

EirGrid.ie

Stakeholder Engagement Plan 2025

Networks Stakeholder Engagement Evaluation (NSEE)

December 2024



EirGrid

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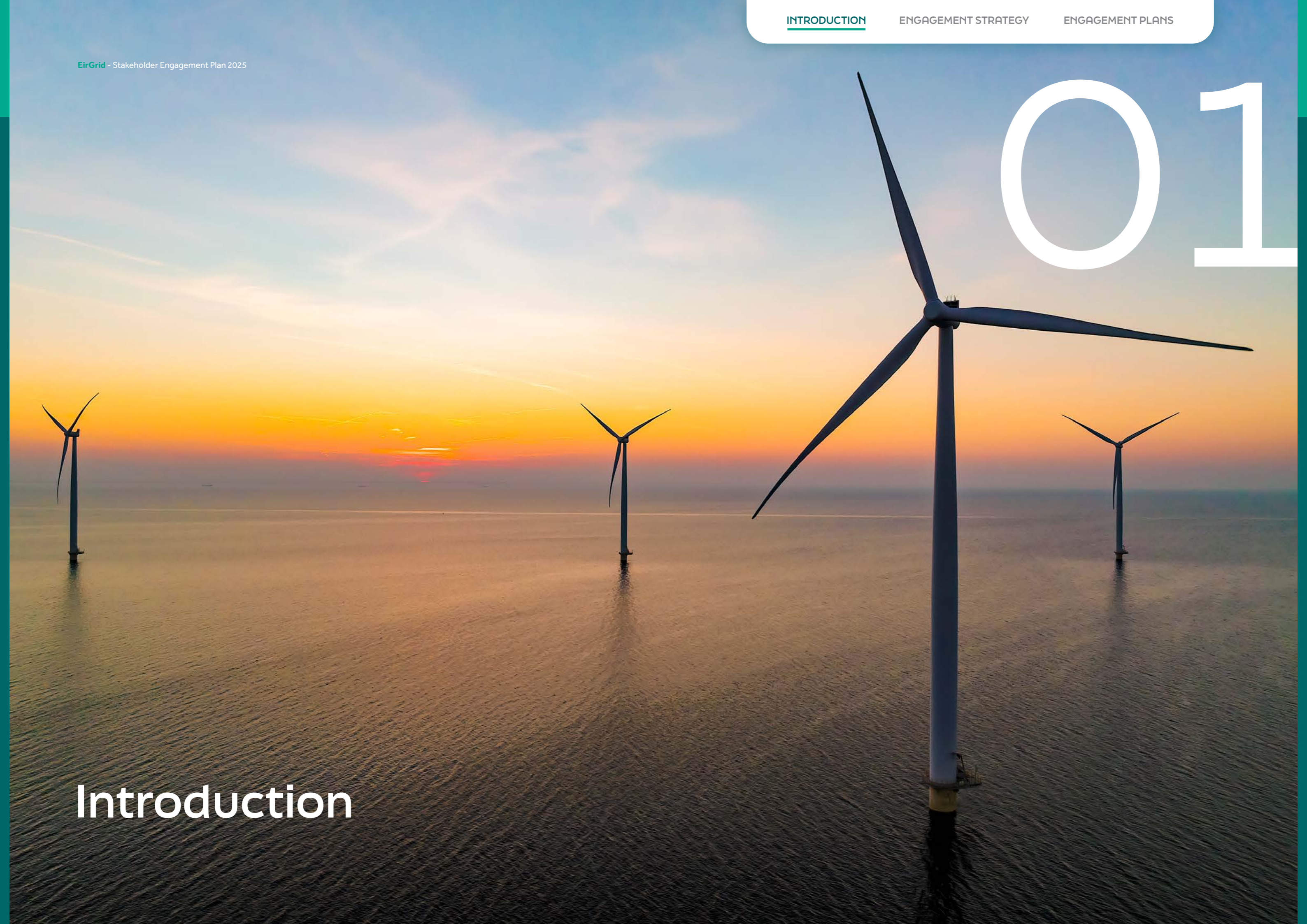
Please note, all items are listed by audience and then by calendar year:

- Q1 = January – March
- Q2 = April – June
- Q3 = July – September
- Q4 = October – December

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01

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; channels and initiatives for engaging with stakeholders, consistent with our strategy; and demonstrable positive impacts on stakeholders, stakeholder groups or the business.

This document sets out our planned 2025 engagements and how our stakeholders can participate. We also highlight key areas of focus for 2025 and how we successfully measure engagement. 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 PR5 Regulatory Framework, Incentives and Reporting Decision Paper.



Errol Close

Chief Corporate Services
Officer at EirGrid Group

Effective stakeholder engagement is essential to allow EirGrid to transform the power system for future generations. And as the needs of the transmission system continue to evolve, so will our stakeholder engagement strategy.

Over the course of the next five years, we will continue to focus on building the necessary transmission infrastructure and making changes to how we operate the power system to ensure system resilience while improving efficiency and capability. Onshore renewable growth will also continue to play a central role in our efforts to decarbonise the network. Equally, offshore infrastructure will now become a vital contributor in meeting our targets at both a national and European level.

In parallel, we need to continue to focus on engagement with our regulators on market development and reform, to take account of European market developments, our reintegration into European markets with the connection of the Celtic Interconnector and to continue to deliver a competitive framework that supports investment.

Delivering for customers and stakeholders is essential to our work. And as we move into 2025, maintaining open, genuine and collaborative dialogue with our stakeholders will continue to be critical in enabling EirGrid to deliver positive change for all.

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.

I am pleased to present the EirGrid 2025 Stakeholder Engagement Plan.

This document captures our planned stakeholder engagement for 2025 as Ireland's transmission system operator. It also details the planned outcomes for each of these engagements.

Today's climate challenges are unprecedented. And transformation needs to occur at a significantly accelerated pace in order for Ireland to meet the Government's climate ambitions. Electrification will be a key contributor to a decarbonised economy and requires a low carbon electricity system including obtaining 80% of our electricity from renewable sources in line with government targets.





Supporting Communities

Community Benefit Fund

Our Network Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

2025



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 balance supply and demand every minute of the day, while also planning for Ireland's long-term electricity needs.

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 by 2030. 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, which is currently under construction. 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](#).

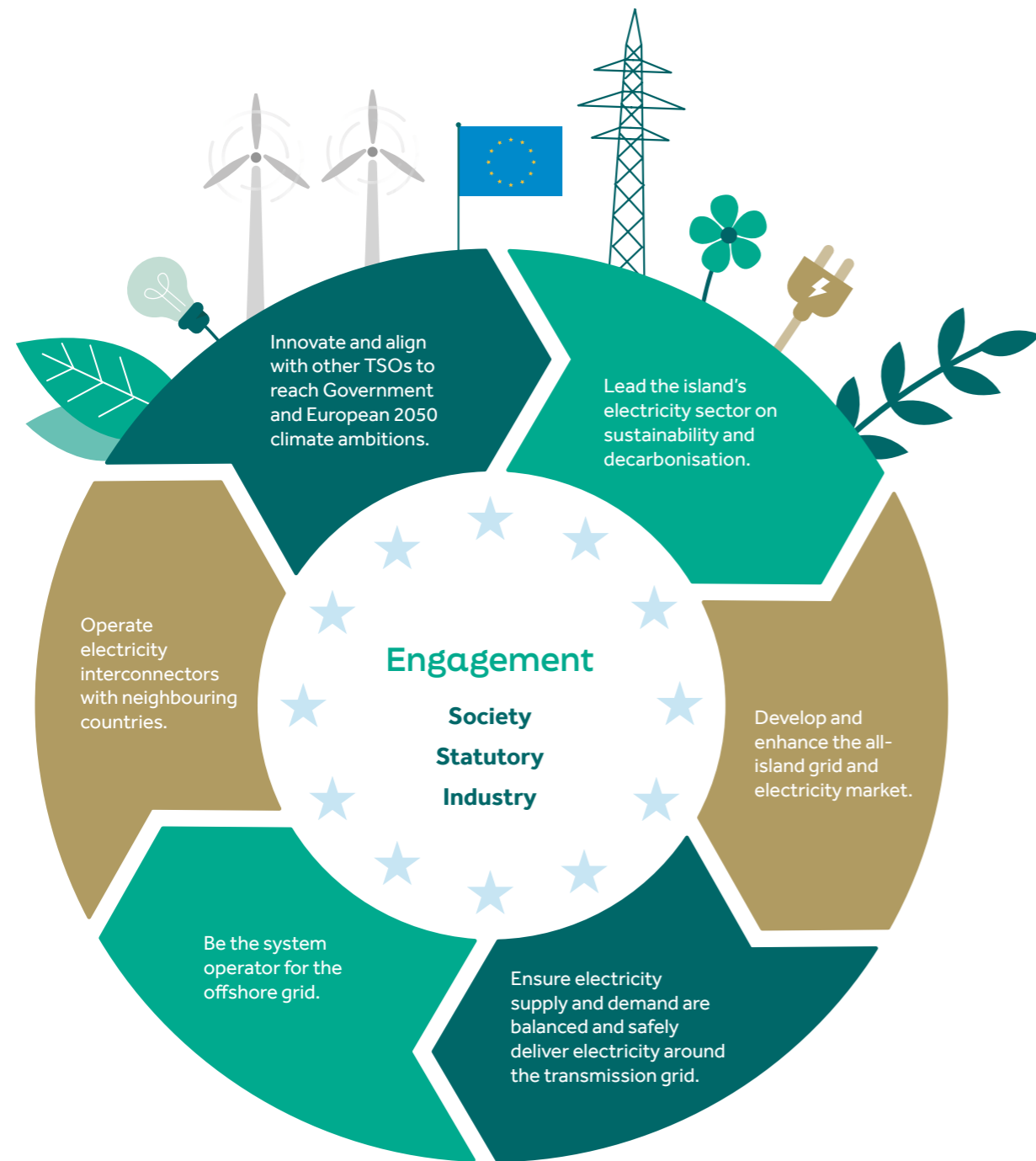
We are regulated as a monopoly service provider. We perform our services for the benefit of every electricity user and to support the economy. We ensure that electricity is always available when and where it's needed, every second of every day, and for the decades to come. We do this cost effectively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



We balance supply and demand every minute of the day

Connected for progress

At EirGrid, we proactively engage with society, industry and statutory stakeholders across Ireland and continental Europe. Collaboration is fundamental in 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 supporting Ireland decarbonise.

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.

Our 2020-25 strategy is informed by climate change goals and the necessary transition to a low carbon, renewable future.



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 and 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.



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.



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.



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.
- 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).
- Providing phonelines.
- Conducting webinars.
- Customer surveys.



Demonstrating effective stakeholder engagement

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?

We believe that identifying our stakeholders is a dynamic activity we must complete regularly to capture the constant changes that occur in the energy ecosystem. Recognising 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 by 2030 and a low-carbon electricity system through:

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

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. To realise Government targets for Ireland to be powered by 80% renewable electricity by this date, we have proportionately increased our engagement with landowners and communities. Learning how best to scale and optimise this engagement is an ongoing key priority for our engagement planning.

Leading up to 2030 and beyond, 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. This is a challenge and 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 while causing the least impact on 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.

	Stakeholder group	Including
INDUSTRY	Customers	Generators, interconnectors, large energy users, energy suppliers, demand-side aggregators, energy storage providers
	Energy Industry	Distribution System Operator (DSO), Transmission Asset Owner (TAO) and other utilities, Industry Representative Groups, Sectoral Representative Groups, Developers, Suppliers
	Transmission System Operators (TSOs)	Réseau de Transport d'Électricité (RTE), National Grid Electricity System Operator (National Grid ESO) and others
SOCIETY	Communities, landowners, Elected Representatives, Voluntary and Community Organisations	Communities with major infrastructure projects, planning authorities and others
	Education Partners, Electricity Consumers, Energy Citizens, the Public	Broader societal engagements and partnerships
STATUTORY AND OTHER	Academia	Universities and research bodies
	Chartered Institutions	Engineers Ireland, Chartered Accountants, Planning Institute, Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET)
	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)
	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)

	Stakeholder group	Including
STATUTORY & OTHER	Infrastructure	Iarnród Éireann, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, Uisce Éireann, Roads Management Office (RMO), City and County Managers Association (CCMA), Gas Networks Ireland
	Local Authorities	Local councils & elected representatives
	Public Agencies	Relevant public agencies
	Media	Print (regional & national), broadcast (regional & national), trade, financial, farming, marine, digital and social
	NGO	Friends of the Earth, Irish Farmers' Association (IFA), Irish Environmental Network, SciFest, Young Social Innovators (YSI), Access to the Workplace (Dublin City University), CIGRE (International Council on Large Electric Systems), Irish Lights
	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, Global Power System – Transformation (GPS-T) ACER
	Regulatory	Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU), Single Electricity Market (SEM) Committee, Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (OFGEM), French Energy Regulatory Commission (CRE) URNI (Utility regulator)
	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)



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 2023 Network Stakeholder Engagement Evaluation (NSEE) Panel's draft feedback and recommendations as we continue to build and strengthen our stakeholder engagement strategy and activities.

