbonised power system while meeting Government targets.
Consult on future connection policy	Support CRU with the development of the next ECP: We will continue to support CRU in the development of the next ECP and consult on any policy changes that could impact the ECP methodology.	Support CRU with the development of the next ECP: EirGrid will obtain customer and industry feedback resulting from any CRU decision on future connection policy to help ensure stakeholder needs are met as best possible.

For more information on enduring connection policy please get in touch via [our contact page here](#) (with 'Enduring Connection Policy' in the email subject).

Wind and Solar Dispatch Down

Overview

Wind and solar dispatch down occur when EirGrid, as the Transmission System Operator, instructs an electricity generator to produce less electricity than it can for wind and solar units

The level of dispatch down is affected by a number of factors which can vary, such as the amount of energy scheduled via markets, weather patterns, system demand, interconnector flows, scheduled grid maintenance works, and the capacity factor of the renewable generation.

Wind and solar dispatch down reporting

EirGrid publishes details of the levels of wind and solar dispatch down via our monthly, quarterly and annual reports. This helps to keep customers and the broader industry, informed regarding dispatch down levels while contextualising reported figures regionally and nationally. These reports include the following documents, which detail historical and current levels of dispatch down and what the grid would look under different scenarios and in the future.

- [Enduring Connection Policy Constraint Reports](#)
- [Shaping Our Electricity Future v1.1](#)
- [System and Renewable Data Reports](#)

Strategy

Dispatch Down Working Group (wind and solar)

In June 2025, and in response to stakeholder feedback, EirGrid created a Dispatch Down Working Group (wind and solar only). The Dispatch Down Working Group comprises four nominees from EirGrid, and six nominees from renewable energy industry members. The group is meeting once a month for the duration of approximately six months. Industry members have and will be invited to present analysis and solutions for consideration.

The objectives of the Dispatch Down Working Group, which were created and agreed to collaboratively by group members, are to:

- Conduct a timebound (6 months of workshops) focused review to assess dispatch down of wind and solar generation within the Irish power system under EirGrid's remit as TSO.
- Conduct an assessment of existing levels of dispatch down and current actions being taken by EirGrid to manage the level of wind and solar dispatch down within the system as well as EirGrid's plans to manage dispatch down of wind and solar over the coming years.
- Conduct a review of proposed solutions.
- Identify additional actions that could be considered to manage dispatch down of wind and solar across operations, markets and networks as aligned to Shaping Our Electricity Future v1.1 (SOEF).
- Provide effective stakeholder engagement through clear and regular communication outputs and further engagement via the SOEF Advisory Council.

Implementation

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Collaborate with key stakeholders on the Dispatch Down Working Group's core objectives	Regular engagements via the Dispatch Down working group: The Dispatch Down Working Group is meeting once a month (due to conclude Q1 2026). The aim is to discuss the issues (as outlined in the group's Terms of Reference), the proposed solutions and also to finalise the outcomes.	Regular engagements via the Dispatch Down working group: These regular engagements will give group members the opportunity to discuss and review the core objectives (summarised above) as well as the opportunity to develop possible solutions together for consideration. The last meeting will offer members a chance to discuss findings and develop outcomes. Through these engagements, EirGrid aims to create a space for open dialogue and knowledge sharing, as well as greater alignment as we work with stakeholders to navigate this highly complex topic.
Present key outcomes to stakeholders	Present outcomes of the Dispatch Down working group: In Q1 2026, the working group members will present the outcomes from this initiative to the Shaping Our Electricity Future (SOEF) Advisory Council.	Present outcomes of the Dispatch Down working group: The Dispatch Down Working Group will present outcomes of the Working Group to the SOEF Advisory Council.

Operating and developing the grid and market

Overview

EirGrid is responsible for the electricity grid and market in Ireland. The grid transports electricity from where it is generated to where it is used.

The electricity market is where generators and suppliers trade electricity. A lot of work happens behind the scenes to balance supply and demand. Market trading helps to ensure we have a safe and reliable electricity supply.

To ensure that power and market system operation and development is safe, secure and reliable, we engage on a day-to-day basis and collaborate regularly with our customers, industry representative bodies and other key stakeholders. Stakeholder engagement is vital as the grid adopts, and adapts to, increased variable renewable sources coming on stream. Equally, the market needs to quickly adjust to support the investment needed to deliver unprecedented changes to the grid in the lead up to 2030 and beyond.

Strategy

Onshore and offshore Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) Auctions engagement

The RESS Auctions Team meets regularly with DCEE, CRU, ESB Networks and EirGrid key stakeholders to agree the design, rules and eligibility of the Onshore and Offshore Renewable Support Scheme Auctions. Regular engagements like these are vital to ensure the pipeline and delivery of RES-E as per the government Climate Action Plan and EirGrid's Shaping our Electricity Future roadmap.

RESS auction information sessions

The Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) is a Government of Ireland initiative. The scheme supports renewable electricity projects in Ireland. RESS auctions are delivered by the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment (DCEE), with the support of CRU and EirGrid.

As part of this engagement, EirGrid chairs an industry information session in advance of each annual auction (RESS and ORESS) to introduce industry applicants to key changes since the previous auction. We then present the key upcoming milestones in the published timetable and encourage early registration on our RESS Auction Platform. The most important item in the session is clearly highlighting the important documentation to be completed by who and when, during the application for qualification process. We also address previously submitted questions and explain the application for qualification clarification process.

Coordinating RESS auction design with DCEE and the regulators

As part of our continued collaboration, EirGrid works with DCEE and our regulators to draft the RESS and ORESS terms and conditions to agree a final draft for consultation.

Regular meetings with the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment (DCEE) and CRU

To ensure our continued alignment with Government RES-E onshore and offshore renewable policy, EirGrid engages regularly with our regulators who play an important role in connection, asset and charging policy and ensuring auction competition. CRU ensures we remain compliant and support our work in achieving our climate ambitions.

Coordinating capacity market operations

Capacity auctions are a key element of the all-island wholesale electricity market and are designed to deliver a reliable electricity supply at the least possible cost. The auctions also aim to encourage new and efficient power plants into the market. This auction is known as a T-4 auction because it secures capacity four years in advance, while additional auctions can also take place closer to the capacity year to procure if further capacity is required e.g. in the year prior to the capacity year start (T-1), or two years prior to the Capacity Year (T-2). The auctions are run jointly by EirGrid and SONI (the Electricity System Operator for Northern Ireland) on behalf of our regulatory authorities. As part of this work, we engage with the Regulatory Authorities on a weekly basis to organise these critical auctions for the industry.

EirGrid and SONI are jointly responsible for the administration of the Capacity Market Code including the coordination of the modifications process.

Market Operator User Group (MOUG) meetings

The Market Operator User Group (MOUG) is a bi-monthly meeting (usually held every 8 weeks) which brings together the Single Electricity Market Operator (SEMO) and market participants, to provide updates on a wide range of topic such as settlements, trading, the market interface, IT releases and ex-ante markets.

Weekly participant calls

Another channel for our engagements includes weekly calls with market participants, run by EirGrid, to provide operations, settlements and trading updates.

Future Power Market Industry workshops

The Future Power Market Industry workshops are an important forum for industry representatives and TSOs to get together to inform, discuss, listen and ask questions on aspects such as Energy Market Policy, the Scheduling and Dispatch Programme (SDP), Future Arrangements for System Services (FASS), Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES) and the Strategic Market Programme (SMP) and associated programmes.

These workshops facilitate discussions around the functional, technical and formal arrangement changes, stakeholder engagement and programme management updates. They also allow the TSOs to strengthen its relationships with industry participants, while providing clear and consistent communications as recommended by the stakeholder panel.

Future Power Markets Technical Liaison Group (TLG)

The Future Power Markets Technical Liaison Group (TLG) aims to assist with the delivery of the technical requirements of the respective major market programmes. The TLG is to be established to provide a central forum to support collaboration on technical topics including technical specifications, data publication guides, IT connectivity and sandbox testing. The objective of the group is to provide information relevant to a specific interest group and a discussion forum whereby the views of Market Participants can be heard, including understanding the impacts on their own delivery plans.

Newsletters

EirGrid issues a [Future Power Markets newsletter](#). These newsletters are an important communication channel to share updates on key programmes and workstreams and provide an ongoing update to supplement the workshops and signpost the reader to ongoing work, consultations and more.

Grid Code Review Panel (GCRP)

At EirGrid, we are responsible for the development and maintenance of the grid code in Ireland. The Grid Code Review Panel (GCRP) is a standing industry body whose purpose is to review and discuss the grid code.

The GCRP regularly discusses the grid code's functionality and offers suggestions for updates and amendments. Each member of the GCRP represents the interests of their appointing body. [Meeting notes are published online](#).

Generator and Outturn Availability Forum

EirGrid meets industry via the Generator and Outturn Availability Forum to provide updates to industry on outturn availability reports and to address generator customer queries.

Transmission Outage Programme (TOP) Lookback, Overview and Mid-Year Review

EirGrid meets industry via the TOP Overview and Lookback in at the end of the year when we look back on the TOP just finishing and provide an overview of the TOP for the following year. We also meet industry mid-year to provide an update on the progress in the current year and present the plan for the remainder of the year.

Shaping Our Electricity Future Advisory Council

EirGrid and SONI formed the Shaping Our Electricity Future (SOEF) Advisory Council in 2022. The council is made up of representatives from across the energy sector including developers of storage, conventional and renewable generators, academia, large energy users, demand response, new technology, gas networks, manufacturing and consultancy. The council meets every four months in Dublin, with every fourth meeting in Belfast.

Following an invitation for membership earlier in 2024, the SOEF Advisory Council now comprises 30 council members with 12 invited guests. Invited guests at the meetings include Government, the Distribution System Operators and the Regulatory Authorities from both Ireland and Northern Ireland.

The meeting is chaired by EirGrid and SONI. The objective of these meetings is to engage with stakeholders on how best to achieve our SOEF goals across networks, markets, public engagement and operations.

External Markets Association Group (EMAG)

In 2024, EirGrid created an internal, cross-functional group known as the External Markets Association Group (EMAG). The objective of the EMAG is to act as a single source of truth for EirGrid's representation within external associations (with particular reference to European groups) relevant to market development, which helps to ensure clear and consistent communications across the external organisations that we engage with.

Implementation

Market engagement

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Work towards delivering Future Arrangements for System Services (FASS)	Future Arrangements for System Services: In 2026, EirGrid will continue to update the Phased Implementation Roadmap, in partnership with the Regulatory Authorities, for delivering the FASS Programme. We will seek feedback from stakeholders via consultation on the design and procurement of non-reserve services.	Future Arrangements for System Services: Through these engagements, EirGrid will publish two versions (v5 and v6) of the FASS Phased Implementation Roadmap, as well as a recommendations paper on non-reserve services, and a legal draft of the System Services Code.

	We will continue to engage with stakeholders on the drafting of the System Services Code (via the Code Working Group).	
Schedule and Dispatch Programme (SDP) engagement	Schedule and Dispatch Programme: In 2026, EirGrid will have monthly meetings between SDP and the Regulatory Authorities (RAs) with ad hoc sessions as necessary. The SDP team will attend any Trading and Settlement Code (TSC) modifications meetings and Joint Grid Code Review Panel (JGCRP) meetings. The SDP team will contribute and present at monthly Future Power Market Industry Workshops and will provide training or deep-dive sessions or present on standalone topics to industry as required.	Schedule and Dispatch Programme: Through these engagements, EirGrid aims to track items and open actions relevant to SDP that require input from the regulatory authorities and progress TSC modifications as well as Grid Code modifications to approval. By providing SDP status updates as well as training and deep-dive sessions to market participants, EirGrid aims to further enhance our relationship with them as they are kept abreast of all updates and progress from the team.
Continue to prepare to reintegrate the Single Energy Market with the European Energy Markets as part of EirGrid's Strategic Market Programme (SMP)	Strategic Market Programme (SMP) engagements: In 2026, EirGrid will be engaging with the following key stakeholders: Regulatory Authorities Monthly updates throughout 2026 as well as in-person, ad-hoc workshops. Market Participants Regular updates via our Future Power Market workshops and newsletters on topics such as timelines on go-live, hedging opportunities (Financial Transmission Rights) and new auction systems. Industry EirGrid will provide regular updates to industry stakeholders via the Shaping Our Electricity Future Advisory Council meetings. European In 2026, EirGrid will also be actively engaging with European stakeholders including Market Coupling associations, to ensure alignment. GB Arrangements EirGrid will also continue to engage with stakeholders regarding the delivery of proposed changes to SEM-GB arrangements post-Brexit.	Strategic Market Programme (SMP) engagements: The Strategic Markets Programme (SMP) has been established to deliver on Pillar 2 of Shaping Our Electricity Future (SOEF) strategy and seeks to transform Ireland's energy markets (all-island) to connect more renewables and support regulatory required development. Through our regular engagement with the regulatory authorities, we aim to align on policy and compliance as well as expectations, timelines and milestones. Regular engagement with market participants will help EirGrid to ensure a collaborative, transparent and audience-specific process for critical stakeholders including generators, suppliers, large energy users, Demand Side Units and aggregators. These engagements will also help to ensure stakeholders are informed about how SMP

		decisions will affect their operations. By engaging with industry representatives, EirGrid aims to gather insights and address concerns on market design, system operation, and trading arrangements. We regularly participate in relevant taskforces and working groups to ensure collaboration. By engaging on a European scale, we aim to ensure alignment with broader European market developments via working groups, EU-level events, site visits, and specific projects such as the Local Implementation Programme.
Preparing for a Large-Scale Consultation Programme as part of EirGrid's Strategic Market Programme (SMP)	Consultation Programme: In 2026, EirGrid and SONI will be preparing a number of consultations as we move closer to reintegrating the Single Energy Market with the European Energy Markets	Consultation Programme: Through these engagements, we aim to: • Develop a clear roadmap for consultations, ensuring stakeholders have visibility on key topics and timelines being mindful of other ongoing consultations within the industry. • Coordinate closely with CRU and UR to align expectations on designs, timelines and interdependencies. • Provide early access to key materials, share information with regulatory authorities in advance to enhance collaboration.
Future Power Markets Industry Workshops	Future Power Markets Industry Workshops: We will continue to hold our Future Power Markets Industry Workshops. These workshops are primarily held online but hybrid meetings where participants can attend	Future Power Markets Industry Workshops: The Future Power Market Industry workshops are an important forum for industry representatives and EirGrid to get together to inform, discuss, listen and ask

	in-person and online will also be options going forward.	questions on aspects such as Energy Market Policy, the Scheduling and Dispatch Programme (SDP), Future Arrangements for System Services (FASS), Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES) and the Strategic Market Programme (SMP) and associated programmes. These workshops facilitate discussions around the functional, technical and formal arrangement changes, stakeholder engagement and programme management updates. They also allow EirGrid to strengthen our relationships with industry participants, while providing clear and consistent communications as recommended by the stakeholder panel.
Future Power Markets Newsletter	Future Power Markets Newsletter: EirGrid will continue to issue our Future Power Markets Newsletter on a regular basis. These are published on the EirGrid website and promoted via our social media channels.	Future Power Markets Newsletter: EirGrid's Future Power Markets newsletter serves as an important medium for us to update stakeholders on developments across Energy Market Policy, Scheduling and Dispatch Programme, Future Arrangements (FASS), Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES) and the Strategic Market Programme (SMP) and associated programmes. The publication complements our Future Power Market Industry Workshops by keeping stakeholders up to date on the most recent developments across our core project areas and workstreams.
Strengthen relationships with EU counterparts and contribute to relevant EU future markets policy developments	EU engagement: In 2026, EirGrid will continue our participation in the ENTSO-E Market Committee and relevant working groups, engaging on policy and legislative developments at an EU level.	EU engagement: These engagements allow EirGrid to contribute to relevant policy developments at an EU level through participation in the ENTSO-E Market Committee and Working Groups with the best

		interests of the electricity consumer and carbon targets in mind.
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Long-term auctions

