

19 February 2024

Open Letter: Membership in the Shaping Our Electricity Future Advisory Council

To whom it may concern,

EirGrid and SONI are currently inviting Expressions of Interest for the Shaping Our Electricity Future (SOEF) Advisory Council Membership. This forum has an integral role in supporting the remit to deliver on the commitments established in the SOEF Roadmap and has emerged as a key forum to address the challenges of achieving the Ireland and Northern Ireland 80% RES-E ambition and decarbonisation targets. Since its formation in May 2022, it has demonstrated that effective and open exchange of information is essential to coordinating the efforts of stakeholders in our industry.

The SOEF Advisory Council functions to discuss a variety of issues and concerns which could impact on the successful implementation of the SOEF vision, promotes the sharing of relevant related information, and gathers input, advice and assistance on matters related to the SOEF programmes and their implementation. The existing Council Members were selected following a previous call for expressions of interest in 2022 and selection was based on their wide range of knowledge and expertise in their relevant areas and comprises of varied stakeholders spanning renewables, large energy users, regulators, academia, industry and research centres across Ireland, Northern Ireland and Europe. We would like to express our deepest gratitude to the Existing Advisory Council Members who have been instrumental in delivering the key achievements to date.

EirGrid and SONI are now seeking expressions of interest from those who would like to become members of the SOEF Advisory Council. Existing Advisory Council Members are welcome to reapply for membership. EirGrid and SONI would particularly welcome expressions of interest from those with experience in transport transition, the gas industry, electricity supply, and artificial intelligence. All Advisory Council membership will be reviewed. The SOEF Advisory Council will continue to convene every four months and encourages in-person attendance. At each meeting, the Programme progress will be discussed, and Members will be asked for their insight and counsel with respect to specific items to successfully deliver on the SOEF vision. This may take the form of document review, cross-programme working groups, ad hoc meetings, and problem-based workshops. Members are also encouraged to bring matters to the Advisory Council for presentation and discussion.

The Terms of Reference for the Advisory Council is found on the Shaping Our Electricity Future section of the EirGrid website [here](#) and the SONI website [here](#). Please note, as set out in the Terms of Reference, Members are appointed ad personam and primarily for experience and competences. Therefore, for Council meetings alternates shall not be allowed. Continuity is essential for success of the Council. As recognised experts and valued advisors, Members are similarly expected to make every effort to attend meetings of the Advisory Council and to participate in full. The use of alternates to attend SOEF Working Groups is currently in review and membership for those groups will be managed separately from this process.

If you are interested in being considered for Advisory Council membership, please email the SOEF programme office at SOEF@EirGrid.com or SOEF@soni.ltd.uk setting out briefly:

- Current involvement/role in the electricity industry;
- List of relevant experience and/or qualifications;
- List of relevant publications, if any;
- Any company or organisations (including EU stakeholder organisations) you are a member of, or affiliated to;
- Any other relevant information and;
- Contact details.

Please submit your Expression of Interest by email by Friday, 29 March 2024 as applications received after this deadline will not be considered. Following review of the applications received, EirGrid and SONI will issue invitations to suitably experienced candidates to join the SOEF Advisory Council. Should you have any questions about this or the work of the EirGrid Group in this area, please do not hesitate to contact the SOEF Advisory Council at SOEF@EirGrid.com or SOEF@soni.ltd.uk.

With kind regards,

Dr. Liam Ryan
Chief Innovation and Planning Officer
EirGrid Group

Mr. Alan Campbell
Managing Director
SONI Limited