Please note, the final NSEE panel's 2023 Close Out Report has not been published at the time of publication.

Continued development of EirGrid's stakeholder engagement strategy

We have greatly enhanced this year's plan to further detail EirGrid's stakeholder engagement strategy, demonstrating where it sits within our wider, corporate strategy along with our key measures for effective stakeholder engagement. Following feedback, this year's plan also incorporates a much stronger focus on our strategic channels for engagements as well as the planned outcomes of our engagements, which link back to our measures for effective engagement.

Focus on onshore delivery

As a result of feedback from the NSEE panel, we have greatly expanded this year's plan to detail EirGrid's commitments across all of the major areas of our organisation, including the key mechanisms for engagements for onshore delivery (such as the Accelerating Renewable Energy Taskforce) and the planned outcomes of these engagements.

Engagement with industry

We continue to work on initiatives to augment and enhance our engagement with industry stakeholders, such as EirGrid's new Tri-Party Forum. We are also increasing the number of personalised engagements with customers to support issue resolution. Finally, the continued rollout of our CRM tool is supporting proactive and timely engagements while tracking customer feedback.

Consultations

As well as providing a list of next year's consultations at the end of this plan, we are continuing to make improvements to our consultation portal.

Long-term stakeholder engagement plan
Following the panel's feedback, we have included a new chapter in this year's plan entitled 'Strategic planning and future networks' which details our approach to engagement as we work towards our long-term decarbonisation goals.

Continued improvement of the EirGrid website

Phase two of our website development project will begin in 2025. Key focuses will include an Irish language version of the site, and following stakeholder feedback, a microsite for the grid code for improved accessibility. 2025 will also see further improvements to the publications search categorisation.

Continued focuses for development

Introducing new measures of stakeholder engagement success, working with qualitative and quantitative metrics to capture the effectiveness of our stakeholder engagement.

Ensuring feedback from the impacts of our strategy is being processed and fed back into all engagement activities.

Consultation

On the 16th October 2024, EirGrid published its Draft Stakeholder Engagement Plan 2025 and it became available for viewing and consultation on the EirGrid website. Stakeholders were then invited to submit their consultation responses via the EirGrid Consultation Portal. The portal was open until the 15th of November 2024, when the consultation period ended. Full details of EirGrid's response to consultation comments received via the consultation process can be found in our [Consultation Response Paper](#).

Consultee comments received were grouped into the following themes:

- Offshore and onshore
- Dispatch down
- Outturn Availability Forum
- Connection
- EirGrid's approach to stakeholder engagement
- Outages

As a result, we have updated this Final Plan to highlight the feedback received and EirGrid's responses to these comments which we've listed at the end of this document under the title Stakeholder Feedback.



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.

2025 stakeholder engagement at a glance



Public engagement

- Engage regularly and openly with communities and businesses.
- Actively seek feedback to deliver positive outcomes for all.
- Engage with stakeholders on the promotion of biodiversity and protection of marine life.

Enduring Connection Policy (ECP)

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

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).

Customer and connections

- Augment and enhance the EirGrid customer experience.
- Enhance the delivery of customer connections.
- Support continued alignment via proactive, personal and timely communications.

Offshore

- Work collaboratively to support the delivery of offshore infrastructure.
- Ensure alignment of offshore transmission system development alongside key stakeholders.
- Deliver consistent messaging to all stakeholders.

Our partnership with the Distribution System 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 engage with CRU and Large Energy Users (LEUs) on demand initiatives.

Operating and developing the grid and market

- Work collaboratively to support the evolution of the grid code to 2030.
- Coordinate capacity and RESS/ORESS auctions efficiently with key stakeholders.
- Engage regularly on Energy Market Policy, Scheduling and Dispatch Programme and the Future Arrangements for System Services (FASS) Programme.

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.

Shaping our Electricity Future (SOEF) Advisory Council

- Continue to offer key stakeholders a forum to advise, increase alignment, raise and resolve issues.
- Facilitate ad hoc engagements with stakeholders to allow for problem solving.
- Support a collaborative approach in the delivery of the SOEF Roadmap.



Innovation and research (I&R)

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

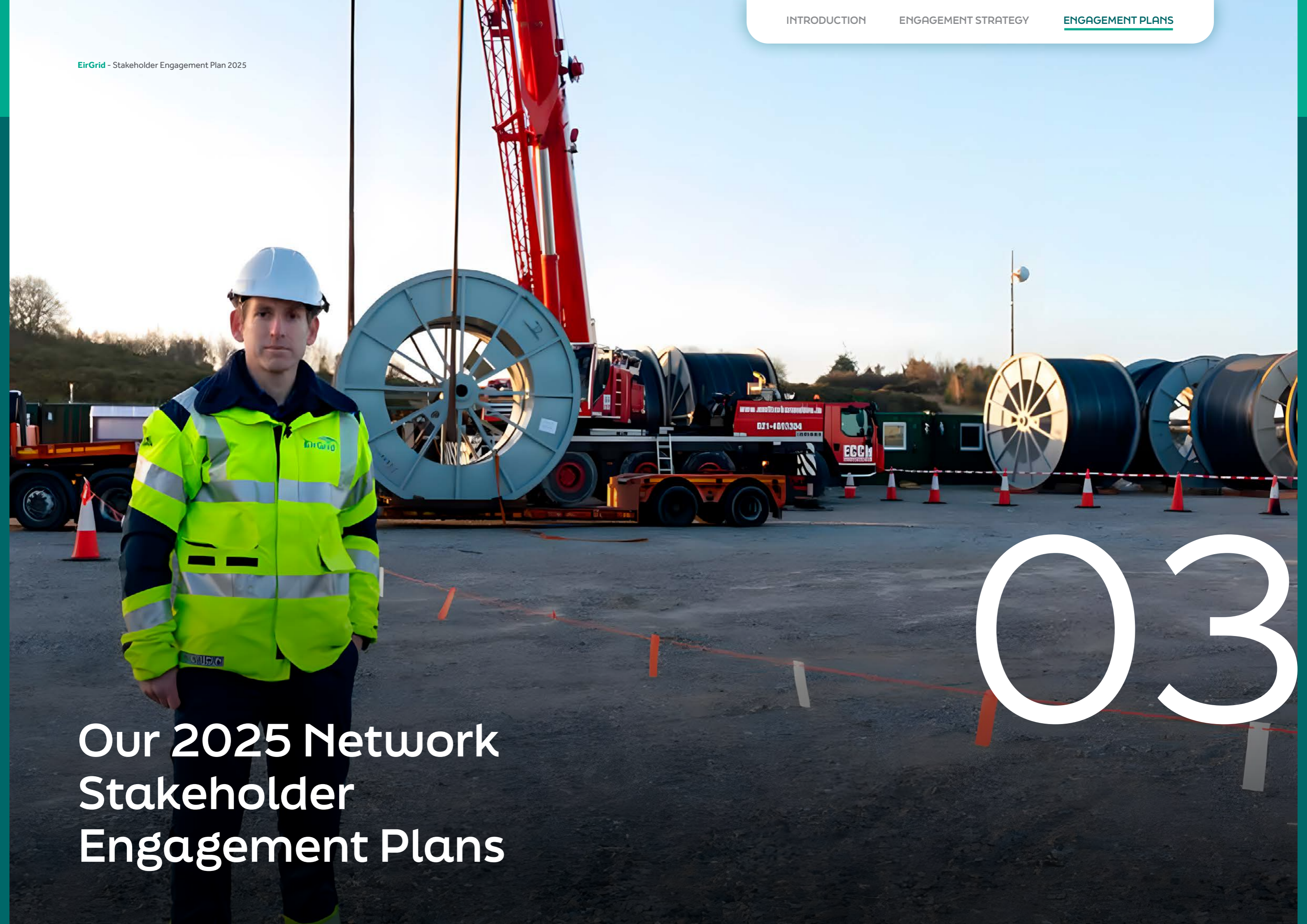
European, Government and policy engagement

- Support policy development across a number of key initiatives.
- Continue to engage with key stakeholders across Europe including other TSOs.
- Progress EirGrid's role in delivering Ireland's interconnection strategy.

Strategic planning and future networks

- Work collaboratively across Ireland and Europe to develop strategic plans for the future transmission network.
- Continue to explore the potential for green hydrogen and energy storage in Ireland with key stakeholders.
- Engage with Government, CRU and industry, as we work towards publishing the Transmission Development Plan 2026.

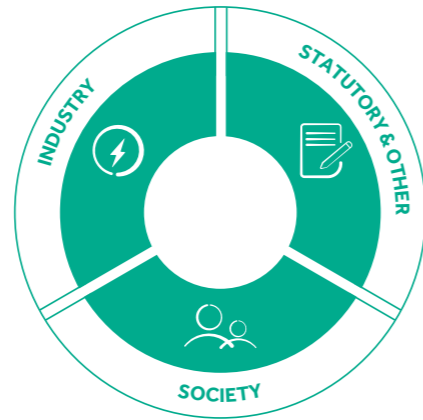




03

Our 2025 Network Stakeholder Engagement Plans

Grid upgrade projects and public engagement



Overview

Engaging with the public is essential for our work. It is only with public 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 and 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 environmentalist groups to help restore Ireland's biodiversity while limiting our impact.

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

Grid development projects

As part of our approach, we use a consistent, six-step process 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 and landowners typically takes place during steps 3 and 4, and again at steps 5 and 6 on our Community Benefit funds. Engagement with our customers, the wider energy industry and statutory and other stakeholders can take place at every step.



Step 1

How do we identify needs of the electricity grid?

Step 2

What technologies can meet these needs?

Step 3

What's the best option and what area may be affected?

Step 4

Where exactly should we build?

Step 5

Apply for planning permission.

Step 6

Construct, energise (make live) and share benefits.

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 (in a public space or via EirGrid's Mobile Information Unit).
- Community events.
- Advertising in local and national press, on social media channels and other digital platforms.
- Providing information via our website.

Six-Step Grid Development Process

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 a dedicated Community Liaison Officers (CLO), Agriculture Liaison Officers (ALO) or our Fisheries Liaison Officer (FLO) for onshore and offshore grid development projects. Customers can also 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. EirGrid engages with statutory stakeholders in two main formats:

1) Project engagement

During the various stages of project development EirGrid will engage in pre-application consultation with the various consent authorities. This includes formal pre-application consultation with An Bord Pleanála 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 who will be making submissions to, or ultimately determining, a project proposal. It also allows us to explore alternatives as well as understand the strategic need and policy context for a proposed development. Finally, it ensures we identify any constraints and opportunities arising from a project.

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.

2) Strategic engagement

EirGrid's planning team prepares a Grid Implementation Plan every five years. This plan, which is subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment, mirrors the statutory development plan-making process followed by planning authorities. The Grid Implementation Plan 2023-2028 has just been published.

EirGrid is in the process of preparing and publishing three regional plans, to integrate with the regional spatial and economic strategies prepared by the three Regional Assemblies, and which must, by law, cascade to the local planning system.

EirGrid has engaged, and will continue to engage, with National, Regional and Local planning stakeholders on these plans and their content. Through these engagements, EirGrid provides a comprehensive picture of planned grid development, and our approach to its design, consenting, environmental care, and delivery.

Community engagement

Through effective stakeholder engagement with the community, 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 how enhancing the grid is supporting our national climate ambitions as well as supporting social and economic growth.

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 can include representatives of local community groups as well as local county councillors and chamber of commerce members. Our forums include:

- **Community forums**
Various across all new grid development projects.
- **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 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

Community benefit funds

We recognise the importance of local communities in supporting our grid development and want to put communities at the heart of our engagement. Through our Community Benefit Scheme, we can give back to communities impacted by our work.

Our Community Forums are integral to the designing of our community benefit strategy and play a key role in identifying the needs of the area. Working with the forum members ensures the funding scheme will be designed for the local community by the local community and we are empowering our stakeholders during this process.

The scheme will help communities transform their area and become more sustainable, with opportunities to support local community energy initiatives, town and village enhancement and biodiversity projects.

Engagement with environmental groups

At EirGrid, restoring Ireland's natural biodiversity is just 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 in-house Chartered Ecologist, leads on all of EirGrid's biodiversity initiatives and ensures biodiversity is made a key element across all of our work.

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

- The national forum on Appropriate Assessment.
- The Offshore Coalition for Energy and Nature (OCEaN).
- The Renewable Grid Initiative – Integrated Vegetation Management Working Group.
- The Irish industry working group on Biodiversity Net Gain.
- The Irish Section Ecology Conference of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM).
- We are also a signatory to the Business for Nature pledge.