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
RESS 6 finalisation of terms and conditions, industry briefings and auction completion	RESS 6 terms and conditions: Subject to State Aid approval, RESS 6 terms and conditions will be published and RESS 6 will take place in 2026. EirGrid continues to engage regularly with DCEE and the CRU in preparation of future RESS and ORESS auctions.	RESS 6 terms and conditions: RESS 6 is subject to State Aid approval by the EU Director General for Competition. Through these engagements, we aim to successfully run the auction which is the last RESS auction containing milestones and delivery dates withing the 2023 CAP 24/25 Targets. EirGrid, as the Auction Administrator, will publish the RESS 6 timetable, qualification and auction information packs and chair an Industry Auction Information Session.
Complete the Offshore Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (ORESS) Lí Ban Auction	Lí Ban Auction: In 2026, it is expected that work will continue on the development of the ORESS Lí Ban auction. In preparation of this, EirGrid will hold industry briefings and information sessions alongside DCEE (once timelines have been finalised).	Lí Ban Auction: Through these engagements, EirGrid will successfully identify the outcome of the ORESS Lí Ban Auction. <i>Publication of the ORESS Lí Ban Provisional and Final Auction Results in conjunction with DCEE (TBC).</i>
T-4 2029/2030 Capacity Auction to help secure electricity to meet demand	T-4 2029/2030 Capacity Auction: EirGrid (with SONI) will publish Auction Information Packs for industry stakeholders, with the auction due to take place in March 2026. EirGrid (with SONI) will also hold an industry information session prior to the opening of qualification.	T-4 2029/2030 Capacity Auction: Through these engagements, we aim to ensure enough MWs are secured in order to meet demand for the 2029/2030 Capacity Year.
T-1 2026/2027 Capacity Auction to help secure electricity to meet demand	T-1 2026/2027 Capacity Auction: EirGrid (with SONI) will publish Auction Information Packs for industry stakeholders, with the auction due to take place by July 2026.	T-1 2026/2027 Capacity Auction: Auction aims to ensure enough MWs are secured in order to meet demand for the 2026/2027 Capacity Year.

	EirGrid (with SONI) will also hold an industry information session prior to the opening of qualification.	
T-4 2030/2031 Capacity Auction to help secure electricity to meet demand	T-4 2030/2031 Capacity Auction: EirGrid (with SONI) will publish Auction Information Packs for industry stakeholders, with the auction due to take place at end of 2026 / early 2027. EirGrid (with SONI) will also hold an industry information session prior to the opening of qualification.	T-4 2030/2031 Capacity Auction: Though these engagements, we aim to ensure enough MWs are secured in order to meet demand for the 2030/2031 Capacity Year.
Delivery of awarded new capacity	Capacity Market Contracts: EirGrid plans to organise development sessions with successful projects following the T-4 Capacity Auctions. In addition to projects submitting implementation progress reports, quarterly engagements with the participants, GNI, CRU and DCEE are expected to continue in 2026.	Capacity Market Contracts: The purpose of these quarterly engagements is to monitor the progress of the development of projects to ensure that the megawatts will be available when needed. Any risks can be captured at these meetings and mitigations can then be sought if needed.

SEM Market participants

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Market Operator User Group (MOUG) engagements	Market Operator User Groups: EirGrid will host six Market Operator User Group engagements in 2026.	Market Operator User Groups: Through these engagements, EirGrid will provide updates relating to a wide range of topics such as settlements, trading, market interface, IT releases and ex-ante markets.
Weekly participant calls	Weekly participant calls: EirGrid will host calls with participants on a weekly basis throughout 2026.	Weekly participant calls: These engagements will allow EirGrid to provide participants with updates on aspects such as operations as well as settlements and trading. These engagements also allow us to provide details with regards to

		any outages for transparency. Participants can also use these engagements to ask questions and give feedback.
SEMO and SEMOpx helpdesk engagements	SEMO and SEMOpx helpdesk engagements: EirGrid will provide daily market support via email and telephone, responding to general and settlement queries.	SEMO and SEMOpx helpdesk engagements: These engagements are an open channel that allow us to support participants directly with any queries they may have.
SEM registration support	SEM registration support: EirGrid will continue to offer daily support to participants.	SEM registration support: These engagements are a vital step in allowing us to support participants during the market registration process.

System operations, system services and outage management

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
System Services Procurement Gate 14 & 15	Procurement gates: In 2026, EirGrid will hold two DS3 bidders' sessions in relation to Gate 14 and Gate 15. EirGrid will also provide daily support via email and/or telephone on DS3 current and future participants queries.	Procurement gates: Through these engagements, EirGrid aims to facilitate the successful procurement of system services. Bidders' sessions are designed to take all the bidders through the details of the DS3 framework and answer any queries related to tendering and gate participation.
Generator Outage Scheduling	Outage Scheduling: In 2026, EirGrid will continue to engage with our generation customers to schedule outages and deliver the annual generator committed outage programme for 2027 as well as management of the 2026 outage plan. We will also continue to provide support for generator outages and queries.	Outage Scheduling: Through these engagements, EirGrid is able to keep customers up to date and informed with regard to generator outage scheduling. These engagements ensure transparency through the successful delivery of the generator outage programme for 2026 and the publication of the forward-looking committed outage programme.
Generator and Outturn Availability Forum	Generator Outturn Availability Forum: EirGrid will meet industry via the Generator Outturn Availability Forum to provide updates on outturn availability	Generator Outturn Availability Forum: These engagements will enable open dialogue on outturn

	reports and to address generator customer queries.	availability for 2026 and on general generator queries.
Scheduling and Dispatch	Scheduling and Dispatch: In 2026, EirGrid will continue to engage with stakeholders in relation to scheduling and dispatch via the provision of clear documentation including: • The Balancing Market Principles Statement. • Our consultation on the Terms of Reference and key dates for the annual audit. • The publication of the annual audit report. • Up to date operational constraints information.	Scheduling and Dispatch: These engagements will enable EirGrid to gather customer feedback and also provide transparency with regard to our decision making.
Dispatch Down Reporting	Dispatch Down Reporting: EirGrid will continue to analyse the dispatch down of renewable sources of electricity and to publish monthly and annual reports.	Dispatch Down Reporting: Through our analysis and reporting, EirGrid will keep customers and the broader industry, informed with regard to dispatch down levels while contextualising reported figures regionally and nationally.
Grid Code Review Panel	Grid Code Review Panel: EirGrid will continue dialogue with stakeholders on the evolution of the Grid Code through meetings, as well as via the publication of associated materials and proposed modifications, as well as revised versions of the Grid Code.	Grid Code Review Panel: EirGrid's engagements on the Grid Code are key to gathering stakeholder insights as well as keeping them updated.
Transmission Outage Programme (TOP) Lookback, Overview and Mid-Year Review	Transmission Outage Programme: In 2026, EirGrid will engage industry via the TOP Overview and Lookback at the end of the year. We also meet industry mid-year to provide relevant updates.	Transmission Outage Programme: Through these engagements, EirGrid is able to provide transparency regarding the TOP and its progress as well as highlight the potential impacts on customers in terms of constraints.

Future operations

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
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Grid Code Evolution to 2030	Grid Code Evolution to 2030: In 2026, EirGrid will hold virtual and in-person workshops as required.	Grid Code Evolution to 2030: Through our engagements, EirGrid will discuss and implement Grid Code modifications.
Trialling of new technology providing system services	Qualification Trial Process: EirGrid will issue a Qualification Trial Process in 2026 with a call for information from industry.	Qualification Trial Process: These engagements will enable EirGrid to publish the Qualification Trial Process 2026 Call for Information, ultimately supporting our work towards achieving our system operational policy ambitions along with our climate ambitions in line with Government targets.
Delivery of Low Carbon Inertia Services Phase 2	Delivery of Low Carbon Inertia Services Phase 2: In 2026, EirGrid will commence the procurement process for the delivery of Low Carbon Inertia Services Phase 2. We will only engage with tenderers within the framework of the formal procurement process. Alongside this, EirGrid will also engage with tenderers to carry out grid connection assessments and will work with successful tenderers to process connection offers.	Delivery of Low Carbon Inertia Services Phase 2: The delivery of Low Carbon Inertia Services Phase 2 is required to securely operate the power system at higher System Non-Synchronous Penetration (SNSP) / renewable generation levels, supporting our climate ambitions while delivering significant cost savings to consumers.
Drive the procurement of Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES)	Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES): In 2026, EirGrid will publish an LDES Procurement Approach Recommendations Paper for industry and the Regulatory Authorities in Q1, as well as advance a detailed consultation and Recommendations Paper on LDES Contractual Arrangements with the aim of reaching a decision in Q4. This will include a series of webinars which we will hold during the consultation periods.	Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES): Through these stakeholder engagements (consultations and webinars), EirGrid will ensure stakeholder involvement in the development of an LDES Procurement Approach Recommendations Paper, and a Recommendations paper on Contractual Arrangements to reach a decision in Q4 2026. This work is not only in response to an action placed upon the TSO by DCEE in both the Climate Action Plans and the Department's recent Electricity Storage Policy Framework but also supports

		our mission to enable a secure and stable net zero grid.
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For more information about our operating the grid and market stakeholder engagement please get in touch via [our contact page here](#) (with 'Grid and Market' in the subject).

European, Government and policy engagement

Overview

EirGrid engages in active and ongoing consultation with Government and regulatory authorities on key policies and strategic issues as required by legislation. This is done through formal correspondence, bilateral engagement and participation in working groups, taskforces and meetings.

Actively supporting policy development at International, National, Regional and Local levels is a key part of our role and EirGrid continues to seek opportunities to share relevant insights while ensuring policy makers are equipped with the appropriate insights and advice to support the policy making process. These engagements also ensure that EirGrid is aligned with Government policy.

EirGrid also actively engages with the UK and across continental Europe with bodies such as the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E) and the Ostend Forum as well as The North Seas Energy Cooperation (NSEC) and the International Energy Agency (IEA).

In addition to the above, we are also heavily engaged with other Transmission System Operators (TSOs) across Europe, not only for interconnection purposes but also for sharing insights and fostering innovation.

EirGrid also engages with An Coimisinéir Teanga as we continue to forefront the Irish language and fulfil our statutory and legal duties within this area.

Effective stakeholder engagement is critical for enabling EirGrid's continued alignment at a Government and regulatory level, as well as at a European level, to support continued progress towards our shared climate ambitions. These include obtaining 80% of our electricity from renewable sources in line with Government targets and achieving net-zero emissions no later than 2050. In practice, developing and operating a net-zero emissions system will entail significant stakeholder engagement with Government departments, Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI), Gas Networks Ireland (GNI) and academia to determine the generation, storage and supply of renewable energy sources such as green hydrogen.

Strategy

European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E)

ENTSO-E has significant obligations under EU electricity regulations and as a result plays a key role in developing the pan-European electricity grid and cross-border markets to achieve the ambitious European decarbonisation goals by 2050. Through ENTSO-E, EirGrid engages actively with TSOs across Europe to tackle the key challenges brought about through decarbonisation such as offshore resource development, market integration and maintaining system security.

ENTSO-E operates a number of committees that cover a wide range of relevant areas including markets, research and innovation, system development, system operations and technology. Despite being relatively small compared to many European TSOs, EirGrid contributes to several of these committees, and to the supporting workgroups. This is to ensure that the issues that are most important to Ireland such as the development of offshore transmission infrastructure, or the market arrangements with GB, are taken forward in way that supports wider Irish goals. For the development of offshore grid infrastructure in particular, EirGrid's interaction with other TSOs through ENTSO-E will help enable renewable resources in Ireland to contribute to wider European goals.

European Agencies

As part of EirGrid's European engagement, we also work closely with regulatory authorities to support their interactions with agencies such as the Agency for Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER). We are also actively involved with Coreso, to support the continued development of Ireland's grid and market. As Regional Coordination Centres (RCCs), Coreso supports TSOs to contribute objectives that are in line with recommendations made by the European Commission.

Offshore TSO Collaboration (OTC)

The OTC is a collaborative forum of the TSOs of nine Northern Seas Countries, working together on joint regional offshore grid planning, under mandate from NSEC. The group has developed a coordinated 'grid map' of cross-border hybrid interconnector projects aimed to complement existing plans such as the Ten-Year Network Development Plan (TYNDP). As a member, EirGrid exchanges expertise and ensures the requirements of the Irish system are considered. Furthermore, it enables us to participate in shared, cost-efficient regional offshore grid development and funding and financing methodologies.

International System Operator Network (ISON)

The International System Operator Network (ISON) is a new TSO working group which consists of six system operators, led by their CEOs, and supported by a rotating Executive Director role and Technical Designates. The overarching objective of this forum is to enable operation of 100% Inverter-Based Resource (IBR) power systems. Collaboration takes place via the revision and delivery of the System Operator Transitional Priorities report, and implementation of priority initiatives, various technical engagements and development of knowledge sharing briefs, and initiatives such as System Operator secondment.

Collaboration with other TSOs

TSOs in countries with high levels of non-synchronous RES face similar challenges to EirGrid especially where they are situated in peripheral locations and/or are relatively small compared to the larger more centrally based TSOs. By working closely with other TSOs across Great Britain and continental Europe, EirGrid is enabling greater energy cooperation as we work towards our shared climate ambitions. In addition to the various multilateral engagements with TSOs, EirGrid is also proactively working bilaterally with the TSOs in countries such as the Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany and the UK. In some instances, this is under the guise of Joint Government Plans of Actions, and in other instances, specific MOUs we have developed.

CIGRE

As a collaborative global forum for sharing and developing technical expertise, EirGrid's engagement with CIGRE predominantly supports our role in leading the secure transition of Ireland's electricity grid to a sustainable low-carbon future. EirGrid works with other CIGRE members internationally, on specific topic-themed working groups and Study Committees. This collaboration creates opportunities for staff to work with leading experts. It also helps to build EirGrid's reputation as a one of the most innovative TSOs in the integration of non-synchronous renewables.

International Energy Agency (IEA)

EirGrid continues to engage with the IEA to help shape the successful integration of renewables. Building on active engagements and presentation to international expert audiences in the IEA, this engagement will continue in the coming year.