EirGrid is also considered a thought leader within the biodiversity space and as a result, engages with multiple strategic and project level biodiversity bodies including:

- The national Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) forum.
- Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.
- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (including National Parks and Wildlife Service).

Engagement with fishing communities

EirGrid's dedicated Fisheries Liaison Officer engages with the fishing community on all projects where we interact with the marine environment. Current projects include the Celtic Interconnector project and Powering Up Offshore South Coast. The fishers are a key stakeholder as we progress 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.

Energy Citizen Roadshows

Following the success of our Energy Citizen Roadshow events, we will look to continue these events in 2025. These events, in partnership with ESBN, 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.

Improving our engagement

For the past three years, EirGrid has been engaging with MaREI the research centre for energy, climate and marine research and innovation at University College Cork.

The project's multiple research objectives include the analysis and assessment of interventions around community benefit with a view to informing policy and practice in this area and identifying pathways for increased community engagement.

As this initiative comes to a close at the end of 2024, the planned actions will be more reliably reported on after the programme concludes.



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 2025	Planned outcomes
Publication of Grid Implementation Plan and Regional Plans	<p>Grid implementation plan:</p> <p>Following the publication of the Grid Implementation Plan 2023-2028, EirGrid will engage with statutory stakeholders such as the three Regional Assemblies, relevant local planning authorities, environmental agencies, and other prescribed bodies. Planned engagement will comprise 2-3 meetings per month in 2025.</p>	<p>Grid implementation plan:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>They also provide opportunities for us to incorporate our plans and policies into future statutory development plans.</p>
Deliver projects through the planning and consenting process	<p>Pre-planning engagement:</p> <p>We will continue to request pre-planning meetings for individual projects requiring planning permission with the respective planning authority (onshore) – An Bord Pleanála (ABP) 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.</p> <p>In 2025 we plan this to be 2-3 specific pre-application consultation engagements.</p>	<p>Pre-planning engagement:</p> <p>This initiative provides us with the opportunity to advise ABP and/or relevant local authorities of upcoming projects which have known planning and/or other consent requirements.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>This will also assist in accelerating applications through the planning process.</p>
Scoping update to evidence based environmental studies	<p>Evidence based environmental studies:</p> <p>In 2025, we will engage with key stakeholders to undertake a rescoping exercise to update and produce new Evidence Based Environmental Studies to support the environmental assessments of grid delivery projects.</p>	<p>Evidence based environmental studies:</p> <p>These engagements will ensure our Evidence Based Environmental Studies target relevant up-to-date topics.</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Engagement with ESB Networks and statutory bodies	<p>Engagement ESB and statutory bodies:</p> <p>We will continue to meet with the Planning and Environmental Team of ESB Engineering and Major Projects (E&MP) on a quarterly basis throughout 2025.</p> <p>We will continue to engage closely with the planning and environmental teams of other statutory bodies undertaking infrastructure delivery such as Uisce Éireann, ESB, DAA and Irish Rail.</p> <p>We will meet quarterly in 2025 with additional workshops as required.</p>	<p>Engagement ESB and statutory bodies:</p> <p>EirGrid and ESB will work closely to identify common issues, share information and identify opportunities to improve the delivery of transmission infrastructure through the planning, environment and consenting process. This shared approach also benefits An Bord Pleanála (ABP) and the local authorities.</p> <p>We will also work closely with state agencies to identify opportunities for collaboration.</p>
Action for nature	<p>Irish industry working group on biodiversity net gain:</p> <p>The Irish industry working group on biodiversity net gain (BNG) will meet quarterly in 2025, to discuss emerging policy, engage with industry and Government experts and the outcome of pilots to test the SSE Renewables toolkit (and once available other biodiversity toolkits adapted to Ireland).</p>	<p>Irish industry working group on biodiversity net gain:</p> <p>These engagements will allow EirGrid to share our knowledge on best practice in the use of biodiversity metrics to deliver no net loss and where possible BNG and habitat creation and enhancement practices. These engagements will also support our mission to influence policy development.</p>
Monitoring EirGrid's Grid Implementation Plan: Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	<p>Strategic Environmental Assessment:</p> <p>EirGrid will engage with the Environmental Protection Agency, and University College Dublin in early 2025 on the draft findings of year one of our SEA monitoring analyses.</p>	<p>Strategic Environmental Assessment:</p> <p>Following these engagements, EirGrid will publish our findings following review and input by UCD and the EPA.</p>
Share environmental data	<p>EirGrid environmental data:</p> <p>EirGrid is committed to supporting the Government's Open Data Strategy 2023-2027, and sharing high quality, accessible environmental data for the public good. EirGrid will engage with relevant parties including Tailte Eireann, wind developers, and research academics throughout 2025 to optimise the structure, and format of environmental datasets prior to release.</p>	<p>EirGrid environmental data:</p> <p>Through these engagements, we aim to define a best practice approach to the collection of geospatial data and metadata structure, so that we can share high quality environmental data.</p>

Implementation: Delivery

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Celtic Interconnector project		
	<p>Celtic project engagements:</p> <p>Throughout 2025, we will continue to engage via regular and timely communications with the public to ensure they are kept up to date with project developments.</p> <p>Communications will include letters, emails, text alerts, website updates, radio adverts, billboards and print and digital media. We will also be continuing to send out our dedicated Celtic Quarterly newsletter – previous copies of which are available on our website.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Another important part of our engagement work includes providing briefings for local councillors and elected representatives which we will continue to do across 2025, to ensure transparency as well as sustained alignment.</p> <p>Finally, we will be aiming to build awareness and spread positive messaging through local sponsorships in the area.</p>	<p>Celtic project engagements:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>(Please see our above section on community engagement for more details on why our community engagement is so important.)</p>
Celtic marine activity	<p>Celtic marine surveys and engagement:</p> <p>In 2025, EirGrid will focus on the following engagements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irish landfall operations engagements. Pre-trenching and boulder clearance operation engagement. <p>EirGrid will also hold in-person fishery stakeholder meetings to provide updates on the scope of works for 2025 (Q1 2025).</p> <p>In 2025, we will also continue to meet with specific subsets of the seafood sector via organised group meetings, site visits.</p> <p>EirGrid will also update mariners in advance of any marine works and issue these on gov.ie</p>	<p>Celtic marine surveys and engagement:</p> <p>Through these engagements, EirGrid will ensure effective communication with the fishing communities, via our FLO with stakeholders and organisations to best inform them of our project progress and upcoming scope of work for 2025, while mitigating against any disturbance to the fishery sector.</p> <p>Key outcomes for 2025 will be the completion of the marine survey activities while working cooperatively with the fishing community. Completion of these survey works are a critical activity ahead of the planned marine cable laying planned for 2026.</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Celtic community forum activity	<p>Celtic community forum activities:</p> <p>In 2025, we will hold a minimum of four meetings which will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community feedback. Project updates. Updates on fisheries activity. Community Benefit Fund delivery and learning. Activation of Phase 2 of the Community Benefit Fund. 	<p>Celtic community forum activities:</p> <p>Working with the Celtic community forum, we aim to maintain transparency and continue to build trust between EirGrid, and the communities impacted by project works which will enable project progression.</p>
Celtic community benefit fund activity	<p>Community benefit fund activities:</p> <p>In 2025, we will continue to monitor the projects that received funding in phase 1 as well as gather lessons learned and feedback from the community forum and key stakeholders to ensure smooth running of rollout of phase 2. We will also continue to engage with the community forum, local councillors, community groups, and wider community on Phase 2 of fund.</p>	<p>Community benefit fund activities:</p> <p>Through these engagements, we aim to achieve the successful opening, rollout and monitoring of Phase 2 of the Celtic Interconnector community benefit fund in line with project milestones in Q2 2025.</p>

Offshore development		
Offshore development Powering Up Offshore South Coast	<p>Emerging best options:</p> <p>This project will focus on providing infrastructure to connect Area A 'Tonn Nua' of the South Coast-DMAP to the onshore grid. Future areas B, C and D form part of the SC-DMAP, however they are planned for development by the Government for a future phase.</p> <p>In 2025, EirGrid will be in Step 4 of the grid development process for this project. This will involve engagement with the public and landowners on landfall and grid connection points and technology. This will include engagement with public representatives, key stakeholders on the south coast and the wider community.</p>	<p>Emerging best options:</p> <p>Through our engagements, we aim to be able to determine the landfall locations for the Cork and Waterford/Wexford areas, as well as confirm the offshore platform locations, onshore station location and the grid connection points.</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Offshore marine activity	<p>Marine Usage Licence:</p> <p>Pending a successful application to the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA), Marine Survey works will commence in Q1/Q2 2025. In addition to marine stakeholder engagement, this will also include significant landowner engagement at coastal landing points and in identifying suitable sites and route corridors to host our onshore infrastructure.</p> <p>In 2025, EirGrid will continue our engagement with elected representatives, existing community groups, representative groups and organisations and local stakeholders.</p> <p>We will also continue to pursue strategic sponsorships in the area with sporting, cultural and community groups.</p>	<p>Marine Usage Licence:</p> <p>Pending the award of the Marine Usage Licence by MARA, survey works will take place which will inform the design of the marine cable routes, offshore platforms and landfall locations.</p> <p>This will be an important step as EirGrid continues to support the safe and secure delivery of offshore infrastructure as we work towards achieving our renewable energy targets.</p>
Offshore marine survey engagements	<p>Offshore marine surveys and engagement:</p> <p>In 2025, EirGrid will identify marine stakeholders and continue engagement with the local fishing community who will be impacted by the proposed survey works.</p> <p>We will also maintain regular communication with the relevant fishing fleet in the vicinity of the 'Tonn Nua' site and the potential cable corridor and landfalls.</p> <p>EirGrid will liaise with seafood representative organisations on a regular basis with up-to-date information regarding marine licence applications and the marine surveys scope of works for 2025.</p> <p>We will also liaise with aquaculture licence holders where necessary.</p> <p>Finally, we will issue public notices in newspapers and in local media outlets ahead of key engagement or consultation activities or marine works.</p>	<p>Offshore marine surveys and engagement:</p> <p>By engaging with the fisheries community, EirGrid plans to gather feedback and incorporate suggestions where possible into the design.</p> <p>A key outcome will be the conclusion of the planned survey activities working in cooperation with the fishing community. We also plan early engagement with those impacted to minimise disturbance.</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Offshore community forum activity	<p>Community forum activities:</p> <p>In 2025, we plan to have the community forum in place and anticipate update meetings taking place at regular intervals throughout 2025.</p>	<p>Community forum activities:</p> <p>The key outcome in 2025 is to have the community forum in place and the cadence of meetings established.</p>
Offshore community benefit fund activity	<p>Community benefit fund activities:</p> <p>In 2025, 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.</p>	<p>Community benefit fund activities:</p> <p>In 2025, 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 that could apply for funding.</p>

Kildare Meath grid development project		
Kildare Meath grid development project	<p>Kildare Meath project engagements:</p> <p>We are currently at Step 5 of the Kildare-Meath Grid upgrade project which is with An Bord Pleanála awaiting a planning decision. We are expecting a decision on this in late 2024/early 2025. As soon as we know the decision, we will continue to engage with local stakeholders to share updates to stakeholders including the Community Forum as well as local councillors.</p> <p>We have also planned local sponsorships along the project route with the Chambers of Commerce, community groups as well as sport and cultural organisations, to help build awareness and strengthen our partnerships.</p>	<p>Kildare Meath project engagement outcomes:</p> <p>Effective engagement with stakeholders is key, particularly as we embark on this critical stage of the Kildare Meath project. (Please see our above section on community engagement for more details on why our community engagement is so important.)</p>
Kildare Meath community forum activity	<p>Community forum engagement:</p> <p>The forum will continue to meet quarterly (or more if needed) in 2025 and will focus on the development of a Community Benefit Strategy.</p>	<p>Community forum engagement:</p> <p>By meeting regularly with the community forum for the Kildare Meath project, we are ensuring we are providing regular and timely communications while offering transparency around our decision making concerning the project development.</p> <p>Our community forums also help to ensure community input remains at the heart of decision making around the project.</p> <p>The community forum is also central to the development of the Community Benefit Strategy.</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Kildare Meath community benefit fund activity	<p>Community benefit fund:</p> <p>In 2025, EirGrid will continue engaging with the Community Forum and the Independent Fund Administrator to develop the fund strategy. To support this objective, we will also continue our engagement with key stakeholders via information days along the project route in Q3 2025 to inform communities of Phase 1 of the community benefit fund strategy, including how this was adopted along with details regarding the application process.</p> <p>Stakeholder engagement will also include a briefing to local councillors and elected representatives on the development of the project and the Community Benefit Strategy.</p>	<p>Community benefit fund:</p> <p>This process will ensure that the strategy is developed transparently and with local knowledge at its centre. As a result, Phase 1 of the Community Benefit fund is expected to open in Q3 2025 following the commencement of construction of the project (subject to planning permission). The administering of funds at this stage ensures continued trust between EirGrid and the communities impacted throughout construction of the project.</p> <p>These engagements will ensure local 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.</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
East Meath North Dublin grid reinforcement project		
East Meath North Dublin grid reinforcement project	<p>East Meath North Dublin project engagements:</p> <p>Planning decision for this project is expected from An Bord Pleanála in late 2024/early 2025. Following this, the approval/refusal of the application will be communicated to the broad list of existing stakeholders including local authorities, councillors, the community forum and local businesses.</p> <p>Project communications will include direct mails, text alerts, website updates, radio adverts and billboards as well as print and digital media to support building awareness.</p> <p>Stakeholder open days and engagement 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.</p> <p>Another important part of our engagement work includes providing briefings for local councillors and elected representatives which we will continue to do across 2025, to ensure smooth delivery as well as sustained alignment.</p> <p>Finally, we will be aiming to build awareness and spread positive messaging through local sponsorships in the area. This will include sponsorships with community groups, sports clubs, and business groups in the area.</p>	<p>East Meath North Dublin project engagement outcomes:</p> <p>Effective engagement with stakeholders is key, particularly as we embark on this critical stage of the East Meath North Dublin project.</p> <p>(Please see our above section on community engagement for more details on why our community engagement is so important.)</p>
East Meath North Dublin community forum activity	<p>Community forum:</p> <p>The forum will continue to meet quarterly (or more if needed) in 2025 and will focus on the development of a Community Benefit Strategy. The focus will be on capacity building for the Community Benefit Strategy which will include presentations from partners such as LEADER and SEAI on the Sustainable Development Goals.</p>	<p>Community forum:</p> <p>By meeting regularly with the community forum for the East Meath North Dublin project, we are ensuring we are providing regular and timely communications while offering transparency around our decision making concerning the project development.</p> <p>Our community forums also help to ensure community input remains at the heart of decision making around the project.</p> <p>The community forum is also central to the development of the Community Benefit Strategy.</p>



Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
East Meath North Dublin community benefit fund activity	<p>Community benefit fund:</p> <p>In 2025, EirGrid will continue engaging with the community forum and the Independent Fund Administrator to develop the fund strategy. This process will commence once planning permission is granted for the project. Before this, capacity building with key partners and experts in the area of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) will be the focus on forum meetings.</p>	<p>Community benefit fund:</p> <p>Phase 1 of the community benefit fund is expected to open in Q3 2025 following the commencement of construction work. The administering of funds at this stage ensures continued trust between EirGrid and the communities impacted by our work.</p>

Laois Kilkenny grid development project		
Laois Kilkenny grid development project	<p>Laois Kilkenny project engagements:</p> <p>In 2025, EirGrid will engage with key stakeholders with regards to the following project areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of the Coolnabacky 400 kV Substation. • The 110 kV gas insulated station (in September 2025). • The 110 kV Athy to Portlaoise line. • The 400 kV line loop into Coolnabacky station. 	<p>Laois Kilkenny project engagements:</p> <p>Effective engagement with stakeholders is key, particularly as we embark on these critical stages of the Laois Kilkenny grid development project.</p> <p>(Please see our above section on community engagement for more details on why our community engagement is so important.)</p>
Laois Kilkenny community forum activity	<p>Community forum:</p> <p>In 2025, the forum will continue to meet and as a part of these, provide regular project updates.</p> <p>We will also review Phase 1 of the community benefit fund to ensure any feedback from key stakeholders and the community forum is accounted for in further phases.</p> <p>A key part of this will be to seek input from forum members on Phase 3 of the fund to ensure we are incorporating lessons learned and community views.</p>	<p>Community forum:</p> <p>Continued engagement ensures that the forum continues to have a say in the administering of funds and EirGrid's approach to Phase 3 builds transparency and deepens relationship with communities. The community forum is also central to the development of the Community Benefit Strategy.</p>
Laois Kilkenny community benefit fund activity	<p>Community benefit fund:</p> <p>EirGrid will continue to engage with the community projects that have been selected for Phase 2 funding. This will include tracking project progress as well as various engagements to create content to encourage applications for the final phase of funding. In line with this, we will continue to engage with the community forum and key stakeholders on the rollout of Phase 2, as well as the lessons learned for Phase 3.</p>	<p>Community benefit fund:</p> <p>Through continued engagement, we will be able to administer funding to projects that were selected for Phase 2, while reviewing the process for future fund rollouts.</p> <p>By continuing to monitor Phase 2, we will also be able to ensure that projects are progressing while continuing to build relationships with the local communities.</p> <p>Phase 2 is expected to close in Q2 2025, and we are aiming to commence Phase 3 in Q4 of 2025 (subject to energisation).</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
North Connacht grid development project		
North Connacht grid development project	<p>North Connacht project engagements:</p> <p>In 2025, we will re-engage with local stakeholders at both ends of the project (Ballina and Ballaghaderreen). This will include door-to-door engagement, engagement with the Local Authority, Community Forum, Elected representatives, and the wider community on ongoing station works being conducted to facilitate the wider project. This engagement will also be used to inform stakeholders with regards to road resurfacing being undertaken in early 2025 following advanced works (trenching and ducting) undertaken in late 2024.</p> <p>In mid to late 2025, we will also hold public information days at 2-3 venues across the project length.</p> <p>Regular, targeted engagement will continue on a small scale.</p>	<p>North Connacht project engagements:</p> <p>These engagements will help to facilitate project awareness (timelines, need, project development, community fund etc.) and will also provide opportunities for the community to give feedback and raise any concerns in any given area of the project ahead of construction.</p> <p>Disruption and delays, especially on the narrower roads from Swinford through to Ballina, will occur when construction commences. Therefore, continuing a high level of engagement will support our aim to ensure the public are properly informed.</p> <p>(Please see our above section on community engagement for more details on why our community engagement is so important.)</p>
North Connacht community forum activity	<p>Community forum:</p> <p>EirGrid will continue to engage with the community forum in 2025 alongside the Independent Fund Administrator to finalise the guidelines for the administering of Community Benefit fund Phase 1.</p> <p>EirGrid will also hold public information days along the project route in Q4 2025 to inform stakeholders of Phase 1 of the community benefit fund and how to apply.</p>	<p>Community forum:</p> <p>It is anticipated that the fund guidelines will be designed and finalised for the Community Benefit fund in Q1 2025. We will share the guidelines with stakeholders to ensure transparency in the process.</p> <p>We expect to open phase 1 of the fund in Q3 2025.</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Fingal-East Meath grid development project		
Fingal-East Meath grid development project	<p>Fingal-East Meath project engagements:</p> <p>In 2025, the project will move into step 4 which means EirGrid's focus will be on landowner and community engagement on route selection, to seek to determine the Emerging Best Performing Option for the project. This will then be subject to public consultation.</p> <p>EirGrid will also continue to engage with key stakeholders in the project area, including local authorities, chambers of commerce and community groups, such as Fingal Partnership. EirGrid will also seek further sponsorship and partnership opportunities in the area.</p>	<p>Fingal-East Meath project engagements:</p> <p>The planned outcome of engagements in 2025 is to identify the emerging Best Performing Option for the project which will entail site confirmation and associated circuits.</p>
Fingal-East Meath community forum	<p>Community forum:</p> <p>In Q1 2025, EirGrid will establish a community forum for this project.</p> <p>The forum meetings in 2025 will include project updates and provide an essential role in the public consultation, allowing members to contribute and feedback.</p> <p>Upon submission of a planning application, the forum will then focus on the community benefit strategy working with the independent fund administrator and other groups in the area to build an understanding of the process and how they can maximise benefit to their communities.</p>	<p>Community forum:</p> <p>By establishing the community forum for this project, EirGrid plans to ensure the consultation is as expansive as possible and that the views of communities are central to decision making. We also plan to minimise disruption to the project at a later stage through these engagements. The project will then enter into step 5, where, upon selection of a preferred site, EirGrid will apply for planning permission.</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Kildare-Dublin grid development project		
Kildare-Dublin grid development project	<p>Kildare-Dublin project engagements:</p> <p>In 2025, EirGrid will hold a public consultation on the Kildare Dublin Grid Reinforcement project. This consultation will introduce the proposed project, which will comprise a significant grid reinforcement across a significant area of Southwest Dublin and East Kildare.</p> <p>The consultation will present the options identified during step 3 of the project timeline, and EirGrid will seek feedback from the local community and stakeholders to narrow the options to those most suitable for the area and the community.</p>	<p>Kildare-Dublin project engagements:</p> <p>The consultation and associated engagement and events will establish EirGrid as a good neighbour and will mark the first time we have spoken with many of the stakeholders in the area.</p> <p>The consultation will also provide valuable local and community insights. All feedback will be taken into consideration in the design development process.</p> <p>The overall desired outcome for this project in 2025 is to identify the best performing options.</p>
Kildare-Dublin community forum	<p>Community forum:</p> <p>In 2025, EirGrid will establish a community forum as part of our public consultation.</p>	<p>Community forum:</p> <p>By establishing the community forum for this project, EirGrid is allowing for the opportunity to speak directly with the community. We aim to establish a forum which is representative of the engagement area and begin building trust with this forum as the project progresses.</p>



Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Powering up Dublin		
Powering up Dublin	<p>Powering up Dublin project engagements:</p> <p>In 2025, we will continue our engagement via eight planned school outreach activities. These events will involve an educational experience on the work of EirGrid and the Powering Up Dublin project.</p> <p>EirGrid will also hold resident association briefings in communities impacted by the five cable routes to provide updates on the project and feedback any concerns around delivery to project managers.</p> <p>We will also continue community group outreach along cable routes and targeted outreach to communities impacted by substation works in East Wall and the Poolbeg area.</p> <p>Finally, we will continue to sponsor cultural, sporting and community organisations to raise awareness of the project and build relationships along the routes.</p>	<p>Powering up Dublin project engagements:</p> <p>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.</p>
Powering up Dublin community forum activity	<p>Community forum:</p> <p>The community forum will meet 3-4 times in 2025, to allow for input into both the cable project and the Central Dublin Substation Project.</p> <p>Community forum meetings will focus on project updates and initial information around Community Benefit Funds towards the end of 2025. We will also expand membership of the forum to ensure that all areas of the city where EirGrid is proposing infrastructure are represented following refinement of the cables programme and the introduction of the Central Dublin Substation Project in 2024.</p>	<p>Community forum:</p> <p>These engagements will allow EirGrid to provide regular communications with the forum while maintaining open channels of communication.</p> <p>In 2025, the forum will also begin to feed into community benefit fund plans (depending on construction timelines).</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Powering up Dublin community benefit fund activity	<p>Community benefit fund:</p> <p>In 2025, EirGrid will establish the engagement strategy and structure for the community benefit fund for Powering Up Dublin. We will share the initial plans for the fund with the forum and key stakeholders to allow for feedback.</p>	<p>Community benefit fund:</p> <p>In 2025, 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.</p>
Dublin Infrastructure Forum activities	<p>Dublin Infrastructure Forum:</p> <p>The Dublin Infrastructure Forum (DIF) will continue to meet on a quarterly basis throughout 2025.</p>	<p>The Dublin Infrastructure Forum:</p> <p>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. As part of this work, EirGrid will continue to use any opportunities for collaboration with DIF members and will introduce all three bulk supply projects as part of the next phase of EirGrid's Dublin programme. This engagement will help minimise disruption and allow EirGrid to work as efficiently as possible across the Dublin region.</p>
Powering Up Dublin business forum activities	<p>The Powering Up Dublin business forum:</p> <p>The Powering Up Dublin Business Forum will meet 3-4 times in 2025. The purpose of these meetings is to engage on both the Dublin cable and central substation projects.</p>	<p>The Powering Up Dublin business forum:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Through regular engagement with the forum throughout 2025, our aim is to ensure (where possible) we include the requirements of the business community as the project progresses.</p>
Powering Up Dublin stakeholder engagement forum activities	<p>Powering Up Dublin stakeholder engagement forum:</p> <p>The Powering Up Dublin stakeholder engagement forum will meet 3-4 times in 2025. The purpose of these meetings is to engage on both the Dublin cable and central substation projects.</p>	<p>Powering Up Dublin stakeholder engagement forum:</p> <p>The stakeholder engagement forum facilitates our collaboration with bodies such as the Land Development Authority as well as large organisations such as An Post and Dublin Bus. Our engagement with this forum throughout 2025 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.</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Other project engagements		
Other project engagements	<p>Substation project engagements:</p> <p>In 2025, there are a number of projects involving the redevelopment or extension of existing substations. These are of a relatively smaller scale than the projects outlined in the preceding section. These projects are suited to more localised approach. EirGrid will perform targeted engagements such as door-to-door engagements and leafleting to those living close by, to inform stakeholders of the latest project developments.</p> <p>Following completion, EirGrid will issue small-scale Community Benefit Funds to impacted areas. There are three projects expecting delivery and the issuing of funds in 2025.</p>	<p>Substation project engagements:</p> <p>Engagement on these small-scale projects is important for EirGrid as it signifies our continued commitment to those communities hosting grid infrastructure beyond energisation when additional works are required.</p> <p>This engagement will assist in delivering these works which are essential to strengthening the grid.</p>
	<p>Overhead line (OHL) uprates and refurbishments engagements:</p> <p>These projects involve upgrading the existing OHLs to provide additional capacity and also refurbishments to extend the asset life. On these projects where a planning application is required, the landowner team will seek to meet all landowners to agree access for environmental surveys and outline the proposed works.</p>	<p>Overhead line (OHL) uprates and refurbishments engagements:</p> <p>Through these engagements, we will seek landowner consent to undertake surveys.</p>

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 we will be the main point of contact, providing an extensive account management service.