The Renewables Grid Initiative (RGI)

The Renewables Grid Initiative is a unique collaboration of NGOs, TSOs, and DSOs from across Europe engaging in an 'energy transition ecosystem-of-actors'. EirGrid's engagement with the RGI is particularly

important in facilitating close collaboration, as well as enabling a holistic approach to resolving shared challenges, alongside experts in our field from across Europe.

Government Taskforces and Working Groups

EirGrid continues to liaise with Government stakeholders, including established key Taskforces and Working Groups in order to progress the delivery of renewable energy, key grid infrastructure and the future energy landscape, as well to discuss matters relating to energy affordability. These workstreams are important to ensure continued alignment between EirGrid and Government policies. In 2026, EirGrid will be active in the following taskforces and others as required and if they arise:

- Offshore Wind Development Taskforce (DCEE)
- Accelerating Renewables Energy Taskforce (DCEE)
- Accelerating Infrastructure Taskforce (DPENDER)
- Cost of Business Advisory Forum (DETE)
- Housing Activation Office (DHLGH)
- Urban Capacity Contact Group (DCEE)
- National Energy Affordability Taskforce (DCEE)
- Hydrogen Taskforce (DCEE)

Forums and steering groups

EirGrid continues to engage with Government, the CRU, local authorities, and other public authorities on a range of matters, including the climate action plan, interconnection, energy security, security of supply, and planning and consenting. This is via a range of mechanisms such as planning forums, working groups and steering groups.

Corporate communications and reporting

EirGrid continues to support the Government through regular communications and reporting, requests for information, publications, Parliamentary Questions and more.

North Seas Energy Corporation (NSEC)

EirGrid participates as Ireland's TSO via several technical working fora within the ministerial level initiative of NSEC. The cooperation brings together ministries and TSOs from nine countries from the North Seas as well as the European Commission, to coordinate the development of offshore renewable energy and grid infrastructure projects. Through participation in the group, EirGrid participates in joint planning initiatives backed by political will through ministerial inclusion, that underpin wider European offshore energy development.

The Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER)

EirGrid will continue to support DG ENER and European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA) at events such as their annual PCI Energy Days. Engagement and updates to key officials will also continue, particularly around the progress of the Celtic Interconnector.

We will also continue to engage with DG ENER to greater understand how radial projects which we are looking to garner PCI status, can be evaluated. Activities in 2026 will also include our engagement with DG ENER on their EU Grids Package.

EU-UK Specialised Committee on Energy (SCE)

The EU-UK SCE is a joint forum between the EU and the UK to monitor and review the implementation of the energy provisions in the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA). The SCE holds technical discussions, shares information and ensures the functioning of the energy provision. The issue of EU-UK electricity trading arrangements is a key area of work for the SCE. Through our involvement in ENTSO-E, EirGrid contributes to this work as part of a group of EU TSOs.

National Energy System Operator (NESO)

The NESO for Great Britain (GB) is responsible for electricity system operation and gas system planning. EirGrid, SONI and NESO meet regularly to share knowledge and experience on the electricity markets and related areas. These engagements are particularly important given EirGrid's interconnection with the GB market which is known as a third country market under EU regulations.

In March 2025, Ireland and the UK issued a joint statement representing the starting point for a strengthened relationship. In the statement, “ensuring a strategic and efficient approach to our shared maritime space to mobilise investment, support a healthy marine environment and provide clean energy for our islands” was a key focus. The joint statement also specifically named EirGrid and other system operators (GNI, NESO, and National Gas) when welcoming “the opportunity for more formal co-operation between British and Irish system operators”.

OCEaN RGI

OCEaN is a not-for-profit eNGO working at EU level, that brings together a diverse group of stakeholders, including non-governmental organisations (NGOs), transmission system operators (TSOs), and wind industry representatives from over 40 European bodies. The objective is to share insights and advance the deployment of sustainable development. The Renewable Grid Initiative is a founding member of OCEaN. EirGrid has been an OCEaN member since 2021. Through our engagement, EirGrid supports the promotion of nature-positive offshore development, while mutually sharing knowledge and best practices.

Planning, Environment and Biodiversity Engagement

EirGrid engages regularly with international, national, and regional forums on specific matters of planning and environmental practice, legislation and policy, and technical innovation. Key Stakeholders include the Offshore Coalition for Energy and Nature, the Renewable Grid Initiative, the Department of Housing, Local Government, and Heritage, the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment, and the Environmental Protection Agency. In response to the twinned climate and biodiversity emergency, and enabled by EirGrid's inhouse Ecologists, biodiversity is a particular focus of these engagements. EirGrid's inhouse Planning team is active in collaboration with other State infrastructure developers and relevant stakeholders to ensure the timely and sustainable delivery of critical State infrastructure in the interest of the common good.

Implementation

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Obtain 80% of our electricity from renewable sources in line with Government targets and reach net-zero emissions no later than 2050	Climate ambitions: EirGrid will engage with the Government and CRU on a range of matters, including the Climate Action Plan, offshore transmission strategy, further interconnection, security of supply and the EU-led Electricity Market Redesign initiative. Work will commence to support the Irish Presidency of the EU Council in 2026. Broadening our engagement: We will also continue to identify opportunities to engage with broader stakeholder audiences across industry and society on developments we foresee as required to support climate and energy	Climate ambitions: Key objectives include alignment as we work together on the delivery of our shared climate ambitions as well as to ensure consistent messaging to the public and all stakeholders. Broadening our engagement: These engagements will help ensure we are aligned with international best practice on key technical areas. They will

	goals. EirGrid will continue to proactively engage as members of ENTSO-E, Renewable Grid Initiative, Offshore Coalition for Energy and Nature and CIGRE to help deliver on our targets as soon as possible. IEA engagement: We will also continue to engage with the IEA across a range of areas, including the citizen's role in the energy transition.	also help to ensure greater understanding at EU and global level of the achievements across the Irish electricity system on integrating high levels of renewable energy. IEA engagement: EirGrid will support IEA on developing tools for their global leadership on People-Centred Clean Energy Transitions.
Support policy development	Support policy development: We will continue to proactively seek opportunities to support policy development across Government and the EU.	Support policy development: EirGrid actively supports policy development at International, National, Regional and Local levels, and continues to seek opportunities to share relevant insights while ensuring policy makers are equipped with the appropriate insights and advice to support the policy making process. These engagements are key for sharing insights, increasing alignment and helping to solve shared challenges.
Continued engagement with other TSOs across Europe	Engagement with other TSOs: EirGrid continues to engage actively with other European TSOs. Engagement occurs directly through bilateral discussion and within fora such as ENTSO-E and the (OTC). Engagement within the OTC, includes contribution to the development of the Expert Paper IV and in workstreams assessing joint regional planning, cost sharing and financing approaches. EirGrid will also work to support the regional approach to offshore transmission development in line with broad European and national objectives.	Engagement with other TSOs: By contributing to ENTSO-E, we're intricately involved in knowledge sharing. Furthermore, we convene the Regional Group Northern Seas, collaborating with other TSOs ensuring Irish interests are embedded in regional offshore grid planning. Inclusion in the OTC facilitates extensive exchange of expertise and within the group, we have a lead role in drafting the upcoming Expert Paper IV, to be launched at the North Seas Summit in Hamburg in 2026. Beyond that, the OTC will continue its work on joint grid planning, cost sharing and financing, aimed to move from

Interconnection engagement	Interconnection engagement: As per Ireland's interconnection strategy, we will continue to progress our projects to develop interconnection and hybrid interconnection.	theoretical process design to practical implementation. Collectively, this engagement remains of strategic importance for EirGrid, supporting our long-term goals for planning, developing, owning and operating offshore transmission assets. Interconnection engagement: We will work to align our strategic messaging and communications approach. As part of our work with the NSEC forum, EirGrid will also look to influence outcomes where appropriate, focusing on hybrid and joint projects for delivery by 2050.
Supporting the Government with the Irish Presidency of the European Council	Irish Presidency: EirGrid recognises the considerable effort and opportunity that the Irish EU Presidency of the European Council presents in the latter half of 2026. Work has commenced to support the Government in preparation for this significant period, and this will continue in 2026. In addition to providing support to Government, EirGrid will also play a proactive role in hosting ENTSO-E partners during the July to December period of 2026.	Irish Presidency: Through these engagements, EirGrid aims to facilitate the following: 1) Support DCEE to ensure energy policy evolution during the Presidency is deemed successful. 2) Demonstrate to our EU counterparts the areas where EirGrid has shown leadership. 3) Provide guidance and insight on key pieces of electricity legislation that may have significant milestones during the presidency.
To achieve 95% System Non-Synchronous Penetration (SNSP)	ISON engagement: In 2026, EirGrid will continue to participate in the newly formed International System Operator Network (ISON) with the group objective of working towards the operation of 100% Inverter-Based Resource (IBR) power systems to integrate more renewables/flexible technologies and less conventional generation. This will also support EirGrid's objective of reaching 95% SNSP on the power system,	ISON engagement: Our engagement with ISON allows EirGrid to access expertise (located at peer TSOs) that we would not otherwise have access to, so that we can share insights and solve problems collectively with the aim of accelerating progress towards our objectives.

	through information sharing and lessons learned.	
Ensure compliance with the Official Languages Act	Official Languages Act: In 2025, EirGrid will maintain regular engagement with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media and An Coimisinéir Teanga. In 2026, EirGrid will also continue to engage with the Cumann na nOifigeach Forbartha Gaeilge, the national network of Irish Language Officers across the public sector. This engagement serves as a strategic channel for collaboration, knowledge exchange, and alignment with best practices in Irish Language policy and implementation.	Official Languages Act: EirGrid's Official Languages Officer ensures EirGrid continues to forefront the Irish language (as Ireland's first official language), and that we fulfil our statutory and legal duties within this area. Through EirGrid's regular attendance at the Cumann na nOifigeach Forbartha Gaeilge meetings, workshops, and forums, we also contribute to the collective efforts aimed at enhancing the visibility and use of the Irish Language in public services. Our involvement ensures that our internal practices remain consistent with best practice and legislative obligations, including the Official Languages Acts.
Engage at European level on biodiversity mitigation and practice (onshore and offshore)	Renewable Energy Initiative engagement: In 2026, EirGrid will contribute to the RGI's integrated vegetation management (IVM) biannual meetings attended by European TSOs, eNGOs, and academics, as well as the RGI sub-group on Planting Over HV Cables. As part of our work with the Offshore Coalition for Energy and Nature (OCEaN), we will engage via a range of webinars, the OCEaN Members Assembly, and the OCEaN annual Conference.	Renewable Energy Initiative engagement: Through these engagements, EirGrid aims to inform our planning as well as ensure best practice. A particular focus is on emerging specifications for effective and sustainably manufactured Nature Inclusive Design products.
Comply with legal requirements for, and deliver best practice in Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	National Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Forum: EirGrid will attend and contribute to the quarterly national forum for Strategic Environmental Assessment hosted on rotation by the Irish SEA Environmental Authorities (comprising DAFM, DCEE, DHLGH, DCCS) and chaired by the Environmental Protection Agency.	National Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Forum: Through these engagements, EirGrid aims to align EirGrid SEA practice (and in particular EirGrid's SEA monitoring ongoing throughout 2026) with new policy, legislation optimise sustainable development.
Comply with legal requirements for, and	National Appropriate Assessment Forum: In 2026, EirGrid will attend and contribute	National Appropriate Assessment Forum:

deliver best practice in Appropriate Assessment	to the biannual national forum for Appropriate Assessment chaired by the National Parks and Wildlife Service.	Our aim is to mitigate consenting risk to EirGrid's infrastructure by aligning AA reporting with emerging law, case law, policy, and best practice.
Support and deliver nature restoration offshore	MARA and NPWS Marine Unit engagement: In 2026, EirGrid will have direct engagement with Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (Ecologists), and the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) marine unit, including engagement on the forthcoming NPWS Nature Restoration Plan to be published in September 2026. Marine Nature Inclusive Design will be a specific area of focus to align with the Irish government's South Coast Designated Maritime Area Plan policies on nature restoration.	MARA and NPWS Marine Unit engagement: These engagements will support EirGrid's work to design risk assess, cost and specify appropriate marine nature inclusive design features into EirGrid's offshore grid projects.
Project engagements on biodiversity matters	Biodiversity project engagements: We will work with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) to inform and de-risk EirGrid grid projects in light of planning applications, Environmental Impact Assessment Reports, Appropriate Assessment Reporting, and Derogation Licence Applications.	Biodiversity project engagements: Our aim through these engagements is to align with regulatory requirements to de-risk EirGrid project consents.
Project engagements on planning and environmental matters	Planning and Environmental project engagements: We will engage with relevant consenting authorities, and a range of relevant Prescribed Bodies in pre-application consultation format (and indeed on a non-project basis), to inform the need for a particular grid development, assisting in the development of an appropriate policy context, and ensuring an agreed approach to environmental and other assessments, and ultimately robust planning application proposals.	Planning and Environmental project engagements: Our aim through these engagements is to ensure robust planning application proposals, set into a clearly understood and strong planning policy context, ultimately to ensure timely and sustainable EirGrid project consents.

For more information on our European, Government and policy stakeholder engagement, email strategy@eirgrid.com

Offshore

Overview

The [Climate Action Plan 2024](#) commits to achieving at least 5 GW of grid connected offshore wind capacity in line with Government targets, with a further 2 GW earmarked for the production of green hydrogen and other non-grid uses. It also includes a suite of actions to realise Ireland's offshore renewable energy (ORE) potential.

EirGrid strongly supports the Government's ambition through our collaboration with key stakeholders and industry, and through work being undertaken in the organisation.

The key objectives of our offshore stakeholder engagement are as follows:

- To support the offshore wind farm developers in progressing the grid related aspects of their projects.
- To gather information to support EirGrid's readiness for our role as transmission asset owner.
- To ensure consistent messaging to the offshore wind farm developers, public and all stakeholders on what is happening regarding offshore transmission system development and the benefits that will be delivered.
- To ensure alignment of offshore transmission system development with other offshore related work being progressed by other Government agencies, for example, the protection of marine biodiversity and health and safety.

Strategy

Offshore Wind Delivery Taskforce (OWDT)

In 2022, the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications established a cross-departmental Offshore Wind Delivery Taskforce (OWDT) to accelerate and drive delivery and capture the wider and longer term economic and business opportunities associated with the development of offshore renewables in Ireland. EirGrid is a member organisation of this Taskforce.

The Taskforce has developed the Offshore Wind Energy Programme (OWEP) to coordinate activities ongoing across Government in relation to offshore wind and to identify all aspects of work on the critical path, gaps, areas of duplication, opportunities and risks.

EirGrid manages the delivery of actions under Workstream 5 - Grid Development / Licencing of the OWEP in consultation with CRU and DCEE.

European Network of Transmission System Operators (ENTSO-E)

ENTSO-E plays a key role in developing the pan-European electricity grid and cross-border markets to achieve the ambitious European decarbonisation goals by 2050. Through ENTSO-E, EirGrid engages actively with TSOs across Europe to tackle the key challenges brought about through decarbonisation, in particular, offshore resource development as well as market integration and maintaining system security.