Continued improvement

We also continue to work on initiatives to augment and improve our engagement with both industry and customer stakeholders. This includes frequent engagements with several representative bodies within the industry. Through these initiatives we aim to better understand and predict when customers may require additional support from EirGrid while providing consistency and clarity in our approach in response to the stakeholder panel feedback. There are many interactions between customers and EirGrid as part of the connection process, and a key focus for us is to ensure we resolve any emerging issues as quickly and efficiently as possible, which we do via the dedicated support provided by our account management team.



Strategy

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), 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 and support.

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

For example, customers have stated that they would like more flexibility with clinics when required. As a result, we have scheduled longer duration clinics to allow for discussion on multiple projects or to facilitate more in-depth discussion when required. In 2025, we will look to augment these clinics further to meet the expectations of our customers.

Measurement of customer sentiment

As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, EirGrid conducts several customer surveys during the year to stay abreast with customer sentiment towards various aspects of our business.

Most prominent of these surveys is the annual customer survey which is used to gather structured feedback on EirGrid customer experience across a wide range of activities. This feedback is a key enabler for identifying lessons learned which leads to process improvements. The survey identifies what went well and should be repeated, in addition to what could have been done better and how that could be improved next time. Survey results are circulated, tracked and presented on extensively internally within EirGrid.

For example, we have extended the roll-out of our periodic engagements with key customers, since survey feedback has indicated that our customers want more timely and predictive engagements. As a result, we are looking to engage customers in advance of emerging issues through prompts and scheduling that create a more effective working relationship. We have done this in 2024 and will look to continue in 2025.

Account management engagements

EirGrid provides a range of bespoke engagements across our customer base including monthly customer meetings, webinars and periodic industry body engagements.

Account management engagements facilitate a more flexible channel for our customers to discuss emerging issues outside the business-as-usual activities (such as project and operational activities). This alternative route of engagement allows an adaptability which is key for early management of emerging issues and can provide efficiency to all processes. EirGrid's 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.

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's Account Managers to manage customer queries more effectively and efficiently. It also provides an additional method of access and engagement across our internal 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 date of receipt and query type, which allows EirGrid to track activities and respond more efficiently. In 2025, we are planning continued CRM uptake across all teams.

Transmission Outage Programme (TOP) 2025

The Transmission Outage Programme 2025 (TOP25) is the programme for all outages of transmission infrastructure which are planned to occur during the 2025 outage season (usually end of February to end of November). The TOP25 will include planned outages for capital works, for example, plant upgrade/ refurbishment, connection of new plants and customer connections, and all maintenance work outages.

There is a large volume of customer connections to be delivered in 2025, and the support and advocacy of the customer during TOP25 is a key priority for our connecting customers. Also, any works impacting our customers, (for example, the offloading of customer plants for maintenance works) required extensive engagements and opportunity for the customer and EirGrid to schedule outages at a time which suit both.

Once again in 2025, TOP25 will be supported by the Customer Account Manager (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.

Joint Outage Transformation Programme (JOTP)

Transmission outages are a key enabler in the delivery of the required grid infrastructure. It is a very challenging area given the exceptional scale and pace of change required to deliver this new infrastructure. The focus of the Joint Outage Transformation Programme (JOTP) is to increase outage availability, and to maximise utilisation and effectiveness of these outages. EirGrid and ESB Networks have been working closely on this as a priority and in December 2023, a [joint communication](#) was published which outlines the 18 specific interventions across the 7 workstreams which are now the focus of the JOTP.

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

Tri-Party Forum

EirGrid set up the Tri-Party Forum in 2024. 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.

Implementation: Customer and connections

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Continued enhancement of the EirGrid customer experience	Account management: In 2025, EirGrid will build on our strategic relationship building. This will involve working closely with our customers to fully understand any issues while seeking feedback, so that our account management team can be a strong and accurate voice for our customers across the EirGrid business.	Account management: Through these engagements, we aim to improve our tracking of customer issues with greater transparency on the progress of resolutions. Activities and timelines with regards to customer issues are tracked and assigned, promoting ownership and efficiencies. We also aim to ensure that the account manager is an advocate for the customer within the organisation, especially with respect to policy and/or procedural decisions.
	Customer Relationship Management tool rollout: In 2025, we plan to continue the rollout of our Customer Relationship Management tool to prompt timely interaction between the account manager and the customer.	Customer Relationship Management tool rollout: This will enable better tracking of emerging issues and as a result, a more effective working relationship which is fundamental to our account management strategy. Our CRM tool will also allow for proactive rather than reactive engagement through built-in intelligence that supports the streamlining of communications and processes while providing deeper insights and understanding to customer behaviour.
Increase the level of bespoke one on one interactions with our customers	Customer feedback: In 2025, we are planning for more regular, predictive and personal engagements with our most engaged customers. We plan for many of these to be onsite to help us better understand project and site issues.	Customer feedback: Through these engagements, we aim to better understand and predict when customers may require support from EirGrid. Through increased, more personalised engagements, we aim to work more collaboratively with our customers.

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
<p>Continued improvement of our customer service with the roll out of the 2025 customer survey</p>	<p>2025 customer survey: EirGrid will continue to engage with our customers via our 2025 customer survey, asking for feedback on their experience and opportunities to improve. The annual customer survey will take place in Q1 2025. The feedback received will shape our approach for the upcoming year. We will also conduct a customer outage planning survey in Q2 2025. We will host monthly customer clinics with associated feedback following the survey. 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, we will also engage at different levels (including management and at a working level) to fully understand how issues are impacting each customer across their organisation and how we can best help.</p>	<p>2025 customer survey: All survey feedback will be assessed, prioritised and actioned. The EirGrid CRM tool will be an enabler for documenting issues raised by the survey, facilitating the tracking of issues until closeout. This will ensure that there is improved transparency and survey feedback, ensuring the customer is notified of any outcomes. The annual survey outcomes will be communicated to customers and relevant internal EirGrid staff, facilitating a more efficient and transparent closeout of the survey. Survey outcomes will also be segmented into customer categories to provide clearer insights. By expanding the use of feedback surveys, we will seek to gather further actionable and measurable feedback. Finally, engaging with different levels will allow EirGrid to get a holistic overview of customer issues, supporting solutions that are as impactful as possible.</p>
<p>Rollout of our new customer extranet portals</p>	<p>Customer extranet portals: EirGrid has initiated a roll out of new customer extranet portals which will continue in 2025 for the relevant projects.</p>	<p>Customer extranet portals: Our new customer extranet portals will allow for easier access to shared information as well as provide a two-way exchange platform for data sets. Multiple users within an organisation can access the information and data can easily be updated by EirGrid and the customer. This functionality allows for secure data sharing, real time access to information and more efficient customer support.</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
<p>EirGrid organisation structure</p>	<p>EirGrid organisation structure: Customer survey feedback has indicated that customers would like a better understanding of the organisational structure of EirGrid. As a result, we have committed to giving the industry a clearer view of EirGrid's structure. We are looking to do this in 2025 by providing a guide on what parts of the organisation lead particular workstreams.</p>	<p>EirGrid organisation structure: By sharing an up-to-date organisational chart, EirGrid is able to clarify roles while supporting ownership and transparency. In addition, customers have requested this item through surveys. We have listened and as a result, will implement this in 2025.</p>
<p>Transmission Outage Programme (TOP) 2025</p>	<p>Outturn availability workshop: EirGrid will host the Outturn Availability workshop for TOP 2025.</p>	<p>Outturn availability workshop: This workshop will support the increased knowledge across industry of the Transmission Outage Programme (TOP) 2025. This workshop will include programme risks and the impacts of delays. Through increased collaboration between EirGrid and customers, we aim to ensure better and more efficient usage of outages. It will also decrease any connection project and programme conflicts in terms of timings.</p>



Implementation: Joint Outage Transformation Programme (JOTP) customer and industry working group engagements

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Enhance the delivery of customer connections via the Tri-Party Forum	<p>Quarterly customer and industry working group meetings:</p> <p>In 2025, EirGrid will lead our quarterly Tri-Party Forum engagements to discuss challenges, improvements, lessons learned and best practices.</p>	<p>Quarterly customer and industry working group meetings:</p> <p>These engagements will help streamline the customer connection delivery process, reducing delays and ensuring the timely delivery of new customer projects.</p> <p>By the end of 2025, our goal is to minimise the average connection delays, ensuring projects are delivered as close to their planned timelines as possible.</p>
Increase quality assurance of contestable builds	<p>Connection delivery workshops:</p> <p>Throughout 2025, EirGrid will host a number of customer workshops focused on the connection delivery process, addressing commissioning snags, specifications, design reviews and asset transfer.</p>	<p>Connection delivery workshops:</p> <p>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.</p>
Improve Customer & System Operator programme alignment	<p>Review project programmes:</p> <p>Building on the progress made in 2024, EirGrid will continue to formally request and collect project programmes from developers delivering TOP 25 projects and seeking TOP 2026 outages. Receiving these programmes on a quarterly basis will help identify potential conflicts, delays, opportunities and coordination needs.</p>	<p>Review project programmes:</p> <p>Regular receipt of customer programmes will provide greater certainty on project activities and resource requirements, ensuring better alignment of customer and EirGrid project programmes for TOP 2025 and in planning for TOP 2026. This will ultimately support the accelerated delivery of transmission infrastructure.</p>
Issue project lessons learned surveys	<p>Issue lessons learned surveys:</p> <p>In 2025, we will issue lessons learned surveys to developers and system operator personnel who completed projects in 2024.</p>	<p>Issue lessons learned surveys:</p> <p>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.</p>

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) Dispatch Down Analysis

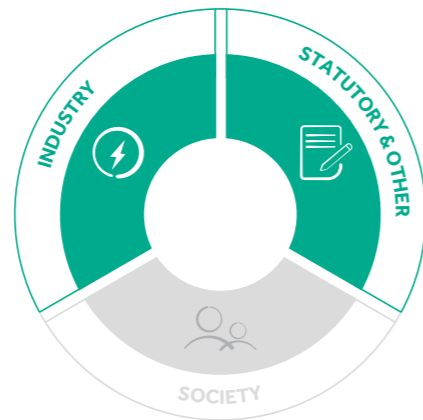


Overview

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 dispatch down analysis report to ECP customers. This report details the levels of solar and wind generation dispatch down that we might experience in the future, including surplus, curtailment and transmission constraints.

The ECP dispatch down analysis and reports are updated for each ECP batch window in line with the regulatory decision. In addition to providing important information for ECP customers, they can also 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, DECC and ESB Networks. ECP customers rely on these reports to get vital updates on potential levels of dispatch down. EirGrid ensures stakeholders are kept up to date via regular and timely communications.

Enhancing our stakeholder engagement

We have recently enhanced our engagement process to invite stakeholder input on the assumptions that inform the modelling process for the area dispatch down reports. This is to help our stakeholders know what to expect as well as give us an opportunity to listen and incorporate feedback where we can.

Continued collaboration is key and EirGrid plays a pivotal role in collating stakeholder insights so that all aspects are considered before the final models are developed.

In addition, by creating these channels for open dialogue, we are also allowing for further opportunities to provide transparency following any decisions that have been made.



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 DECC. These webinars are on the dispatch down modelling associated with the upcoming ECP connection batch. We discuss the draft and final modelling 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 oversupply, curtailment and constraints.