ENTSO-E operates many committees covering a wide range of relevant areas including markets, research and innovation, system development, system operations and technology. Despite being relatively small compared to many European TSOs, EirGrid contributes to several of these committees, and to the supporting workgroups. This is to ensure that the issues that are most important to Ireland such as the development of offshore transmission infrastructure, or the market arrangements with the UK, are taken forward in way that supports wider Irish goals. For the development of offshore grid infrastructure in

particular, EirGrid's interaction with other TSOs through ENTSO-E will help enable renewable resources in Ireland to contribute to wider European goals.

Offshore TSO Collaboration (OTC)

The OTC is a collaborative forum of nine member states in the North Seas region, focused on accelerating the development and implementation of an offshore grid to support the realisation of our national goals.

(Find out more about our engagement with ENTSO-E and the Offshore TSO Collaboration in the European, Government and policy engagement chapter.)

Phase 1 Coordination

EirGrid established the Phase 1 Coordination group in 2024. This coordination group comprises five subject matter working groups attended by both EirGrid and the phase 1 projects namely, Operation and Maintenance, System Operations, Asset Transfer, Technical and Legal. Each of these subject matter working groups have a list of deliverables. Oversight and progress tracking of these deliverables is undertaken monthly with the phase 1 projects and EirGrid, these meetings started in June 2025.

The aim of the coordination group is to complete the key grid related actions and associated milestones required by the Phase 1 Projects to meet their Final Investment Decision.

Phase 1 relates to the developer-led approach to the development and construction of offshore transmission assets. These will be completed by developers before they are transferred to EirGrid ownership. Therefore, it's important to note that EirGrid does not participate in the stakeholder management and in particular the public consultations by the developers.

Powering Up Offshore South Coast (Phase 2 Tonn Nua)

In March 2023, the Irish Government published their Statement on the Framework for Phase Two Offshore Wind, identifying EirGrid as the developer of new offshore grid transmission infrastructure.

As a result, EirGrid initiated The South Coast Offshore Transmission Project ([‘Powering Up Offshore South Coast’](#)) which is the first state-led offshore renewable electricity connection in Ireland.

As part of the South Coast Offshore Transmission Project, EirGrid plans to develop offshore electricity substations and associated undersea electricity cables. This new infrastructure will bring the power generated by offshore windfarms into our national electricity grid. This will help deliver up to 900 MWs of additional electricity generated by offshore wind farms off Ireland's south coast.

(For more information on the planned engagements with regards to this project please see our chapter on public engagement.)

Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment (DETE) engagement

EirGrid recognises the considerable multifaceted economic opportunity which the development of offshore renewables presents to Ireland and as such we remain active members of the DETE Offshore Wind Industry Forum.

In addition, as part of the commitments made under Powering Prosperity, EirGrid is working with other state agencies, Enterprise Ireland and the IDA. A Memorandum of Understanding was agreed with IDA and Enterprise Ireland in March 2025 to formally this co-operation and to mutually ensure that the economic impact of offshore wind development is best harnessed for Irish companies.

Wider stakeholder engagement

EirGrid continues to engage with stakeholders across Ireland to discuss the potential for offshore development and listen to stakeholder views. This includes engagements with national, regional and local authorities and development bodies, industry associations and academia. Our activities in the coming

business year also includes further engagement with ports to establish a storage location for spare subsea cables to support future offshore operations.

EirGrid also works with stakeholders such as the Sustainable Energy Authority Ireland (SEAI), the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) and specialist HVDC (High Voltage Direct Current) equipment manufacturers in carrying out technical reviews of offshore requirements, and to help identify and develop solutions that might be used to enable Irish offshore generation development.

For example, we are working closely with SEAI on its Decarbonised Electricity System Study (DESS) to model future network requirements.

Offshore Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (ORESS) Auctions engagement

The ORESS Auctions Team meets regularly with DCEE, CRU and EirGrid key stakeholders to agree the design, rules and eligibility of the Offshore Renewable Support Scheme Auction. Regular engagements like these are vital to ensure the pipeline and delivery of RES-E as per the Government Climate Action Plan and EirGrid's Shaping our Electricity Future roadmap.

(For more information on our auction engagements, please see our chapter on operating and developing the grid and market.)

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Enterprise Ireland and the IDA

As outlined in the Government's 'Powering Prosperity - Ireland's Offshore Wind Industrial Strategy', this MoU aims to deepen cooperation and collaboration between the three agencies, to support the development of the Irish offshore wind sector, with a focus on attracting inwards investments, enhancing opportunities for companies in the offshore wind sector, including training in the area of public procurement tendering, and building the supply chain required for the delivery of Ireland's target of 37 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind energy by 2050.

Environment and biodiversity engagement

EirGrid engages regularly with international, national, and regional forums on specific matters of environmental practice, legislation and policy, and technical innovation. Key Stakeholders include the Offshore Coalition for Energy and Nature, the Renewable Grid Initiative, the Department of Housing, Local Government, and Heritage, and the Environmental Protection Agency. In response to the twinned climate and biodiversity emergency, and enabled by EirGrid, biodiversity is a particular focus of these engagements.

Engagement with fishing communities

EirGrid's dedicated Fisheries Liaison Officer engages with the fishing community specifically on future offshore projects. The fishers are a key stakeholder in the development of offshore energy. EirGrid is also part of the Seafood ORE Working Group - a group established by Government to facilitate discussion on matters arising from the interaction of the seafood and offshore renewable energy industries, promoting best practice and encouraging liaison with other sectors in the marine environment.

(For more information this, please see our chapter on public engagement.)

Implementation

Phase one

DCEE Taskforce engagements

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Complete and report on all actions assigned to EirGrid for 2026 in Offshore Wind Energy Programme (OWEP) Workstream 5	Offshore Wind Energy Programme (OWEP): EirGrid manages the delivery of actions under Workstream 5 Grid Development / Licencing of the OWEP in consultation with CRU and DCEE. This workstream plays a key role in the development of the grid-related aspects (offshore grid development and delivery including licencing and regulatory aspects) required for the delivery of Government offshore wind energy targets. The workstream also monitors the delivery of the required onshore grid upgrades. In 2026, our work will include: - Monthly engagements with CRU and DCEE. - Monthly representation at the Government Taskforce meeting. Provision of quarterly progress updates to DCEE for publication on their website.	Offshore Wind Energy Programme (OWEP): As a key contributor, EirGrid plays a vital role within the OWEP taskforce. Our mission is to achieve not only the objectives of the taskforce but to maintain effective stakeholder engagement throughout, to ensure continued alignment, clear and consistent communications, problem solving, transparency and timely delivery. We are also working collaboratively to ensure we identify any changes, risks and issues relating to the workstream and report back on these as early as possible.
Sharing offshore progress information with industry bodies	Progress information sessions: In 2026, EirGrid will continue to engage with industry representatives every two months.	Progress information sessions: Led by EirGrid, these engagements are a vital form of collaboration between our organisation and industry representatives, allowing us to share progress as well as answer any questions they have as a result.

Connection agreements

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Engage with CRU in relation to regulation of connection agreement documentation	Regulation of connection agreement documentation: In 2025, EirGrid issued Connection Agreement documents for the Phase 1 offshore wind farm connections to CRU for regulatory approval. Throughout 2025 and part of 2026, we will have biweekly engagements with CRU to support CRU in this regulatory approval.	Regulation of connection agreement documentation: These engagements are vital for the regulation of the Connection Agreement documentation as we work towards achieving our offshore targets.

Connection offer to be issued to Phase 1 Projects	Connection offers: EirGrid will hold monthly engagements with Phase 1 Projects to provide updates in relation to their Connection Agreements.	Connection offers: Through these engagements, EirGrid aims to produce the project specific Connection Agreements for each of the Phase 1 Projects.
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Offshore Asset Readiness Plan Engagements

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Work with state entities to understand developments in the marine industries and build strong relationships	Marine engagements: In 2026, EirGrid will engage with Irish Lights on a quarterly basis. Irish Lights provide an essential maritime safety service around the coast of Ireland.	Marine engagements: Through these engagements, EirGrid will collaborate with Irish Lights on future plans to ensure marine activities are in line with requirements (set out by Irish Lights) with respect to aids to navigation.
Build relationships in the European TSO and offshore service provider space	Engagement with other TSOs: In 2026, EirGrid will continue to engage with other TSOs via the OTC (on a quarterly basis).	Engagement with other TSOs: Through these engagements, EirGrid can exchange expertise to support a streamlined and innovative approach to our role within offshore delivery. These engagements will also help us gain a better understanding of contracting arrangements and developments in operation and maintenance regimes around Europe.
Collaborate on training and development requirements	Training and Development Programme: In 2026, EirGrid will engage with the National Maritime College of Ireland to collaborate on skills and training requirements for EirGrid as we move into our new role in offshore.	Training and Development Programme: Through these engagements, EirGrid is aiming to understand how best we can build out our workforce as well as enhance our capabilities to ensure we can continue to support Government climate objectives.

Supply chain, procurement and market engagement

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Market engagement with both domestic and international markets to generate interest from suppliers and contractors for the Readiness Procurement Programme	Market engagement: In 2026, EirGrid will continue to proactively engage via relevant industry events such as: - Enterprise Ireland Offshore Wind Forum. - Wind Energy Trade Shows.	Market engagement: These industry and market engagements will be vital in supporting EirGrid in meeting our offshore goals. These engagements will give us a greater understanding of:

	EirGrid will also publish various notifications to the marketplace, identifying which procurement activities are being planned and the timelines involved. EirGrid will arrange various ‘meet the buyer’ events to align with the Readiness Procurement Programme, while looking to engage with the Domestic, European and International markets.	• Technological advancements. • Market demand and trends. • Cost and contracting models. They will also help us ensure robust competition exists and where appropriate, develop and utilise the domestic supply market for the future of offshore wind.
Commence procurement activities for various Offshore Wind Operations, Inspection and Maintenance Services	Procurement activities: In 2026, EirGrid will engage via the following: • One-to-one targeted engagement sessions with suppliers. • Enterprise Ireland and Wind Energy Ireland forums to engage Local and European suppliers. • Meet the buyer events prior to commencing full procurement process.	Procurement activities: These engagements will support the timely and effective execution of the OARP procurement plan and associated contract award requirements between 2026 and 2029. They will also ensure suitably qualified suppliers and supply chain (Local and European) are engaged, focusing on appropriate utilisation of local resources and organisations through direct, subcontract or partnership arrangements.

Phase 1 Coordination Group Engagement

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Continue to run five separate working groups with the Phase 1 Projects (Technical, Legal & regulatory, asset readiness, TSO operational compliance and health & safety)	Phase 1 Project working groups: Through 2026, EirGrid will continue to hold collective, regular meetings with Phase 1 Projects to track progress of the Phase 1 Coordination deliverables (across working groups). The Phase 1 Coordination plan was agreed collectively with industry. In response to stakeholder feedback, EirGrid has implemented two additional, regular engagements which aim to monitor the initiatives taking place across these five core groups. These engagements will continue throughout 2026.	Phase 1 Project working groups: In doing these, we aim to meet all the requirements, actions and milestones set out in the phase 1 coordination plan. We will also support the Phase 1 projects progress under each of the working group headings with a focus on consistent collaboration as well as building stronger relationships. The two new additional engagements have been created in response to stakeholder feedback. Through these additional layers of engagement, we aim to resolve any challenges while ensuring efficiency. These engagements are directly fed

		into by EirGrid senior management.
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Planned individual project engagements

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Engage collaboratively with Phase 1 Offshore Developers through planned project communication channels	Phase 1 Offshore Developer engagement: In 2026, engagement will include: • Monthly bilateral progress meetings with phase 1 developers to review milestones, identify risks and track actions. • Dedicated workshops with phase 1 developers on project specific risks, requirements and integration needs. • Collaboration with Phase 1 developers through use of an Integrated Document Management System (IDMS) for performance of TSO due diligence activities. • Regular and timely responses to requests for information to support shared understanding and resolve complex queries. • Expansion of points of contact for engagement with EirGrid in specific project areas such as Contract Administration, Asset Design, Grid Integration, Asset Management, Asset Acquisition and Network Design.	Phase 1 Offshore Developer engagement: Through close, timely and regular collaboration with the Phase 1 developers, we're working to ensure Offshore Phase 1 Infrastructure is designed and planned so as to have a smooth and compliant integration with the Irish Transmission System. By working together, we ensure best practice is achieved across all of our deliverables which is why regular and timely communication forms such a large part of our work. This results in consistent alignment on programme status and early identification of delivery risks through open dialogue. We bring together technical experts so that messaging is both accurate and direct leading to accelerated resolution of technical issues. The IDMS brings improved information flow, reduced duplication and high-quality records and data are available for decision making. This coupled with regular and ongoing engagements helps to ensure project designs are compliant with EirGrid Functional Specifications and that these can continue to be met during the detailed design stage. Finally, monitoring the Grid Connection Programme forecasts and outcomes is also an important element to these engagements as this helps us to identify risks or barriers to Government targets.

Phase two

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Survey the Tonn Nua area as outlined in the DCEE SC-DMAP as well as cable corridors and potential landing points	Marine survey works: In 2026, EirGrid will engage with local communities and marine stakeholders on planned survey works to update them on project developments, dates and any changes. Engagement will also include the Seafood Working group as well as local authorities and coastal planning authorities.	Marine survey works: Through regular engagement with key community and marine stakeholders, EirGrid aims to ensure all those who may be impacted by the marine surveys are kept up to date with the latest developments and have the opportunity to ask questions as well as raise any concerns.
Developer engagement post ORESS Tonn Nua Offshore Wind Auction	ORESS Tonn Nua: In 2026, EirGrid will commence our engagement with the successful developers. There will be monthly progress meetings and other ad hoc engagements as required.	ORESS Tonn Nua: These engagements will allow for the exchange of relevant information (Schedule, Technical and other) with the successful developer, as well as support project alignment and progress.
Engage with local authorities and other statutory bodies	Engage with local authorities: In 2026, EirGrid will continue to engage with local authorities and other statutory bodies as and when required to support the offshore project development process.	Engage with local authorities: Collaboration is vital for ensuring the smooth delivery of offshore infrastructure. As part of this focus, EirGrid will provide clear and timely updates to relevant agencies while adhering to all licencing requirements.
Attend industry focused conferences	Industry focused conferences: In 2026, EirGrid will be attending important industry-focused conferences across Europe including key industry events such as Wind Europe.	Industry focused conferences: Attending these conferences will give EirGrid vital opportunities to meet suppliers as well as other TSOs, so that we can provide updates on our plans on offshore and engage with the market. We will also be working with governmental and trade bodies to support Ireland's offshore ambitions.
Attend Wind Energy Ireland trade events	Wind Energy Ireland trade events: EirGrid will attend Wind Energy Ireland trade events throughout 2026.	Wind Energy Ireland trade events: In line with our conference attendances, Wind Energy Ireland's trade events will allow us to meet suppliers and engage with the market, to support our role in connecting electricity generation infrastructure.

Other working groups

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Engage with ENTSO-E on offshore related matters	ENTSO-E engagement: Planned EirGrid engagement within ENTSO-E for 2026 is aimed to deliver on our obligations with the production of the Ten-Year Network Development Plan (TYNDP) and the Offshore Network Development Plan (ONDP) as mandated under EU legislation. Furthermore, we aim to address the key challenges facing the European power sector. Key workstreams already scheduled for 2026 include: • Finalisation of the ONDPs identifying the offshore infrastructure corridors required to deliver on the non-binding European offshore renewable energy goals. • Finalisation of the TYNDPs, the strategic planning documents addressing the broader development of the European transmission network over the next decade. • Supporting the delivery of the TYNDP, we intend to participate in workgroups to develop methodologies to assess equitable allocation of costs and benefits between member states. • Supporting the delivery of the TYNDP, we will participate in the working groups focused on developing and modelling the TYNDP 2026 model to underpin planning. • Collectively develop regional investment plans to facilitate the infrastructure deployment associated with the ONDPs.	ENTSO-E engagement: EirGrid's continued engagement through ENTSO-E ensures Irish renewables and offshore generation capacities are considered in determining European resources and will ultimately contribute to European goals. The 2026 TYNDP will provide a strategic overview of the required development of the European transmission network for the next 10 years and our inclusion in creating the plan ensures our needs are included and projects positioned for PCI/PMI status. The 2026 ONDP is envisaged as part of the TYNDP to identify the offshore infrastructure required to deliver the Pan-European non-binding offshore renewable energy targets. By participating in the development of the ONDP, EirGrid ensures our offshore wind ambitions are integrated with the wider EU planning on offshore corridors and hybrid interconnector options.
OTC, working groups	Offshore TSO engagement: The OTC association of Northern Seas TSOs, have a mandate under the North Seas Energy Cooperation (NSEC) to coordinate the development and integration of offshore electricity infrastructure in our collective sea-basin. The focus of attention for 2026 is	Offshore TSO engagement: Through continued inclusion within this group, EirGrid benefits from a knowledge sharing forum, ensuring Irish offshore resources form an integral part of the group's goals.

	currently under consideration, but is envisaged to include as a minimum the following: • Expert Paper IV. • GridMap V2 and development of regional planning initiatives. • Development of financing and cost sharing structures to facilitate equitable offshore development.	In addition, the GridMap work strengthens co-operation between European TSOs (including GB) to coordinate and identify cost-effective offshore transmission solutions. 2026 will see the group publish their Expert Paper IV focusing on cost sharing, financing and funding options for regional planning initiatives. Our contribution to this strengthens Ireland's influence on developing relevant policy.
Bilateral work with other TSOs	• Additional European engagement: The focus of attention for 2026 is still in development, however following from currently open workstreams, it will include continued bilateral assessment of opportunities for future interconnection, with a focus on hybrid solutions that could enhance Ireland's integration with neighbouring markets.	Additional European engagement: This work identifies potential projects that would provide routes to market for Irish offshore wind and increased security of supply to the Irish electricity system.
Engagement with DCEE on Offshore Transmission Policy Development	Supporting Government policy: DCEE continues to develop its Offshore Transmission Strategy (OTS). With a wider industry consultation planned for late 2025, it is anticipated that the OTS will be finalised and published in 2026. EirGrid will continue to support DCEE with development of the OTS.	Supporting Government policy: The Offshore Transmission Strategy (OTS) sets the direction for further cross-border interconnection projects and the framework for how these projects are taken forward. EirGrid's input looks to ensure that wider Irish offshore transmission development, and the individual projects that make this up are aligned to onshore transmission requirements and to wider European transmission development.

For more information on our Phase 1 offshore stakeholder engagement please get in touch via [our contact page here](#) (Put 'Phase 1 Offshore' in the subject'. For information on Phase 2 offshore engagement, email southcoastoffshore@eirgrid.ie

Our partnership with the Transmission Asset Owner (TAO)

Overview

EirGrid and ESB Networks have clearly defined roles and responsibilities in relation to the transmission network, as set out in an Infrastructure Agreement.

EirGrid in its role as Transmission System Operator (TSO) is responsible for operating and ensuring the maintenance and development of a safe, secure and reliable electricity transmission system now and in the future. To achieve this, EirGrid continues to develop, manage and operate the electricity transmission grid. Additionally, EirGrid now has a mandate to operate, develop and own Ireland's offshore grid.

ESB is the Transmission Asset Owner (TAO) and its business unit ESB Networks carries out the licensed onshore TAO functions. ESB Networks is responsible for delivering the detailed design, construction and maintenance of the onshore transmission network, as identified by EirGrid.

We work closely to ensure that all steps in the operation, development and construction of grid infrastructure are carried out as safely, securely, efficiently and cost effectively as possible. We're always working to further enhance collaboration and cooperation between EirGrid and ESB Networks to the benefit of all our customers.

Strategy

The principal engagement channels between the EirGrid and ESB Networks in the Grid Infrastructure Delivery area include joint committees, closely aligned teams, specialist working groups and digital workspaces to deliver on annual and multi-year programmes of work, such as the Network Delivery Portfolio (NDP) the Transmission Outage Programme (TOP) and the Joint Outage Transformation Programme (JOTP).

Network Delivery Portfolio (NDP)

Currently, the NDP provides stakeholders and industry with an up-to-date programmatic view of the ongoing and pipeline transmission capital projects which span the period 2023-2030. The NDP provides a quarterly status update on the 3 key milestones of EirGrid Capital Approval, Project Agreement with ESB Networks and Energisation for these projects. As we approach the next Price Review period, PR6, the NDP will evolve and resemble a wider integrated transmission programme. The TSO and TAO are currently in discussions with the CRU to develop this programme of works that will enhance reporting and digital collaboration.

Transmission Outage Programme (TOP)

Successful outage management is a key enabler for the delivery of transmission infrastructure at pace and is a critical issue for the delivery of the Irish Government's Climate Action Plan (CAP), to operate at up to 80% renewable energy, in line with Government targets.

The Transmission Outage Programme is a joint programme between EirGrid and ESB Networks for all outages of transmission infrastructure planned for the upcoming year. The goal of our outage planning programme is to maximise the amount of capital and maintenance work achievable within a given year while ensuring the transmission system is operated economically and within operational security standards. There are ongoing engagements, processes and programmes of work between the two companies to ensure that the annual TOP programme is effectively developed and delivered.

During the PR5 period, the TOP programme was measured annually through the TOP metric in the TSO's investment planning and delivery incentive. As we transition from the PR5 to PR6 period, the TOP metric will move from a TSO only metric to a joint TSO / TAO incentive with a focus on the joint development and delivery of the annual programme.

Joint Outage Transformation Programme (JOTP)

Outage management is a critical issue for the delivery of the Irish government’s Climate Action Plan (CAP). It is also an area that is very challenging for several reasons such as the exceptional scale and pace of change needed to deliver new infrastructure.

EirGrid and ESB Networks have been working closely on this as a priority. Our [Joint Outage Transformation Programme \(JOTP\)](#) is underway and delivering positive impacts. The JOTP consists of 7 workstreams with 18 interventions to increase outage availability, maximise utilisation and effectiveness of outages. These interventions will be developed and deployed as business as usual (BAU) processes to optimise outage management. Joint TSO and TAO workstream leads have been responsible for and collaborate on each workstream. The JOTP aspires to provide additional outage availability and increase the utilisation of outages taken on the system.

TSO/TAO Multi-Year Joint Incentive Plan

Throughout PR5, EirGrid and ESB Networks have developed the PR5 Joint Incentive Multi-Year Plans as required per CRU/20/154. The TSO/TAO have previously published Joint Incentive Multi-Year Plans for the periods 2021, 2022-2026, 2023-2027, 2024-2028 and 2025-2029. The aim of the Joint TSO/TAO incentive is to promote efficiencies through enhanced collaboration and innovation in delivery of transmission network improvements. The Joint TSO/TAO incentives have been further enhanced for PR6 with the addition of the new TOP Delivery Incentive and the inclusion of joint project development metrics for the TSO and TAO. The details will be agreed in Q4 2025 as part of the CRU’s PR6 Final Determination.

Work is underway between EirGrid and ESB Networks to collectively define the joint TSO/TAO incentives for PR6 and further collaboration will be important in 2026 to deliver strong joint incentive performance outcomes on an annual basis.

Working groups / Fora

TAO/TSO Joint Committees

There are a number of Joint TSO/TAO committees in operation which are outlined below. These committees provide channels of regular joint Governance, engagement and collaboration on project and programme development and delivery issues.

TAO/TSO Joint Committees							
Committee	Operational Services Committee	Network Delivery Committee	Maintenance Policy & Standards Committee	Procurement Strategy Committee	TSO-DSO Committee	Health & Safety Committee	External Engagement Committee

Infrastructure Delivery Charter

The senior leadership of EirGrid and ESB Networks approved the Infrastructure Delivery Charter in January 2021. This Charter sets out the principles by which the two organisations engage with each other and underlines a shared commitment to working together with enhanced collaboration. To support the implementation of the Charter, a Network Delivery Committee (NDC) and a reconstituted Joint Project Management Office (JPMO) were established.

Network Delivery Committee (NDC)

The Network Delivery Committee (NDC) provides joint strategic management oversight and governance for end-to-end project delivery and improvements. Providing a channel of regular joint engagement and collaboration to ensure project delivery is operating effectively and where necessary influencing and implementing strategic direction at Programme level.

Joint Programme Management Office

The key purpose of the JPMO is to improve PR6 end-to end delivery, accelerate the delivery of the 2030 programme and ensure the timely delivery of all key milestones from EirGrid's Indicative Programme to Project Energisation. The operation of a Joint Programme Management Office (JPMO) and other agreed processes are important aspects of TSO/TAO cooperation and collaboration to identify and implement improvements that assist in improving and increasing project delivery.

Implementation

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Network Delivery Portfolio	Stakeholder Engagement: Quarterly updates will be published on the Customer and Industry section of EirGrid's website in accordance with PR6 requirements. Department of Climate, Energy & the Environment (DCEE) Annual report, (CAP) submitted to DCEE, outlining the large-scale onshore grid development projects to be delivered in the next year.	Ensures transparency with our stakeholders by providing a regular status update on the key milestones of EirGrid Capital Approval, Project Agreement with ESB Networks and Energisation for these projects. EirGrid teams regularly engage with teams in ESB Networks to ensure that projects are developed, scoped, designed and constructed in a timely manner.
Transmission Outage Programme (TOP)	Stakeholder Engagement: Annual updates are published on the Customer and Industry section of EirGrid's website ² .	Provides a channel to communicate and engage with all stakeholders, providing a transparent programme of outage works for the upcoming year.

² [Outages | Customer Information | EirGrid](#)

	TAO/TSO Engagement: Ongoing collaboration to develop Joint TAO/TSO programme for all planned outages of transmission infrastructure planned for the upcoming year.	Ensures effective stakeholder engagement and communications, which raise awareness of our planned outage programme for the upcoming year.
Joint Outage Transformation Programme (JOTP):	TAO/TSO Engagements: - Formal Joint Outage Transformation Programme (JOTP) governance arrangements are in place with representatives from the TSO and TAO routinely engaging in weekly, monthly, quarterly, half-yearly and annual cycles. These governance forums include Executive-level oversight, Steering Group and Workstream-level groups. - Joint TSO/TAO engagement on a day-to-day basis throughout JOTP. - Continued communications and engagements with stakeholders on all elements of the plan and actively seeking support in resourcing and implementing all the measures. Project Delivery Workstream Focused on enhancing work practices and optimising working hours and resource deployment across the project lifecycle to offer significant opportunities to maximise work delivery within the available outage window(s). Transmission System Workstream Working across the TAO/TSO to adopt a revised risk-based approach to system studies and operation of the power system when circuit outage requests are planned and during the outage periods. Programme Workstream Are working to implementation of a totally integrated (TSO TAO) programme out to 2030 that provides clarity and transparency regarding the programme, which can be resourced appropriately by the TSO and TAO, and	The JOTP Workstream Engagements will deliver the aims and objectives of the JOTP for 2026 which will be tracked and reported on as part of the Joint TSO/TAO Incentive Multi-Year Plan 2026 and the Annual Performance Report. Ensures effective stakeholder engagement and communications on the JOTP which is a key delivery enabler for Transmission Projects and Outcomes Ensures transparency with our stakeholders by providing regular status updates on the progress of the JOTP.

	managed from a budget, risk and schedule perspective. Regulatory Workstream This group is examining TAO and TSO existing infrastructure delivery and outage related incentive frameworks and proposing revised incentive arrangements to enhance TAO and TSO alignment and to drive collaboration and performance outcomes. Policy Workstream Are looking to reduce the outage demands presented by programmed maintenance by a gradual transition from a time-based maintenance delivery model to risk based model. Information & Technology Workstream Is working to deliver digital transformation to realise and maximise outage-based and joint data-driven decisions spanning across the upstream activities of EirGrid to the downstream activities managed by ESB Networks.	
	Customer and Industry Workstream JOTP specific engagements are also delivered by the TAO/TSO throughout the year with a number of lobby groups including: • Shaping our Electric Future Advisory Council (SOEF AC) • Wind Energy Ireland (WEI) • Irish Solar Energy Association (ISEA) • Joint WEI & ISEA	The JOTP Customer and Industry Working Group provides a channel to raise customer awareness, improve the quality of contestable builds, and ensure program ownership by all stakeholders. As part of this workstream in 2026, there are several workshops planned to enhance engagement with industry. These workshops will intend to review and implement project delivery improvements where possible through collaboration between EirGrid, ESB Networks and industry. For 2026 there are several new initiatives being planned to develop lessons learned and

		process manuals to ensure all stakeholders are aware of the requirements to successfully deliver projects.
	Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU) Updates on the programme process are submitted to CRU on a bi-annual and annual basis. For PR6 we will provide quarterly reporting to the CRU on the progress of strategic projects within the portfolio. Department of Climate, Energy & the Environment (DCEE) Updates on the programme process are submitted to DCEE on a quarterly and annual basis.	Regular communications with CRU and DCEE ensure the successful delivery of joint TSO/TAO incentives in PR6 to deliver our ambitious programme for grid delivery and transformation, including new connections and asset management.
TSO and TAO Joint Incentives	The TSO and TAO will develop joint Multi Year Plans to CRU , focusing on network project delivery targets in four separate areas: • Deployment of New Technology • Asset and Programme Data Exchange. • Joint Process Improvements and engagement forums include: Outage Transformation Programme • New Project Development metrics which will be developed and implemented by the TSO and TAO	It is expected that these incentives will remain in place in 2026 as part of PR6 and will be agreed in Q4 2025. The focus for PR6 is to enhance the joint incentives for Project Development and Joint Outage Management.
Digital Collaboration	TAO/TSO Engagements: TAO/TSO are committed to optimising collaboration arrangements for digital information exchange to support the delivery of transmission network investment in PR6.	Enables increased knowledge sharing which aids the delivery of projects and programmes, accelerating our ability to deliver infrastructure at pace. Progression towards a fully co-ordinated joint digital information exchange project which delivers on the Asset and Programme Data exchange. Increased ability to ensure alignment with stakeholder

		targets, increasing stakeholder confidence.
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For more information on our engagement with ESB Networks please get in touch via [our contact page here](#) (with 'ESB Networks engagement' in the subject).