Implementation

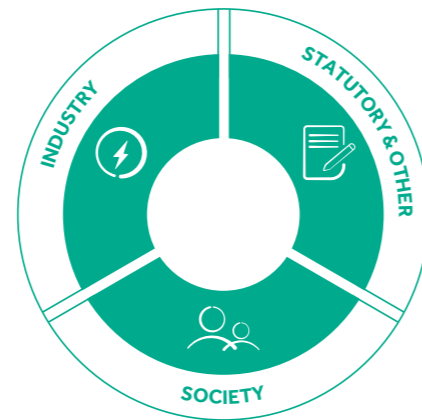
Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Enhance Engagement with ECP customers and industry to keep customers at the heart of business planning	ECP 2.4 Final Results presentation: EirGrid will present the final results of the ECP constraint reports to industry and CRU/DECC (Q1 2025).	ECP 2.4 Final Results presentation: Through this engagement, we aim to ensure the timely delivery of clear communications of the ECP dispatch down results while ensuring that all stakeholders fully comprehend the insights and analyses. This is important because it helps to ensure our customers have a chance to gain clarity on the details of the final model results while also offering the opportunity to ask questions.
	ECP 2.5 Initial Assumptions Workshop: EirGrid will provide industry and CRU/DECC with information on the initial assumptions of the modelling process associated with the ECP constraint reports and seek feedback (TBC following engagement with CRU and Industry). ECP 2.5 Final Assumptions workshop: EirGrid will provide industry and CRU/DECC with information on the final assumptions of the modelling process associated with the ECP constraint reports and seek feedback (TBC following engagement with CRU and Industry).	ECP 2.5 Initial and Final Assumptions Workshops: EirGrid will liaise with CRU, DECC, 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.
	ECP 2.5 Initial Results presentation: EirGrid will present the initial results of the ECP constraint reports to industry and CRU/DECC (TBC following engagement with CRU and Industry).	ECP 2.5 Initial Results presentation: This is an opportunity for EirGrid to present the initial ECP constraint report results. 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.



Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Publish 12 area constraint reports as per (CRU/20/060)	ECP 2.5 reports publication: 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 (TBC following engagement with CRU and Industry).	ECP 2.5 reports publication: 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 dispatch down analysis: We will continue to support CRU in the development of the next ECP dispatch down modelling and analysis and consult on any policy changes that could impact the ECP dispatch down methodology (Q1 2025).	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 as 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).

Offshore



Overview

The [Climate Action Plan 2023](#) commits to achieving at least 5GW of grid connected offshore wind capacity by 2030 with a further 2GW 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 owner and operator of the offshore transmission system.
- 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.



Strategy

Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment (DETE) engagement

EirGrid recognises the considerable multifaceted economic opportunity which the development of offshore renewables presents to Ireland. As a result, EirGrid actively engaged with the Department of Enterprise Trade and Employment in preparation of their Powering Prosperity publication from earlier this year (2024), and 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, to develop a Memorandum of Understanding to ensure that the economic impact of offshore wind development is best harnessed for Irish companies.

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.

EirGrid ENTSO-E committees

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 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.

Ostend TSO group

The Ostend TSO group is a collaborative forum of nine member states in the North Sea 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 Ostend TSO group in the European, Government and policy engagement chapter.)



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 are 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/Licensing of the OWEP in consultation with CRU and DECC.

Transmission Connection Agreement for offshore

The EirGrid POCCT project team (Proposed Offshore Connection Contract Templates) was set up to develop the template legal contracts and related documentation between EirGrid and Phase 1 developers for connection and use of the transmission system. The team holds regular engagement sessions with representatives from each of the six phase one developers to discuss contractual, technical and legal issues which have been received positively by industry. This feedback is gathered through meetings minutes, change logs and legal drafting proposals. The feedback is then used by EirGrid to refine the template legal contracts.

We expect these POCCT project meetings for phase one to be completed by Q1 2025.

Phase 1 Coordination

EirGrid established the Phase 1 Coordination group in 2024. This Coordination group comprises five working groups attended by both EirGrid and the phase one developers namely, Operation and Maintenance, System Operations, Asset Transfer, Technical and Legal.

The aim of the Coordination group is to complete the key grid related actions and associated milestones required by the Phase 1 developers to meet their Final Investment Decision. This is building on the work done for the POCCT project team engagement.

South Coast Offshore Transmission Project (Phase 2)

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](#) 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 megawatts 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.)

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.

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 provided feedback on SEAI's Offshore Renewable Energy Technology Roadmap which was published in July [ORE-Technology-Roadmap.pdf \(seai.ie\)](#).

In addition, we are now participating in EPRI's Offshore Wind Programme referred to as OSW P249. Under this arrangement, EirGrid along with other TSOs are funding EPRI work and will share the results.

Offshore and onshore Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) Auctions engagement

The RESS Auctions Team meets regularly with DECC, CRU, ESB Networks and EirGrid key stakeholders to agree the design, rules and eligibility of the Offshore and onshore 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.

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

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's in-house Ecologist, 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 1

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
CRU and DECC Taskforce engagements		
Complete and report on all actions assigned to EirGrid for 2025 in Offshore Wind Energy Programme (OWEP) Workstream 5	<p>Offshore Wind Energy Programme (OWEP):</p> <p>In 2025, our work will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly engagements with CRU and DECC. Monthly representation at the Government Taskforce meeting. Quarterly representation at the Government Taskforce/Industry meeting. Provision of quarterly progress updates to DECC for publication on their website. 	<p>Offshore Wind Energy Programme (OWEP):</p> <p>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 the offshore wind energy targets for 2030. The workstream also monitors the delivery of the required onshore grid upgrades.</p> <p>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.</p>

Connection agreements		
Engage with CRU in relation to regulation of POCCT and APA documentation	<p>Regulation of POCCT and APA:</p> <p>In 2025, we will have biweekly engagements with CRU to determine the process as well as identify any risk and issues with regards to the regulation of POCCT and APA documentation.</p> <p>We will also complete and finalise any outstanding milestones within this area.</p>	<p>Regulation of POCCT and APA:</p> <p>These engagements are vital for the regulation of both the Transmission Connection Agreement and Asset Purchase Agreement (APA) documentation as we work towards achieving our offshore targets.</p>
Connection offer to be issued to Phase 1 developers	<p>Connection offers:</p> <p>EirGrid will hold monthly engagements with Phase 1 developers to provide updates in relation to the Transmission Connection Agreements, Asset Purchase Agreements and Connection Offer Letters.</p>	<p>Connection offers:</p> <p>Through these engagements, EirGrid aims to produce an Asset Purchase Agreement and Transmission Connection Agreement which is acceptable to both Phase 1 developers and EirGrid are happy to sign.</p>
The development of a Phase 1 Coordination Engagement Plan	<p>Phase 1 Coordination Engagement Plan:</p> <p>EirGrid will hold monthly meetings with Phase 1 Coordination Steerco outlining milestones, timelines, risks, assumptions, issues, and dependencies. We will also ensure alignment of each of the workstreams with the requirements set.</p>	<p>Phase 1 Coordination Engagement Plan:</p> <p>Through these engagements, we aim to complete the key actions and associated milestones as set out in the Phase 1 Coordination Engagement Plan.</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Phase 1 Coordination Group Engagement		
Establish and run five separate working groups with the Phase 1 developers (Technical, regulatory, asset readiness, legal contracts and operational compliance)	<p>Developer working groups:</p> <p>EirGrid will hold monthly meetings with Phase 1 developers in relation to milestones, timelines set out in the Phase 1 coordination plan and as relevant to each of the five working groups.</p>	<p>Developer working groups:</p> <p>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 developers' progress under each of the working group headings with a focus on consistent collaboration as well as building stronger relationships.</p>

Offshore Asset Readiness Plan Engagements		
Develop a warehousing programme as part of the Offshore Asset Readiness Plan	<p>Develop a warehousing programme:</p> <p>EirGrid will engage with the Irish Ports & Marine Institute which will involve the completion of a ports study to assess the facilities and business plans with a plan to tender for port services by mid-2025.</p>	<p>Develop a warehousing programme:</p> <p>To ensure that EirGrid is ready to store offshore export cable to support operations and maintenance.</p>
Work with state entities to understand developments in the marine industries and build strong relationships	<p>Marine engagements:</p> <p>In 2025, EirGrid will engage with Irish Lights on a quarterly basis. Irish Lights provide an essential maritime safety service around the coast of Ireland.</p>	<p>Marine engagements:</p> <p>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.</p>
Build relationships in the European TSO and offshore service provider space	<p>European engagement:</p> <p>In 2025, EirGrid will continue to engage with other TSOs via the Ostend Declaration (on a quarterly basis), as well as actively seek wider engagement across Europe via bodies such as ENTSO-E.</p> <p>(For more information on this, please see our chapter on national and international engagement.)</p>	<p>European engagement:</p> <p>Through these engagements, EirGrid is able to exchange expertise to support a streamlined and innovative approach to our role within offshore delivery while aligning with international best practice.</p> <p>They will 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.</p> <p>They will also help us gain a better understanding of contracting arrangements and developments in operation and maintenance regimes around Europe.</p> <p>Finally, we can ensure Ireland's unique needs are represented in the development of European policy and standards.</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Supply chain, procurement and market engagement		
Market engagement with both domestic and international markets to generate interest from suppliers and contractors in the following CIO procurement competition	<p>Market engagement:</p> <p>In 2025, EirGrid plans to attend several industry events such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enterprise Ireland Offshore Wind Forum. Wind Energy Trade Show. 	<p>Market engagement:</p> <p>Developing a comprehensive market intelligence understanding, will be vital to EirGrid in meeting our offshore goals. These engagements will give us a greater understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technological advancements. Market demand and trends. Cost. <p>We also aim to benchmark EirGrid's projects with those of competitors in terms of cost, efficiency and technology.</p>
Awarding of works Package 1 of the Marine Surveys Framework	<p>Marine surveys:</p> <p>In 2025, EirGrid will be procuring Marine surveys through the 'ENQEIR823-Marine Surveys' Framework.</p>	<p>Marine surveys:</p> <p>Marine surveys are crucial for the successful planning and execution of offshore wind projects. By conducting these comprehensive marine surveys, EirGrid can ensure that its offshore wind projects are planned and executed with a thorough understanding of the seabed conditions, environmental impacts, and regulatory requirements.</p>

Phase 1 developer engagement		
Engage collaboratively with Phase 1 Offshore Developers through planned project communication channels	<p>Project engagements:</p> <p>In 2025, engagement will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly progress meetings with phase 1 developers to support progress across a wide scope of project deliverables. 	<p>Project engagements:</p> <p>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.</p>