Our partnership with the Distribution System Operator (DSO)

Overview

ESB Networks holds the licence as the electricity Distribution System Operator (DSO) in Ireland. In order to effectively manage the energy transition, the DSO requires continuous and effective engagement from EirGrid, in our role as Transmission System Operator (TSO).

Our collaboration with ESB Networks for 2025 to 2029, is detailed in the [DSO-TSO Multi Year Plan 2025-2029](#). This multi-year plan details the key tasks and milestones that both system operators will be working towards.

Also under this plan, EirGrid and ESB Networks are working together to further progress the future TSO/DSO Operating Model. This Operating Model aims to enable better management of the system and enhanced coordination between the system operators. This enhanced management and coordination are key to achieving Government climate objectives.

Strategy

Joint System Operator Programme (JSOP)

The Joint System Operator Programme (JSOP) was established in 2021 by the TSO and DSO to ensure that the system operators are working together in a collaborative and effective manner to jointly address system needs and deliver whole system solutions. The programme has a robust governance structure to ensure continuous engagement between the system operators. This includes weekly project management meetings, as well as monthly management meetings and quarterly executive meetings, as well as ad-hoc arrangements, as required.

TSO-DSO Operating Model Working Group

In order to advance progress on the TSO-DSO Operating Model, representatives will continue to meet regularly through the TSO-DSO Operating Model Working Group. The aim of this group is to progress core operating model design activities and design the required developments for implementation.

SOEF Advisory Council

The DSO is represented on the Shaping Our Electricity Future (SOEF) Advisory Council and likewise EirGrid is represented on ESB Networks' Distribution Markets and System Operation (DMSO) Advisory Council.

Quarterly executive meeting

These quarterly executive meetings allow our continued alignment with ESB Networks as DSO across a number of strategic objectives. Together, the TSO and DSO use these engagements to share updates and address key issues.

Risk preparedness and emergency planning

At EirGrid, we plan and implement a multi-year risk preparedness and emergency planning programme, working closely with our key stakeholders, namely DCEE, CRU, Energy Sector agencies (Gas Networks

Ireland, ESBN, and the National Oil Reserves Agency (NORA)), the Office of Emergency Planning, customers, market participants, and government Sector Departments.

(For more information on this, please see our chapter on security of supply.)

Infrastructure Agreement Operations Panel Meeting

EirGrid and ESB Networks engage regularly via the Infrastructure Agreement Operations Panel Meetings to coordinate operational aspects of the transmission and distribution systems including outages, emergency planning, procedures and number of other initiatives.

The above engagements are in addition to all of the other regular engagements that EirGrid and ESB Networks undertake to ensure continued, close coordination of the planning and operation of the Transmission and Distribution Systems.

Implementation

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Joint System Operator Programme (JSOP) collaboration to jointly address system needs and deliver whole of system solutions	Joint System Operator Programme (JSOP) collaboration: In 2026, EirGrid and ESB Networks will continue to collaborate via the following engagements: • Weekly Project Delivery Forum. • Weekly Operating Model Working Group. • Joint workshops between EirGrid and ESB Networks SMEs as required • Monthly Management Liaison Board (MLB). • Monthly Leadership Update. • Quarterly Discussion Board. • Informal day-to-day interactions.	Joint System Operator Programme (JSOP) collaboration: Through our engagements with the DSO, we have been able to jointly plan, align and actively manage actions. With regard to our progress on the Joint System Operator Programme (JSOP), in 2026, we aim to deliver the following outcomes: • DSO/TSO collaboration on Qualification Trial Process (QTP) trial(s) following annual QTP process (depending on regulatory decision). • Validate operating protocol for Distributed Energy Resources (DER) control in line with DSO/TSO operating model. • Stand up working group on controllability of renewable generation behind the meter (led by ESBN).

		• Coordinating 'Behind the Meter Standards' and dispatch architecture. • Transition reactive power management to an enduring state and incorporate into BAU. • Develop a standardised protocol for flexible generation connections from renewables to be enduring in line with TSO-DSO Operating Model design. • Update of the power system restoration process.
Develop future TSO-DSO Operating Model	Develop future TSO-DSO Operating Model: In 2026, EirGrid and ESB Networks will continue to hold joint workshops to progress the core operating model design activities while scoping the required activities for implementation.	Develop future TSO-DSO Operating Model: Through our close collaboration, EirGrid and ESB Networks will continue to focus on TSO-DSO operating model design and implementation plan. In 2026, we aim to: • Develop and agree Phase 2 (enduring solution) of Operating Model Detailed Design completed. • Update implementation plan following Phase 1 (interim solution) Detailed Design and Phase 2 High Level Design. • Implement Phase 1 of the Operating Model (Indicative date, to be updated following completion of Detailed Design Phase 1). • Develop functional / technical specification

		documentation for system requirements to implement TSO-DSO Operating Model.
Re-engage industry on the future TSO-DSO Operating Model	Re-engage industry on the future TSO-DSO Operating Model: EirGrid and ESB Networks will continue to hold Industry Briefing Webinars on the future TSO-DSO Operating Model as we approach our Phase 1 (interim solution) in 2027 and Phase 2 (enduring solution) in 2029.	Re-engage industry on the future TSO-DSO Operating Model: Through these engagements, EirGrid and ESB Networks are able to jointly ensure industry feedback is invited and considered, so that we can build the best possible model while driving positive outcomes for all.
Continued engagement with Government and CRU	Continued engagement with DCEE and CRU: EirGrid and ESB Networks will continue to hold briefings on our progress with both CRU and DCEE. These briefing sessions are jointly hosted by EirGrid and ESB Networks.	Continued engagement with DCEE and CRU: These engagements give the TSO and DSO an opportunity to update Government and CRU on the following: CRU: • Future plans for industry engagement and feedback from previous webinar. • Providing opportunity for feedback. DCEE: • Background to the topic and relevance of the TSO/DSO Operating Model • Overview of proposed operating model high level design and worked examples.

For more information on our engagement with ESB Networks please get in touch via [our contact page here](#) (with 'ESB Networks engagement' in the subject).

Security of supply

Overview

EirGrid is responsible for a safe, secure and reliable supply of electricity - now and in the future. We operate, develop and enhance the electricity grid and market, leading Ireland's transition to a low carbon renewable energy future.

Ireland's energy demands are monitored by EirGrid's National Control Centre which carefully balances supply and demand at all times. EirGrid will continue to meet the needs of electricity demand growth in Ireland as it manages a complex and evolving supply-demand dynamic. While the system adequacy situation has improved with the addition of new capacity and the introduction of non-market emergency generation, maintaining the balance between supply and demand may at times remain tight.

Having embedded initiatives developed under the CRU Security of Supply Programme in normal business processes, EirGrid will in 2026 continue to focus on ensuring a secure supply and pursuing continual improvements in its risk preparedness and emergency response processes.

We plan and implement a multi-year risk preparedness and emergency planning programme, working closely with our key stakeholders, namely DCEE, CRU, Energy Sector agencies (GNI, ESBN, and NORA), as well as the Office of Emergency Planning, customers, market participants, and government Sector Departments.

This programme includes proactive communication on the system outlook over various time frames (real-time, week-ahead, seasonally, and for a 10-year horizon).

Strategy

System adequacy and capacity market auctions

EirGrid closely monitors and supports the delivery of successful capacity market auction projects (see our chapter on Operating and developing the grid and market for more details on these). Where the delivery of this capacity is anticipated to not meet the needs of the system, we recommend actions to be taken to address these.

Temporary emergency generation and retention of existing units capacity market auctions

EirGrid has since 2021 led the procurement of two tranches of Temporary Emergency Generation (TEG) totalling 650 Megawatts which operate outside of the market arrangements in line with the requirements of article 16(2) of the EU Regulation on Risk Preparedness in the Electricity Sector.

EirGrid also led a programme of work with ESB to extend the operation of older generators for security of supply. From 1 July 2025 three units at Moneypoint (totalling 750 MW) operate outside of the market arrangements in line with the requirements of the Regulation.

We monitor the power system in real-time and work with the operators of these units ensure that these units are tested and that the protocols are in place for these to be dispatched when system conditions require.

Risk preparedness

We support the CRU in developing the Risk Preparedness Plan (RPP) for Ireland every 4 years, as required under the Regulation on Risk Preparedness in the Electricity Sector. and participation in the National Risk Assessment (NRA) for Ireland every 3 years.

EirGrid is also active at a European level in various steering and working structures in the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E) related to risk preparedness and emergency planning. This has included working with the CRU on the identification of regional electricity crisis scenarios, as required under [Regulation \(EU\) 2019/941](#).

EirGrid participates in two bi-annual stakeholder meetings on emergency planning, namely the multi-agency Gas and Electricity Emergency Planning forum (GEEP) convened by the CRU, and the UK / Ireland Gas and Electricity Security of Supply forum.

Emergency preparedness

A programme of emergency simulation exercises is outlined in the Risk Preparedness Plan for Ireland. This programme addresses both operational and multi-stakeholder exercises.

We have successfully led annual multi-stakeholder energy sector exercises since 2021, involving DCEE, CRU, Gas Networks Ireland (GNI), the National Oil Reserves Agency (NORA) and ESB Networks to test our emergency response protocols, and incorporate lessons learned and stakeholder feedback from previous exercises.

The energy sector response, led by the Joint Energy Emergency Response Team (JEERT) is outlined in the EirGrid Power System Emergency Communications Plan (PSECP). This plan also addressed integration with the NECG structures and communication requirements with other European stakeholders such as the European Commission (DG Ener), the Electricity Coordination Group (ECG), and European TSOs, through the European Networks of Transmission System Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E).

EirGrid has also supported DCEE in the execution of National Emergency Coordination Group (NECG) exercises in the National Emergency Coordination Centre.

Operational exercises include inter-control room emergency engagements between EirGrid and ESB Networks, as well as emergency instructions and engagements with Large Energy Users (LEUs) and generators.

Collaboration with DCEE, CRU and other operators in the energy sector

EirGrid undertakes an annual review of the Power System Emergency Communication Plan (PSECP), which defines the roles, responsibilities, and protocols for the energy sector in responding to major power system emergencies. The plan includes DCEE, CRU, EirGrid, GNI, ESB Networks, and the National Oil Reserves Agency (NORA). It also outlines how the Operators interact with the National Emergency Coordination Group (NECG) in the event of a crisis in the energy sector.

Collaboration with DCEE and GIS

EirGrid has supported DCEE and the Government Information Service (GIS) in establishing an Energy Emergency Communications sub-group, which is activated under the National Emergency Coordination Group (NECG) in the event of a national emergency. This sub-group continues to be exercised when multi-stakeholder exercises are undertaken with the NECG.

Collaboration with ESB Networks and GNI on crisis communications

Regular and timely communications, coordinated with ESB Networks (as DSO) and GNI, are vital for ensuring the response to incidents on the power system that could impact security of supply in the energy sector. EirGrid works closely with ESB Networks and GNI in enhancing crisis communications protocols and messaging for a variety of potential risks to security of supply.

EirGrid and ESB Networks also regularly update and test our joint crisis messaging plan, which supports the energy sector response to power system emergencies under the Power System Emergency Communications Plan.

System state and outlook communications

EirGrid issues a bi-weekly System Margin Outlook providing customers and market participants with a four-day outlook on the state of the system with regards to available renewable and thermal generation to meet the forecast demand.

EirGrid has also initiated reporting on Net Transfer Capacity reductions implemented on the Interconnector exports at times when the day-ahead margins have been tight.

System Alert and Emergency state communications would be issued in real-time in the event of security of supply concerns. A “Margin Warning” will also be issued to market participants when the available Temporary Emergency Generation units avert Alert or Emergency system states. Market participants will also be advised of margin risks when there is a need to call on Retained Existing Units (Moneypoint 1, 2, and 3).

Implementation

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Risk preparedness and emergency planning	Risk preparedness and emergency planning: At EirGrid, we plan and implement a multi-year risk preparedness and emergency planning programme, as outlined in the Risk Preparedness Plan for Ireland. Working closely with our key stakeholders, namely DCEE, CRU, Energy Sector agencies (GNI, ESBN, and NORA), the Office of Emergency Planning, customers, market participants, and Government sector departments we undertake exercises - including operational exercises (such as inter-control room emergency engagements between EirGrid and ESB Networks and engagements with Large Energy Users and generators), and energy sector emergency coordination exercises.	Risk preparedness and emergency planning: We will continue to support CRU in implementing the updated requirements of the Risk Preparedness Plan as detailed in our Risk preparedness and emergency planning section above. Ultimately, these engagements will help to ensure a smooth response in the event of a national emergency impacting security of supply.
Collaboration with ESB Networks to ensure our capability in responding to incidents on the power system that could impact security of supply	Collaboration with ESB Networks: EirGrid works closely with ESB Networks in enhancing emergency protocols for a variety of potential risks to security of supply. EirGrid and ESB Networks also regularly update and test their joint crisis messaging plan.	Collaboration with ESB Networks: Regular and timely communications with ESB Networks are vital for ensuring the response to incidents on the power system that could impact security of supply. This work includes the continued development of our joint crisis messaging plan to ensure the delivery of consistent messaging to a wider audience including the media and general public.

Engage with Large Energy Users (LEUs) on requirements for demand flexibility and emergency demand reduction	Demand flexibility and emergency demand reduction: EirGrid and CRU will continue to engage with Large Energy Users (LEUs) on requirements for demand flexibility and emergency demand reduction.	Demand flexibility and emergency demand reduction: These engagements allow for the continuous and timely communications with regards to Large Energy Users (LEUs) and mandatory demand curtailment as we continue to balance supply and demand.
System State and Margin messaging	System State and Margin messaging: In 2026, EirGrid will continue to prepare System State and Margin messages as required, should margins deteriorate. This ensures awareness and preparedness by market participants, LEUs, and the public in general.	System State and Margin messaging: These market messages and public communications allow stakeholder insight into the state of the system and to prepare any measures needed in response to such conditions.
Timely publishing of the weekly Systems Margins Outlook report	Systems Margins Outlook report: This is a twice weekly report that provides an early warning signal of system tightness for demand customers. It is published on Mondays and Fridays (with the exception of bank holidays).	Systems Margins Outlook report: EirGrid developed this initiative in response to customer feedback to provide a warning when the system is tight; Demand Side Units (DSU) are likely to be dispatched; and Mandatory Demand Curtailment (MDC) may be invoked. We understand clear and consistent communications are vital and the Systems Margins Outlook report is just one of the ways we endeavour to provide this. Since July 2025, this report includes the contribution of Retained Existing Units (Moneypoint) and Temporary Emergency Generation - providing stakeholders with insights into the contribution that these units make to security of supply.
Timely publishing of the annual Winter Outlook report	Winter Outlook: The Winter Outlook provides an analysis for the security of supply outlook for the coming winter.	Winter Outlook: The Winter Outlook presents a more detailed view than the All-island Resource Adequacy Assessment, focusing on the upcoming winter. It helps to inform the electricity industry on the upcoming balance between supply and demand while supporting joint preparation for the coming months.

Timely publication of the new All-island Resource Adequacy Assessment	All-island Resource Adequacy Assessment: The All-island Resource Adequacy Assessment, specified under Article 24 of Regulation (EU) 2019/943, replaces the annual Generation Capacity Statement (GCS) which forecasts the security of supply outlook over the next 10 years. As part of this process, we engage with stakeholders to consult on the inputs and assumptions we use for the assessment and share the results with them once the analysis is completed. It includes a Plain English Summary to increase the accessibility of the information for our stakeholders, following the positive reception and feedback from our stakeholders in the past.	All-island Resource Adequacy Assessment: This report allows industry, government, regulators and other stakeholders to facilitate the transition to renewable energy, supporting social and economic growth into the future, whilst ensuring the secure and resilient operation of the electricity system. Outputs from this assessment are also used to inform the Single Electricity Market (SEM) Capacity Auctions, a mechanism to ensure that the electricity supply in Ireland and Northern Ireland continues to meet demand into the future.
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For more information on our security of supply stakeholder engagement please get in touch via [our contact page here](#) (put ‘Security of Supply’ in the email subject).

Energy research

Overview

Meeting the energy demands of tomorrow presents many complex challenges and moving towards a more sustainable future requires significant transformation. To meet the energy demands of tomorrow, we will need to work innovatively to identify solutions that are effective while embracing a broad range of new technologies.

Our innovation and research engagement strategy details a framework that:

- Identifies expert research bodies for EirGrid to partner with.
- Identifies Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and research performing organisations (RPOs) that are creating a talent pool of graduates and researchers, to support EirGrid's work and long-term objectives.
- Supports the direction of research across the island of Ireland and Europe.
- Observes research and innovation developments across industry and academia.
- Facilitates the sharing of insights and developments with EirGrid staff.
- Keeps stakeholders informed and fosters innovation across our organisation.

Strategy

Through extensive engagement, EirGrid aims to cultivate innovation across our organisation as well as to ensure we share and gain insights on the latest research to support our progress. These channels include industry advisory boards as well as various academic institutions, forums and panels.

ENTSO-E Research, Development and Innovation Committee

EirGrid is a member of the ENTSO-E Research, Development and Innovation Committee (RDIC). Managed by the Energy Research team, this engagement ensures Irish representation regarding strategic innovation planning across the EU.

Through RDIC, EirGrid:

- Contributes to the RDI Roadmap and Implementation Plan.
- Shares knowledge and develops joint projects with other TSOs.
- Supports standardisation and interoperability for future grid technologies.
- Ensures alignment with European best practices, while supporting national policy and regulatory development.

Innovation report

The [Annual Innovation Report](#) captures EirGrid's progress regarding innovation and research. Before publication, EirGrid conducts a consultation, where stakeholders are invited to review the draft report and respond to specific questions.

Published annually, the report provides a transparent overview of completed and ongoing projects, strategic priorities, and emerging initiatives.

In 2024, we published 17 research papers, worked with over 20 external bodies and captured over 90 ideas in our innovation process. The 2024 report focuses on 32 projects in detail which you can read about [here](#).

EirGrid Research Forum

The EirGrid Research Forum is a cross-functional, internal knowledge-sharing platform that convenes monthly to support, coordinate and prioritise research and innovation across the organisation. It plays a central role in aligning research initiatives with EirGrid's Innovation and Research Strategy, ensuring strategic coherence and cross-departmental collaboration. The Forum is composed of subject matter experts and delegates from various business areas. While the Forum is primarily an internal co-ordination platform, external stakeholders are invited to present relevant research, fostering broader engagement and knowledge exchange. The Forum also issues Letters of Support for promising external research aligned with strategic goals.

Letters of Support

EirGrid has a long tradition of supporting research in Higher Education Institutes (HEIs), Research Performing Organisations (RPOs) and industry. As part of this work, EirGrid routinely provides letters of support for their funding applications and will continue to do this throughout 2026. By assessing and signing letters of support for projects that are particularly relevant to the energy industry, we aim to facilitate research in innovative areas that will go on to support the development of the power system as we work towards to our climate ambitions.

CleanerGrid

CleanerGrid is EirGrid's annual competition for third level students. It engages undergraduate and Master's-level students across Ireland in addressing real-world challenges related to the clean energy transition. Participants are invited to submit technical proposals and compete for prizes awarded to both individuals and their institutions.

The competition culminates in a live finale at EirGrid's offices, where shortlisted teams present to a panel of judges that feature external experts. The event fosters dialogue between students, professionals, and EirGrid staff, and showcases innovative thinking aligned with national and EU energy goals. This initiative strives to raise awareness of the work we do at EirGrid, as well as increase the company's academic engagement while supporting our sustainable energy vision.

EirGrid will host the finale of the third CleanerGrid competition in Q1 2026, followed by the launch of the fourth competition in Q4.

Surveys and feedback mechanisms

Feedback is a critical component of EirGrid's Innovation and Research strategy.

In 2026, insights gathered from participants in the CleanerGrid competition, NETT representatives (The Network of European TSO Trainees), and academic partners will be systematically reviewed to inform and improve future initiatives.

Post-event surveys, informal feedback sessions, and structured debriefs will also be used to assess the effectiveness of engagement activities, identify areas for enhancement, and capture emerging needs from the academic and early-career communities. This feedback loop ensures that EirGrid's innovation and research programmes remain responsive, inclusive, and aligned with stakeholder expectations. By embedding continuous improvement into our engagement processes, we aim to strengthen relationships, increase participation, and deliver greater value to all stakeholders.

PhD open day and networking event

EirGrid periodically hosts PhD networking events to promote our innovation activities, research priorities, and career pathways. This channel supports open dialogue, knowledge sharing and future collaboration.

Thesis show and tell day

EirGrid hosts in-person Thesis Show and Tell Days, inviting students and researchers whose projects have received support from EirGrid (e.g. via letters of Support, funding or collaboration). These events showcase the outcomes of externally supported research and foster direct dialogue between researchers and EirGrid.

Network of European TSO Trainees

In 2026, EirGrid will continue our active participation in the Network of European TSO Trainees (NETT) which is a collaborative initiative that connects early-career professionals across European Transmission System Operators (TSOs).

NETT represents a strategic channel for fostering cross-border knowledge exchange, cultivating future leadership, and strengthening EirGrid's visibility within the European innovation ecosystem. Each year, EirGrid nominates two graduate representatives to join the NETT Board, contributing to initiatives such as NETT Talks (online events featuring energy leaders), the annual NETT Conference, and inter-TSO exchange programmes.

These engagements not only support the professional development of EirGrid's graduates but also ensure that Irish perspectives are represented in shaping the future of energy collaboration in Europe. These engagements allow EirGrid to reinforce our commitment to innovation, diversity, and European collaboration.

Implementation

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Annual Innovation Report Consultation	Annual Report Consultation: In Q1 2026, EirGrid will consult with stakeholders on the 2025 Annual Innovation Report.	Annual Report Consultation: By consulting on our Annual Innovation Report, we invite essential input from key stakeholders such as academia, to help shape and inform our work, as we continue working towards Government climate objectives.
Champion the Emergence of the energy citizen through the EirGrid CleanerGrid competition	CleanerGrid engagement: In 2026, EirGrid's CleanerGrid engagements will include the following: Q1 2026: Host a live finale event attended by external experts as judges. Q4 2026: Launch the fourth annual CleanerGrid competition and promote via career fairs, guest lectures, social media and direct outreach.	CleanerGrid engagement: CleanerGrid is a competition run by EirGrid for third level students. Now in its third year, we created this initiative to raise awareness of the work we do at EirGrid, as well as increase the company's academic engagement while supporting our sustainable energy vision. In 2026, our aim is to grow the CleanerGrid competition while

		building relationships with both universities and students.
Support innovation and research in areas relevant to EirGrid's innovation and research strategy	Letters of support: EirGrid has a long tradition of supporting research in universities as well as research performing organisations and industry. As part of this work, EirGrid routinely provides letters of support for senior researchers for their funding applications and will continue to do this throughout 2026.	Letters of support: These letters of support are used to aid universities, research performing organisations and industry when they are applying for funding. By assessing and signing letters of support for projects that are particularly relevant to the energy industry, we aim to facilitate research in innovative areas that will go on to support the development of the power system as we work towards to our climate ambitions.
Build new academic relationships to further develop our Strategic Innovation Programmes within our innovation and research strategy	Strategic Innovation Programmes: In 2026, we will continue to engage across a number of research performing organisations, academic bodies and industry to continue the progression of our Strategic Innovation Programmes as well as to support our broader objectives spearheading EirGrid's innovation and research strategy.	Strategic Innovation Programmes: Meeting our decarbonisation targets, while providing secure and affordable electricity, will be very challenging and means we will need to redefine the way our energy systems work. EirGrid (and SONI's) Strategic Innovation Programmes capture the crucial areas of innovation and research that we need to focus on to ensure we can respond effectively to these challenges. Find out more about these programmes in our 2024 Annual Innovation Report .
Showcase externally supported research and strengthen academic relationships	Thesis Show and Tell Day: In 2026, EirGrid will host a Thesis Show and Tell Day where students and researchers will be invited to present on work supported by EirGrid.	Thesis Show and Tell Day: These events showcase the outcomes of externally supported research and foster direct dialogue between researchers and EirGrid.
Strengthen Academic Collaboration through PhD Engagement	Academic engagement: In 2026, EirGrid will host two academic engagement events with a focus on future collaboration.	Academic engagement: Through these engagements, EirGrid aims to facilitate knowledge exchange between researchers, PhD students and EirGrid as well as provide networking opportunities.

For more information on our innovation and research stakeholder engagement, please get in touch via [our contact page here](#) (with 'Innovation and Research' in the subject).

Sustainability

Overview

Part of our mission at EirGrid is to lead the island's electricity sector on sustainability and decarbonisation. And we do this through our Group Sustainability Strategy.

EirGrid's sustainability activities are captured across three broad pillars: Environmental, Social and Governance. And our stakeholder engagement activities support the following three objectives:

1) Driving climate action and transformation of the electricity system

Our aims under this pillar are:

- Deliver the secure transition to a low carbon electricity system.
- Support and embed the critical thinking required to deliver the electricity system transformation.
- Ensure climate change adaptation is factored into our asset management forward planning.

2) Committing to a sustainable society

Our aims under this pillar are:

- Create and inform societal awareness of the challenges we face and the role we can all play.
- Support learning and skills development across society to achieve the transition
- Support and promote diversity and inclusion.
- Promote a culture of health and safety.

3) Being a responsible organisation

Our aims under this pillar are:

- Further embed sustainability into governance, decisions, and delivery across the business.
- Manage and reduce our own carbon footprint.
- Achieve the highest ethical standards.
- Increase transparency on our non-financial performance.

Strategy

Partnerships and key stakeholders

We engage with our sustainability partners, including Business in the Community Ireland (BITCI) and SciFest, to promote collaboration that leads to impactful environmental, social, and governance (ESG) initiatives. Through these strategic partnerships, we aim to create meaningful change by supporting communities, advancing sustainable education initiatives, and promoting responsible business practices. Our goal is to leverage these collaborations to enhance our ESG footprint, create shared value, and contribute to a more sustainable and equitable society.

Additionally, EirGrid collaborates with a variety of stakeholders and industry peer groups to exchange knowledge and share key learnings related to our sustainability strategy and other sustainability matters including sustainability reporting and our obligations under the Corporate Sustainability Reporting

Directive for example. EirGrid is a member of the Ibec Sustainability Leaders Forum Group, which meets regularly to share insights and benefit from a network of sustainability leaders. We also maintain regular engagement with other Commercial Semi-State bodies, with a particular focus on the Commercial Semi State Climate Action Framework with NewEra.

Business in The Community Ireland (BITCI):

EirGrid is proud to partner with Business in the Community Ireland (BITCI). Through our membership and participation in various BITCI initiatives such as the Business Working Responsible Mark, Elevate Pledge and Action on Education Programme, we demonstrate our commitment to responsible business operations and community engagement. We have regular engagement with BITCI through quarterly updates and various programme specific requirements.

SciFest

The SciFest STEM programme promotes science, technology, engineering, and maths (STEM) education and provides a platform for students to present their scientific investigations at local, regional, and national levels. EirGrid is a Project Partner with SciFest which sees the EirGrid Cleaner Climate Award presented at the SciFest@School, SciFest@College and the SciFest National Final.

Implementation

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Committed to a sustainable society	SciFest: In 2026, we will continue our partnership with SciFest. Engagement will include various events and awards.	SciFest: Through our engagements, we are continuing to support second level students to explore and develop their ideas relating to a cleaner energy future, as we work to transition the power system.
Committed to a sustainable society	DCU Access to the Workplace Programme: Regular engagement to continue throughout 2026 along with a summer intern.	DCU Access to the Workplace Programme: Our partnership with the DCU Educational Trust on their Access to the Workplace Programme aims to make education accessible and achievable to young people from under-represented backgrounds. As part of our partnership, a student from the DCU Access to the Workplace Programme will undertake an internship in EirGrid during the summer 2026, providing invaluable professional experience and developing important skills which can be applied as they return to complete their final year of studies.