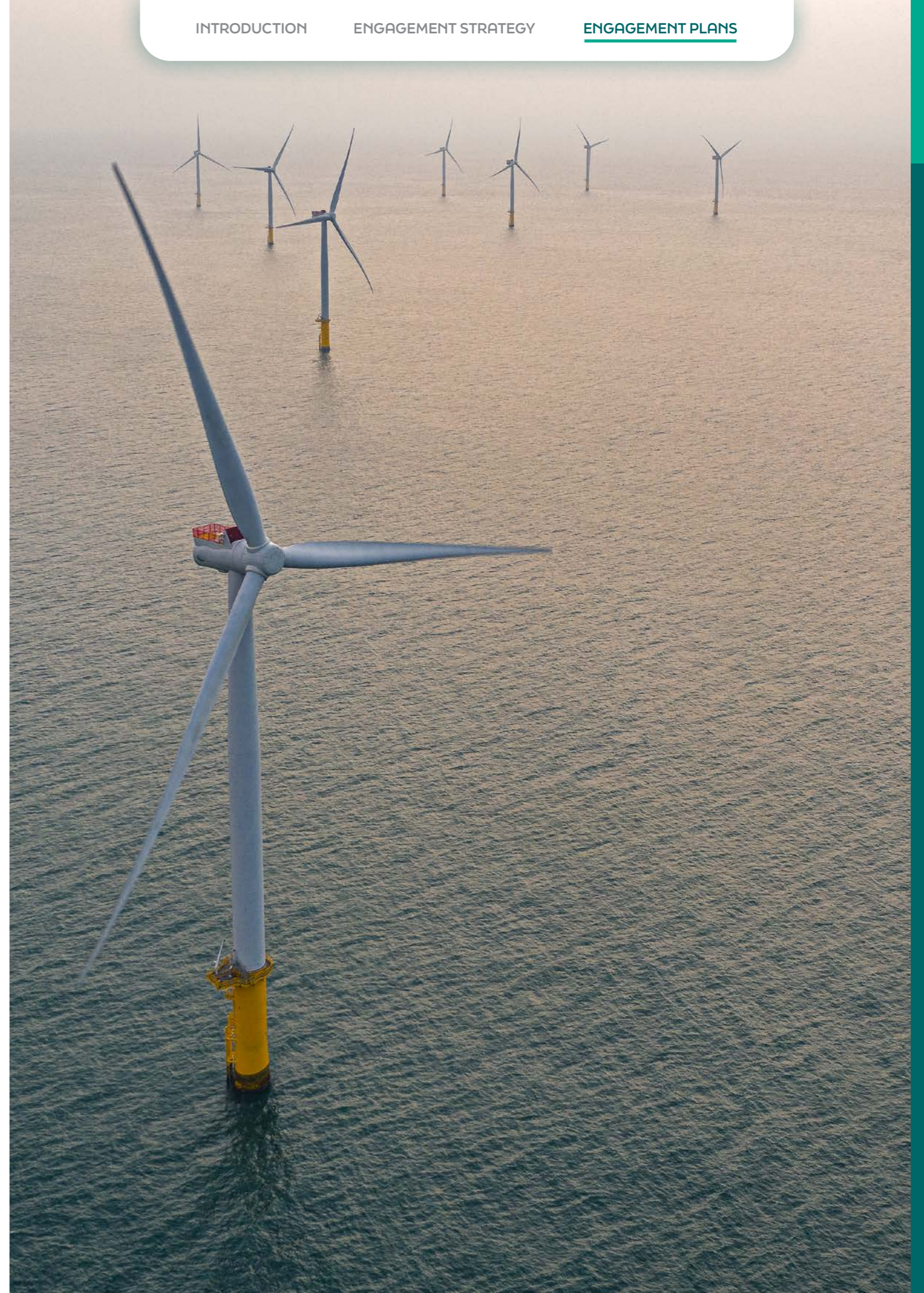
Implementation: Phase 2

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Survey the Tonn Nua area as outlined in the DECC SC-DMAP as well as cable corridors and potential landing points	<p>Marine survey works:</p> <p>In 2025, we will continue to engage with local communities and fishers on planned survey works. We will keep communities and all relevant parties up to date on developments, dates and any changes. We will also continue working with the Seafood Working group, local authorities and communities.</p>	<p>Marine survey works:</p> <p>Through these engagements, we plan to keep those impacted by our work up to date on all project developments, as well as timelines for marine surveys. (Please see our chapter on public engagement for more information.)</p>
ORESS Tonn Nua (2.1) Offshore Wind Auction	<p>ORESS TONN NUA (2.1):</p> <p>In 2025, we will continue our engagement with Wind Energy Ireland and developers to provide relevant pre-auction technical information.</p>	<p>ORESS TONN NUA (2.1):</p> <p>EirGrid aims to provide relevant information to developers and DECC in advance and during the auction process to ensure successful auction process and outcomes. (See our chapter on operating and developing the grid and market for more information on this.)</p>
Developer engagement post-ORESS TONN NUA (2.1) auction	<p>Developer engagement:</p> <p>After the successful ORESS TONN NUA (2.1) developer is announced, EirGrid will commence engagement.</p>	<p>Developer engagement:</p> <p>These engagements will support project alignment and will also allow us to agree communication channels and exchange important information.</p>
Engage with local authorities and other statutory bodies	<p>Engage with local authorities:</p> <p>In 2025, EirGrid will continue to engage with local authorities and other statutory bodies as and when required to support the project development process.</p>	<p>Engage with local authorities:</p> <p>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.</p>
Attend industry focused conferences	<p>Industry focused conferences:</p> <p>In 2025, EirGrid will be attending important industry-focused conferences across Europe including Bilbao, Hamburg and also a 3-day event in Copenhagen.</p>	<p>Industry focused conferences:</p> <p>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.</p>
Attend Wind Energy Ireland trade events	<p>Wind Energy Ireland trade events:</p> <p>EirGrid will attend Wind Energy Ireland trade events throughout 2025.</p>	<p>Wind Energy Ireland trade events:</p> <p>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.</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
<p>Apply for the South Coast Offshore Transmission Project to become a Project of Common Interest (PCI)</p>	<p>Project of Common Interest: As part of the 2024-2026 application cycle, EirGrid will apply for the South Coast Offshore Transmission Project to be awarded a Project of Common Interest in 2025.</p>	<p>Project of Common Interest: PCI projects are recognised as having a significant impact on the European electrical system, helping the EU to achieve critical energy policy and climate objectives of ensuring affordable, secure and sustainable energy for all citizens. Successful projects benefit from accelerated permitting procedures and potential EU funding through the Connecting Europe Facility, which will support EirGrid's role in offshore development.</p>

Other working groups		
<p>Continued Enterprise Asset Management (EAM) involvement in Phase 2 projects to ensure the appointed owner engineer is ensuring EirGrid's technical requirements are always maintained</p>	<p>Enterprise Asset Management: In 2025, EirGrid will hold:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly Phase 2 Project Meetings. • Monthly technical sub-committee meetings. 	<p>Enterprise Asset Management: Through these engagements, EirGrid will support the development of standard concept design to support EirGrid's tendering for offshore plan-led projects and standardisation for the Asset Owner.</p>
<p>Continue networking with industry and suppliers to build further on relationships and to allow for collaboration to support EirGrid's enduring Asset Owner function and maintenance of assets</p>	<p>Relationship building: In 2025, EirGrid will continue building relationships with industry and suppliers via the following engagements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops with submarine cable suppliers. • The Wind Energy Ireland industry roadshow. 	<p>Relationship building: These engagements will be vital for supporting EirGrid in our mission to maintain and further develop our industry awareness as well of emerging industry trends that will impact asset ownership and asset monitoring (for OpEx).</p>

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 the 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.

ESB is the Transmission Asset Owner (TAO) and its business unit ESB Networks carries out the licenced 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 and Ireland's consumers.



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)

Our Network Delivery Portfolio (NDP) is the most ambitious programme of works ever undertaken on the transmission system in Ireland. 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, covering the regulatory Price Review (PR)5 and PR6 periods. The work is required to connect significant volumes of offshore and onshore wind, solar and conventional generation while also reinforcing the power system and implementing over 40 candidate solutions identified in Shaping Our Electricity Future to support the future economic and social development of our country. 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.

Our teams regularly engage with teams in ESB Networks to ensure that projects are developed, scoped, designed and constructed in a timely manner. The PR5 joint TSO/TAO incentive metrics are illustrative of the quantitative and qualitative metrics supporting the delivery of the NDP. We engage with external stakeholders on the format of the NDP on a regular basis to improve this important information channel.

Transmission Outage Programme

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 80% renewable electricity by 2030.

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 as an in-season programme of work. EirGrid's PR5 Investment Planning and Delivery incentive (TOP) metric reports on the annual outturn performance of the TOP 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 and our Joint Outage Transformation Programme (JOTP) is underway and delivering real and positive impact. The JOTP consists of 7 workstreams with 18 interventions to increase outage availability, to maximise utilisation and effectiveness of outages. These interventions have been deployed as business as usual (BAU) to optimise outage management.

Joint workstream leads are appointed by the TSO and TAO for each workstream. The Joint Outage Transformation Programme aspires to provide additional outage availability and increase the utilisation of outages taken on the system. The PR5 joint TSO/TAO incentive metric reports on the annual qualitative and quantitative performance delivery of the JOTP.

TSO/TAO Multi-Year Joint Incentive Plan 2025-2029

EirGrid and ESB Networks have developed the PR5 Joint Incentive Multi-Year Plan for 2025-2029 as required per CRU/20/154. The TSO/TAO have previously published Joint Incentive Multi-Year Plans for the periods 2021, 2022-2027, 2023-2028 and 2024-2028. 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 incentive multi-year plan contains four metric areas which are reported on annually:

1. Deployment of New Technology.
2. Project Initiation to CPP Agreed.
3. Joint Process Improvement.
4. Asset and Programme Data Exchange/ Digital Collaboration.

EirGrid and ESB Networks teams collaborate closely to deliver the strong joint incentive performance outcomes on an annual basis.

Digital collaboration

Section 12 of the Infrastructure Agreement requires the TSO and TAO to operate effective information exchange arrangements. Along with the TAO, EirGrid actively embraces new digital technologies and has jointly committed to CRU that effective information exchange requirements will be achieved through enhanced digital collaboration. This work is progressing as part of the Joint TSO/TAO incentive and will continue during PR5 and into PR6.

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 engagement and collaboration on project and programme development and delivery issues.

These include:

- 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 NDC provides management oversight 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.

Joint Programme Management Office

The key purpose of the JPMO is to improve PR5 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 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 2025	Planned outcomes
Network Delivery Portfolio (NDP)	<p>Stakeholder engagement: In 2025, EirGrid will publish quarterly NDP updates on the Customer and Industry section of our website², as set out in CRU/20/154.</p> <p>Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC): In 2025, EirGrid will produce an annual report (Capital Approval Projects) which we also submit to DECC. This outlines the large-scale onshore grid development projects to be delivered in the next year.</p>	<p>Ensures transparency with our stakeholders by providing a regular status update on the three milestones of EirGrid Capital Approval, Project Agreement with ESB Networks and energisation for these projects.</p> <p>EirGrid teams regularly engage with teams in ESB Networks to ensure that projects are developed, scoped, designed and constructed in a timely manner.</p>
Transmission Outage Programme (TOP)	<p>Stakeholder Engagement: In 2025, EirGrid will publish annual updates on the Customer and Industry section of EirGrid's website³.</p>	By doing this, EirGrid provides a channel to communicate and engage with all stakeholders, as well as a transparent programme of outage works for the upcoming year.
	<p>TAO/TSO Engagement: Ongoing collaboration to develop Joint TAO/TSO programme for all planned outages of transmission infrastructure planned for the upcoming year.</p>	Ensures effective stakeholder engagement and communications, which raise awareness of our planned outage programme for the upcoming year.
Joint Outage Transformation Programme (JOTP)	<p>TAO/TSO Engagements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	<p>The JOTP Workstream Engagements will deliver the aims and objectives of the JOTP for 2025-2029 which will be tracked and reported on as part of the Joint TSO/TAO Incentive Multi-Year Plan 2025-2029 and the Annual Performance Report.</p> <p>Ensures effective stakeholder engagement and communications on the JOTP which is a key delivery enabler for Transmission Projects and Outcomes in the Network Delivery Portfolio (NDP).</p> <p>Ensures transparency with our stakeholders by providing regular status updates on the progress of the JOTP.</p>

² Network Delivery Portfolio (NDP) | Grid Information | EirGrid

³ Outages | Customer Information | EirGrid

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Joint Outage Transformation Programme (JOTP) (continued)	<p>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).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Programme Workstream We are working towards implementing 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 managed from a budget, risk and schedule perspective.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Policy Workstream Through this workstream, we 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.</p> <p>Information & Technology Workstream We are 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.</p>	

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Joint Outage Transformation Programme (JOTP) (continued)	<p>Customer and Industry Workstream JOTP specific engagements are also delivered by the TAO/TSO throughout the year with a number of lobby groups including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shaping our Electric Future Advisory Council (SOEF AC). • Wind Energy Ireland (WEI). • Irish Solar Energy Association (ISEA). • Joint WEI & ISEA. <p>Further information can be found in the Customer and Connections chapter of this plan.</p>	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.
	<p>Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU) We will provide updates on the programme process to CRU on a bi-annual and annual basis.</p> <p>Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) We will provide updates on the programme process to DECC on a quarterly and annual basis.</p>	Regular communications with ESB Networks, CRU and DECC ensure the successful delivery of joint TSO/TAO incentives in PR5 to deliver our ambitious programme for grid delivery and transformation, including new connections and asset management.
TSO and TAO Joint Incentive	<p>The TSO and TAO consult on and submit a 5-year joint incentive plan to CRU annually, focusing on network project delivery targets in four separate areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deployment of New Technology. • Project Initiation to Committed Program Parameter (CPP) Agreed Phase. • Asset and Programme Data Exchange. • Joint Process Improvements and engagement forums include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Outage Transformation Programme. 	<p>Successful TAO/TSO engagement leading to on track implementation of a jointly developed programme of work, more project delivery outputs and joint process improvements. This enables the introduction of new technologies, to meet the target of 80% renewable electricity by 2030.</p> <p>Successful delivery of the PR5 joint incentives in PR5 around the delivery of our programme for grid delivery including new connections and asset management.</p>
Digital Collaboration	<p>TAO/TSO Engagements: TAO/TSO are committed to optimising collaboration arrangements for information exchange to support the delivery of transmission network investment under PR5.</p>	<p>Enables increased knowledge sharing which aids the delivery of projects and programmes, accelerating our ability to deliver infrastructure at pace.</p> <p>Progression towards a fully co-ordinated joint digital information exchange project which delivers on the Asset and Programme Data exchange metric as set by CRU under the PR5 joint TSO/TAO incentive plan.</p> <p>Increased ability to ensure alignment with stakeholder targets, increasing stakeholder confidence.</p>

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).

The collaboration for 2025 to 2029 will be detailed in the plan resulting from the following consultation [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 under the following pillars: reducing dispatch down, secure future power system, facilitating new technology and whole of system solutions.

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 transmission and distribution systems and enhanced coordination between the system operators. This enhanced management and coordination are key to achieving the ambitious climate action targets. These include obtaining 80% of our electricity from renewable sources by 2030 and achieving net-zero emissions no later than 2050.



Strategy

TSO-DSO ongoing engagement

EirGrid and ESB Networks (as the DSO) collaborate on an ongoing basis to plan and develop Ireland's power system. EirGrid is responsible for ensuring that electricity can flow from generation sources, via the high voltage transmission system, to the distribution system which connects domestic, commercial and industrial customers.

To connect new DSO generation, demand and/or transformers, EirGrid enters into specific System Operator Connection Agreements. Together, ESB Networks and EirGrid engage in joint cooperative studies to design solutions in order to meet the evolving needs of electricity users.