Committed to a sustainable society	Pilot programme with AHEAD: To further promote EirGrid as a diverse and inclusive workplace, we are working with AHEAD to pilot their Willing Able and Mentored (WAM) programme in EirGrid. Regular engagement will continue in 2026 to further embed this programme, along with additional initiatives run by the same body.	Pilot programme with AHEAD: AHEAD is an independent non-profit organisation that promotes access to the labour market for graduates with disabilities. By working with AHEAD, EirGrid aims to build our capacity to integrate disability into the mainstream workplace. We have successfully recruited one graduate engineer through this programme in 2025, and we aim to recruit at least one graduate through this stream in 2026.
Committed to a sustainable society	Ellenfield Community College Dublin [BITCI]: We will continue our mentoring programme ('World of Work') with second year students through the Business in the Community Ireland (BITCI) Action on Education Programme. Engagement will include workshop sessions on a variety of topics including a 'Day in the Life' session in EirGrid Offices, a workshop on renewable power and sustainable practices and important life skills development. In addition, EirGrid has a community seat on the board which will continue throughout 2026.	Ellenfield Community College Dublin: Through these engagements, EirGrid aims to help students gain exposure to new and different perspectives while improving communication, self-confidence and igniting their interest in STEM. These engagements also help us enhance our partnerships with local communities and empower young people from under-represented backgrounds.
Committed to a sustainable Society	Marian College (BITCI): Following a successful pilot in 2025, we will continue our mentoring programme (called 'World of Work') with second year students through the Business in the Community Ireland (BITCI) Action on Education Programme. Engagement will include workshop sessions on a variety of topics including a 'Day in the Life' session in EirGrid Offices, workshops on renewable energy and sustainable practices as well as important life skills development.	Marian College (BITCI): Through these engagements, we help students gain exposure to new and different perspectives while improving communication, self-confidence and igniting their interest in STEM. These engagements also help us enhance our partnerships with local communities in the Powering Up Dublin area and empower young people from under-represented backgrounds.
Committed to a sustainable society	Elevate Pledge (BITCI): Engagement in 2026 will involve communication through emails, meetings, data sharing and insight sharing with other companies	Elevate Pledge (BITCI): The Elevate Pledge is BITCI's Pledge to support businesses to build a more inclusive workplace. As a signatory to this pledge, we expect to

		continue to support the Elevate Pledge in 2026.
Committed to a Sustainable Society	Electric Aid: In 2026, Electric Aid will hold 6 committee meetings and one AGM, as well as various workshops and supplementary engagements to support aspects such as planning and membership.	Electric Aid: Electric Aid is a social justice and development fund between EirGrid and ESB employees. The key driver for Electric Aid is to focus on the UN sustainable development goals, and of these, many of the projects across the world have had a significant impact on development goals such as clean water and sanitation, quality education, zero hunger and affordable, clean energy.
Committed to a Sustainable Society	STEM Teacher Internship programme: EirGrid has committed to participating in the STEM Teacher Internship (STInt) programme again for 2026. Our roles will be advertised in early 2026 through the STInt Portal.	STEM Teacher Internship programme: The STInt Programme is a national programme by DCU to provide primary and post primary teachers with paid summer internships in STEM roles. We are aiming to recruit 1-2 teachers starting in June 2026.
Committed to a Sustainable Society	Engagement with Foróige: In 2026, we aim to continue working with Foróige on a range of targeted projects for young people around Dublin.	Engagement with Foróige: Through these engagements, EirGrid aims to make a difference by supporting young people across Dublin City to engage in programmes and interventions that promote leadership, civic engagement, community development, and develop skills in problem solving.
Committed to a Sustainable Society	Green Schools Energy Theme: Following EirGrid's first academic year as sponsor of An Taisce Green-Schools Energy theme in 2025, we are planning to engage with secondary and primary schools across the country, with 103 schools participating in the theme for 2026. As part of this partnership, EirGrid will be participating in several energy workshops and a week-long online festival of energy, among other activities.	Green Schools Energy Theme: The aim of Green-Schools is to raise awareness of environmental issues through classroom and outdoor studies and to transfer this knowledge into positive environmental action in the school and in the wider community. Through these engagements, we will look to build awareness regarding EirGrid's role in managing and operating Ireland's electricity grid as well as strengthen relationships

		where we are developing or planning to develop the grid.
Driving climate action and transformation of the electricity grid	Science Based Targets initiative: In 2026, we expect to continue our engagement with the Science Based Targets initiative to ensure EirGrid's carbon targets are meaningful, measurable and follow best practice.	Science Based Targets initiative: Continuing our engagement will help us set emissions reduction targets in line with the Paris Agreement and ensure EirGrid can, over time, measure and demonstrate progress towards them.
Being a responsible business	The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) Monitoring and Reporting: Engagement to continue throughout 2026.	The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) Monitoring and Reporting: The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) Monitoring and Reporting system allows public bodies to report energy, emissions and related data to SEAI each year so that they can track each organisation's progress towards energy and climate policy targets.
Being a Responsible Business	Business Working Responsibly (BWR) mark [BITCI]: Following an expected recertification Q4 2025, our engagement will continue with BITCI throughout 2026.	Business Working Responsibly (BWR) mark: Since 2010, EirGrid has been accredited with the Business Working Responsibly (BWR) Mark, which is an independent external accreditation of how EirGrid interacts with the marketplace, the workplace, the environment, and the communities we engage with and as an assessment of our sustainability strategic approach. Achieving the BWR Mark enhances our brand and reputation, in addition to positioning us as an employer of choice in the marketplace.
Being a responsible business	Commercial Semi-State Climate Action Framework (CSS-CAF) (NewERA): Engagement to continue throughout 2026.	Commercial Semi-State Climate Action Framework (CSS-CAF) (NewERA): In August 2022, the Government approved a Climate Action Framework for the commercial semi-state sector, developed by the New Economy and Recovery Authority (NewERA), in

		collaboration with the Department of Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation and DCEE. The framework will apply to every commercial semi-state company and covers five commitments: • Governance of climate action objectives. • Emissions measurement and reduction target. • Emissions valuation in investment appraisal. • Circular economy and green procurement. • Climate-related disclosures. To capture and monitor the implementation status of the Framework, inputs are requested by NewERA on an annual basis. These responses are then collated into an implementation report which provides an overview of the performance of the commercial semi states against the five commitments.
Being a responsible business	Smarter Travel Mark National Transport Authority (NTA): NTA provide a Travel Plan on a calendar year basis which will guide our 2026 initiatives and communications throughout the year.	Smarter Travel Mark National Transport Authority (NTA): In 2026, we will continue working on improvements in our infrastructure to encourage employees to sustainably commute to work to maintain our Gold Smarter Travel Mark.
Being a responsible business	Central Statistics Office (CSO) Business Energy Usage Survey: In 2026, EirGrid will continue to provide relevant energy use data to the annual Business Energy Use survey.	CSO Business Energy Usage Survey: In 2026, we will continue to provide relevant energy use data to the annual Business Energy Use survey. The data is required to estimate total energy consumption and cost in all sectors of the Irish economy to calculate Ireland's Energy Balance and to comply with Ireland's mandatory reporting of Energy Statistics under EU Regulation.

For more information on sustainability engagement, email sustainability@eirgrid.com

Strategic planning and future networks

Overview

As the Transmission System Operator (TSO) for Ireland, EirGrid has a unique role to play in transforming our power system to meet the needs of today as well as the future. As we continue working towards obtaining 80% of our energy from renewable sources in line with Government targets, we are also working towards meeting the national climate objectives in the run up to 2050. Meeting these decarbonisation targets, while providing a secure electricity supply will be very challenging. And continued collaboration with all of our stakeholders is vital for allowing EirGrid to transform the power system for future generations.

In 2026, our objectives with regards to strategic planning and future networks include the following:

Net-zero network planning

Following on from [Tomorrow's Energy Scenarios 2023](#), and building on [Shaping Our Electricity Future](#), EirGrid has explored scenarios of what Ireland's future power demand and generation portfolio could look like. With growing demand for electricity and increasing penetration of variable renewables on the system, it is clear that Ireland will need significant expansion of network capacity and system flexibility.

In 2026, we will build on our preceding analysis and translate it to a regional and network level, both onshore and offshore, domestically and interconnected with our neighbours.

Working with stakeholders, EirGrid intends to carry out a study to highlight the scale of new network capacity needed for a fully decarbonised power system in Ireland. Over time, our understanding of the network capacity needed will be used to develop plans for the future transmission network. The study will encompass both onshore and offshore dimensions of the electricity network and interface with the gas network. To develop this, EirGrid will engage and consult with stakeholders, for example, on key inputs and options for consideration. This is likely to include in-person and virtual meetings, webinars, conferences and workshops with stakeholders to discuss and explore potential designs for future grid that can inform network planning out to 2040 and 2050.

Green hydrogen and energy storage development

In 2026, EirGrid plans to continue to engage in dialogue with key stakeholders exploring the potential for green hydrogen and energy storage in Ireland. This will explore the future interaction of hydrogen with the electricity system, the potential of it to provide a fuel for peaking generators, as well as the wider development of the hydrogen economy.

Engagement will likely include meetings and workshops with the government, Gas Networks Ireland, SEAI and academic institutions, to understand the potential future demands and opportunities for production, transmission storage and supply of green hydrogen, associated renewable fuels and other options for energy storage. These engagements will also complement and inform the development of EirGrid's net zero network plans noted above.

International collaboration

In 2026, EirGrid will work with ENTSO-E and other TSOs, to develop the next Ten-Year Network Development Plan.

In addition, EirGrid will continue engaging with DCEE and the International Energy Agency (IEA) to consider strategic planning and scenario analysis for the future development and operation of power systems. This is anticipated to include consideration of energy markets and security of supply considerations for decarbonised power systems.

Power system research and studies

In 2026, EirGrid will continue to engage with academia and bodies undertaking research relevant to strategic planning for Ireland's transmission networks and energy systems. This will include engagements with national, regional and local authorities and development bodies, industry associations and academic institutions.

EirGrid will continue to contribute to technical reviews of offshore capability and readiness in collaboration with SEAI, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) and specialist High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) equipment manufacturers. In collaboration with SEAI and other stakeholders, EirGrid will support the development of SEAI's Decarbonised Electricity System Strategy (DESS).

Studies have shown that electricity demand is anticipated to grow throughout the energy transition. EirGrid will engage with statutory and industry bodies exploring future energy demand, in particular relating to Large Energy Users (LEUs) such as data centres, electrified transport and heating.

Strategy

EirGrid will leverage a range of channels to deliver stakeholder engagement. We expect channels to include established forums such as the Shaping Our Electricity Future Advisory Council, the Offshore Wind Delivery Taskforce and the National Spatial Strategy for Offshore Renewable Energy.

We will then look at developing additional working groups and industry workshops to discuss conceptual proposals, listen to stakeholders and also seek their input and feedback.

To extend the reach of engagement to wider audiences, we may also host selected webinars during and following consultation.

For key stakeholders, such as DCEE, CRU and some industry bodies, we will schedule regular meetings to provide progress updates. We will look to provide these through existing and established channels to co-ordinate the development of strategic planning of future transmission networks.

Following the completion of the net-zero networks consultation, we will publish the final report which will present a plan for a net-zero network. The final report recommendations will be discussed with selected stakeholders prior to publication.

Implementation

Goals:	Planned engagements for 2026:	Planned outcomes:
Joint system operation planning	Joint system operation planning: In 2026, EirGrid will work with Gas Networks Ireland to coordinate planning of the future decarbonised power system and gas systems.	Joint system operation planning: By working with Gas Networks Ireland, we endeavour to coordinate the development of our joint long-term plans for Ireland's electricity and gas infrastructure.
Grid upgrade projects	Grid connections: In 2026, EirGrid will continue to work with ESB Networks (as DSO) on grid upgrade projects.	Grid connections: Through our continued engagement with ESB Networks, EirGrid aims to successfully plan and deliver future grid connections.

Offshore and interconnection projects	Offshore and interconnection projects: In 2026, EirGrid will continue our engagement regarding offshore projects (offshore wind, radial connections and interconnectors) with Wind Energy Ireland and CRU.	Offshore and interconnection projects: Through these engagements, EirGrid aims to ensure the successful planning and delivery of offshore projects connecting to onshore grid.

For more information on strategic planning and future networks, please get in touch via [our contact page here](#) (with 'Future Networks' in the email subject).

Appendices: Planned consultations for 2026

Please note, all items are listed by audience and then by calendar year:

Q1 = January - March

Q2 = April - June

Q3 = July - September

Q4 = October - December

2026 Planned Consultations

Title:	Overview:	Expected:
Schedule and Dispatch Terms of Reference	Terms of reference for the S&D audits. Covering two years is published for public and industry consultation.	January 2026
Balancing Market Principles Statement Consultation	The BMPS undergoes consultation with stakeholders to ensure it remains up-to-date and relevant.	April 2026
Long Notice Adjustment Factor (LNAF) and System Imbalance Flattening Factor (SIFF) Consultation	LNAF and SIFF are parameters used in the scheduling and dispatch process to potentially prioritise units with shorter notification times (LNAF) or adjust commitment based on the System Shortfall Imbalance Index (SIFF). The parameters are zero but are subject to ongoing review and potential adjustment in the future.	June 2026
2025 Schedule and Dispatch Audit Dates of Interest	Survey for the industry to identify any specific dates that could be considered by the auditors.	January 2026
European Network Codes	The European Network Codes requires the TSO to consult on the specification of non-exhaustive and/or non-mandatory parameters.	To be confirmed - will be driven by the effective dates of the European Network Codes
System Defence Plan	Update to the plan to be issued for consultation.	May 2026
Core Long-Term Capacity Calculation Methodology	Main changes are regarding EirGrid's integration, fallback procedures, technical solutions for minRAM adjustment on CNEC level and solutions for the removal of LTA inclusion.	Started in 2025 and will continue to early 2026

Tariffs Consultation	Transmission Loss Adjustment Factor Consultation, Other System Charges Consultation, Generator Transmission Use of System Charges Consultation, Demand Transmission Use of System Charges Consultation, Generator Testing Charges, DS3 (System Services) Tariff.	May-August each year
Annual Performance Report (APR)	Provides customers, industry and stakeholders with clear and accessible reporting on operation, development and maintenance of the transmission system for the year.	August 2026
Investment, Planning & Delivery Report (IPD)	Provides stakeholders with overview of infrastructure development and delivery progress across transmission projects.	August 2026
PR6 Incentives Multi-Year Plan Consultations	This relates to consultations taking place where stakeholders can provide feedback on the incentives which EirGrid are driven by for the multi-year (26-30) This will then inform CRUs balance scorecards.	August 2026
CP1157 Inchicore Poolbeg 220 kV replacement	Public consultation as part of Step 5 for Cable Tunnel under Dublin City from Inchicore in the West to the new Poolbeg station in the port area.	From late 2025 through to early 2026
PUOSC Step 4A Consultation	Onshore, offshore cable corridors, OSS zones, Landfall zone, Grid connection zone (consultation includes fisheries).	January 2026
All-Island Resource Adequacy Assessment 2027-2036 - Inputs and Assumptions	Consult on methodology, inputs and assumptions for AIRAA 2027-2036.	January 2026
Day ahead Capacity Calculation in CCR Core	Consultation on CCR methodology.	September 2026
Annual Innovation Report 2025	Publish and consult on the initial draft of the 2025 Annual Innovation Report.	January 2026
Transmission Development Plan (TDP)	Industry consultation by CRU to obtain feedback from various external stakeholders on the draft content and information presented within the TDP.	January 2026

Ten-Year Transmission Forecast Statement (TYTFS)	Industry consultation by CRU to obtain feedback from various external stakeholders on the draft content and information presented within the TYTFS.	April 2026
NSEE Stakeholder Engagement 2025 Report	Public consultation for publishing of the 2025 Network Stakeholder Engagement Report.	March 2026
Annual Review of Balancing Market Principles Statement 2026	Submission of proposed changes to the regulatory authorities for approval.	April 2026
Stakeholder Engagement Plan 2027	This report sets out our plan / strategy for stakeholder engagement over the upcoming calendar year	October 2026
Annual Review of Balancing Market Principles Statement 2026; where changes proposed submit to RAs for approval	The Balancing Market Principles Statement (BMPS) has been prepared by EirGrid and SONI in accordance with their respective Transmission System Operator Licence obligations	April 2026