A key joint focus in our work is to minimise the overall costs of the generation, transmission, distribution and supply of electricity to final customers.

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.

Shaping Our Electricity Future Advisory Council

EirGrid formed the Shaping Our Electricity Future Advisory Council in 2022. Its key purpose is to provide a forum to discuss stakeholder views and concerns on issues that impact the implementation of the SOEF Roadmap as well as to offer the opportunity to stakeholders to provide input, advice and assistance on matters related to the SOEF Roadmap and its implementation.

As part of these collaborative sessions, EirGrid and ESB Networks will communicate any key developments with regards to the above TSO-DSO Operating Model Working Group at this forum.

(For more information on this, please see our chapter on the SOEF 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 DECC, CRU, Energy Sector agencies (GNI, ESBN, and 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.

Implementation

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Joint System Operator Programme (JSOP) collaboration to jointly address system needs and deliver whole of system solutions	Joint System Operator Programme (JSOP): Continued project management and governance meetings. This includes joint project management meetings on a weekly basis, monthly joint management meetings and quarterly meetings of the executives who sponsor the programme.	Joint System Operator Programme (JSOP): The outcome of these engagements is to produce the Outturn Report and Audit Report (which will be submitted to CRU) to detail our 2025 deliverables in April 2026.
Develop future TSO-DSO Operating Model progressing core operating model design activities and scoping the required activities for implementation	TSO-DSO Operating Model: Together, we will host industry information and engagement sessions on the future TSO-DSO Operating Model. The joint core group is expected to continue to meet on a weekly basis, with a leadership group engaged on a monthly basis in addition to this.	TSO-DSO Operating Model: Through continued collaboration, EirGrid and ESB Networks will scope and develop the TSO-DSO Operating Model.
	Re-engage industry on the future TSO-DSO Operating Model: EirGrid will hold an industry webinar by H1 2025, building on the webinars held in June 2024.	Re-engage industry on the future TSO-DSO Operating Model: Provide updates from EirGrid and ESB Networks to industry on the progress of future TSO-DSO Operating Model, including plans for implementation.

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 situation has improved, maintaining the balance between supply and demand remains tight.

In 2025, EirGrid will continue to focus on ensuring a secure supply, as well as play an active role in the CRU's security of supply programme of work, covering the following aspects.

System Operations

EirGrid is continuing to enhance emergency preparedness and embedding the initiatives developed under the programme in normal business processes. We have successfully led annual multi-stakeholder exercises since 2021, involving DECC, CRU, Gas Networks Ireland (GNI), the National Oil Reserves Agency (NORA) and ESB Networks, to test our emergency response protocols, and incorporated lessons learned and stakeholder feedback from previous exercises.

Demand Initiatives (demand management and reduction)

EirGrid and CRU continue to engage with Large Energy Users (LEUs) on requirements for demand flexibility and emergency demand reduction.

Temporary emergency generation, retention of existing units, capacity market auctions)

EirGrid has led the procurement of two tranches of temporary, emergency generation totalling 650 Megawatts which will operate outside of the market arrangements.

In 2025, EirGrid will continue leading a programme of work to extend the operation of some older generators for security of supply.

EirGrid is closely monitoring and supporting the delivery of successful capacity market auction projects (see our chapter on operating and developing the grid and market for more details on these).

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 DECC, CRU, Energy Sector agencies (GNI, ESBN, and NORA), the Office of Emergency Planning, customers, market participants, and Government Sector Departments.

The risk preparedness initiatives under this programme include supporting CRU in developing the Risk Preparedness Plan (RPP) for Ireland every 4 years, 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 includes participation with the CRU in the identification of regional electricity crisis scenarios under Regulation (EU) 941/2019.

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.

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

EirGrid plays a leading role in developing and executing multi-stakeholder exercises involving the Energy Sector and the National Emergency Coordination Centre. The energy sector response, led by the Joint Energy Emergency Response Team (JEERT) is outlined in the EirGrid Power System Emergency Communications Plan (PSECP).

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.

EirGrid and ESB Networks regularly update and test their joint crisis messaging plan. EirGrid has further worked with DECC and the Government Information Service (GIS) to establish and exercise an Energy Emergency Communications sub-group, which is activated under the National Emergency Coordination Group (NECG) in the event of a national emergency.

As part of its emergency planning, 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. In 2024, EirGrid also initiated reporting on Net Transfer Capacity reductions implemented on the East West Interconnector (EWIC) exports at times when the day-ahead margins have been tight.



Strategy

Collaboration with DECC and CRU

EirGrid is working with DECC and the Government Information Service (GIS) to establish and exercise an Energy Emergency Communications sub-group, which is activated under the National Emergency Coordination Group (NECG) in the event of a national emergency.

Collaboration with ESB Networks

Regular and timely communications with ESB are vital for ensuring the response to incidents on the power system that could impact security of supply. 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.



Implementation

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
<p>Engage with Extra Large Energy Users (XLEUs) on requirements for demand flexibility and emergency demand reduction</p>	<p>Demand flexibility and emergency demand reduction:</p> <p>EirGrid and the CRU continue to engage with Extra Large Energy Users (XLEUs) on requirements for demand flexibility and emergency demand reduction.</p>	<p>Demand flexibility and emergency demand reduction:</p> <p>These engagements allow for the continuous and timely communications with regards to Extra Large Energy Users (XLEUs) and mandatory demand curtailment as we continue to balance supply and demand.</p>
<p>Risk preparedness and emergency planning</p>	<p>Risk preparedness and emergency planning:</p> <p>At EirGrid, we plan and implement a multi-year risk preparedness and emergency planning programme, working closely with our key stakeholders, namely DECC, CRU, Energy Sector agencies (GNI, ESNB, and NORA), the Office of Emergency Planning, customers, market participants, and Government sector departments.</p> <p>Engagements include operational exercises such as inter-control room emergency engagements between EirGrid and ESB Networks, as well as emergency instructions and engagements with Large Energy Users (LEUs) and generators.</p>	<p>Risk preparedness and emergency planning:</p> <p>In 2025, we will continue to support CRU in the development of the updated Risk Preparedness Plan as detailed in our Risk preparedness and emergency planning section above.</p> <p>Ultimately, these engagements will help to ensure a smooth response in the event of a national emergency impacting security of supply.</p>
<p>Collaboration with ESB Networks to ensure our capability in responding to incidents on the power system that could impact security of supply</p>	<p>Collaboration with ESB Networks:</p> <p>EirGrid works closely with ESB Networks in enhancing emergency protocols for a variety of potential risks to security of supply.</p> <p>EirGrid and ESB Networks also regularly update and test their joint crisis messaging plan.</p>	<p>Collaboration with ESB Networks:</p> <p>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.</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Timely publishing of the weekly Systems Margins Outlook report	<p>Systems Margins Outlook report:</p> <p>This is a twice weekly report that provides an early warning signal of system tightness for demand customers.</p>	<p>Systems Margins Outlook report:</p> <p>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.</p>
Timely publication of the new National Resource Adequacy Assessment (NRAA)	<p>National Resource Adequacy Assessment (NRAA):</p> <p>The NRAA, 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.</p> <p>As part of this process, we also 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.</p> <p>This year's report will include a Plain English Summary to increase the accessibility of the information for our stakeholders, following the positive reception and feedback from our stakeholders on this for the GCS.</p>	<p>All-island Resource Adequacy Assessment:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Timely publishing of the annual Winter Outlook report	<p>Winter Outlook:</p> <p>The Winter Outlook provides an analysis for the security of supply outlook for the coming winter. We will look to publish this report in Q4 2025.</p>	<p>Winter Outlook:</p> <p>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.</p>

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).



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. This is across areas including scheduling and dispatch, generator testing, performance monitoring and more.

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

As well as significant ongoing day to day interactions with our customers and key stakeholders including ESB networks, Gas Networks Ireland and CRU across a range of topics including energisation, generator testing, outages, real time system and market operations, performance monitoring and more, we also have also highlighted below some key areas of focus:

Onshore and offshore Renewable Support Scheme (RESS) Auctions engagement

The RESS Auctions Team meets regularly with DECC, 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 the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC), 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 & 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 DECC and the regulators

As part of our continued collaboration, EirGrid works with DECC 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 the Environment, Climate & Communications (DECC) and CRU

To ensure our continued alignment with Government RES-E (electricity generated from renewable energy sources) onshore and offshore renewable policy, EirGrid engages regularly with our regulator who play an important role in connection, asset and charging policy and ensuring auction competition. We work closely with CRU to ensure we remain compliant and support our work in achieving our climate ambitions.

We also engage regularly with DECC and the regulator on our progress with regards to the Shaping Our Electricity Future programme of work.

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 market. This auction, known as a T-4 auction because it secures capacity four years in advance. The auctions are run by EirGrid and SONI (the Electricity System Operator for Northern Ireland). As part of this work, EirGrid and SONI engage with our respective regulators on a weekly basis to organise these critical auctions for the industry.

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 topics such as system operations, 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 Arrangements System Services (FASS) and the Scheduling and Dispatch Programme (SDP)

We seek recommendations on Future Arrangements System Services (FASS) and the Scheduling and Dispatch Programme (SDP) design from our expert partners. These recommendations are communicated to and discussed with the energy industry and the regulatory authorities via workshops, papers from our partners ([published on the EirGrid website](#)) and bilateral engagements facilitated on request.

Monthly Industry Workshops

EirGrid holds monthly Future Power Market Industry workshops. The workshops are an important forum for industry representatives and EirGrid to get together to inform, discuss, listen and ask questions on aspects such as the Scheduling and Dispatch Programme (SDP), Future Arrangements for System Services (FASS), Energy Market Policy and the Balancing Market Reform.

Monthly newsletters

EirGrid issues a monthly [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 monthly Future Power Market 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.](#)

Following these meetings, there is also a Joint Grid Code Review Panel with both regulators and relevant stakeholders, including SONI, to review all-island grid code changes impacting areas of common governance.

Large Energy User Taskforce

The Large Energy User Taskforce serves as a platform for Transmission and Distribution System Operators and the data centre industry to engage on issues related to data centre power system fault response and power quality, which impact power system planning and operations. Its purpose is to facilitate communication and engagement on these challenges, share relevant information and data, and consider potential solutions. Chaired by EirGrid, the Taskforce includes representatives from SONI, ESB Networks and data centre customers. We hold monthly meetings to support regular and effective engagement while providing important updates as needed.

Shaping Our Electricity Future Advisory Council

EirGrid formed the Shaping Our Electricity Future Advisory Council in 2022. Its key purpose is to provide a forum to discuss stakeholder views and concerns on issues that impact the implementation of the roadmap as well as to offer the opportunity to stakeholders to provide input, advice and assistance on matters related to the SOEF Roadmap and its implementation.

(Please see our chapter on the Shaping Our Electricity Future Advisory Council for more information.)

Generator and Outturn Availability Forum

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

2025 customer survey

In 2025, EirGrid will continue to engage with our customers via our customer survey, asking for feedback on their experience and opportunities to improve. The annual customer survey will take place in Q1 2025. The feedback received will shape our approach for developing and operating the grid and market.

(For more information on this, please see our customer and connections chapter.)

Implementation

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Markets		
Work towards delivering Future Arrangements for System Services (FASS)	<p>Future Arrangements for System Services:</p> <p>In 2025, we will continue to update the Phased Implementation Roadmap in partnership with the regulatory authorities, for delivering the FASS Programme.</p> <p>We will also seek feedback from stakeholders via consultations on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parameters and scalars. Non-reserve products, locations, volumes and procurement. 	<p>Future Arrangements for System Services:</p> <p>Following on from these engagements, EirGrid will issue the respective recommendations papers to the Regulatory Authorities for SEMC decision. Additionally, the next iterations of the FASS Phased Implementation Roadmap are anticipated to be published in March and September 2025 which will outline the timeline for IT systems delivery.</p>
Drive the procurement of Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES)	<p>Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES):</p> <p>In 2025, EirGrid will publish an LDES Procurement Recommendations Paper for industry and the regulatory authorities. This will support a series of workshops which we will hold during the consultation period (Q4 2025).</p>	<p>Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES):</p> <p>Through these engagements (including the consultation and workshops), EirGrid will support the development of an LDES Procurement Recommendations Paper. This work is not only in response to an action placed upon the TSO by DECC 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.</p> <p>Finally, workshops during the consultation period will ensure that the points made in the consultation responses are accurately captured.</p>
Monthly future power markets industry workshops	<p>Future power markets industry workshops:</p> <p>We will continue to hold our monthly future power market industry workshops.</p>	<p>Future power markets industry workshops:</p> <p>The Future Power Market Industry workshops are an important forum for industry representatives and EirGrid 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) and the Balancing Market Reform. The workshops facilitate discussions around the functional, technical and formal arrangement changes, stakeholder engagement and programme management updates. This forum strengthens our relationships with industry participants, while providing clear and consistent communications as recommended by the stakeholder panel.</p>

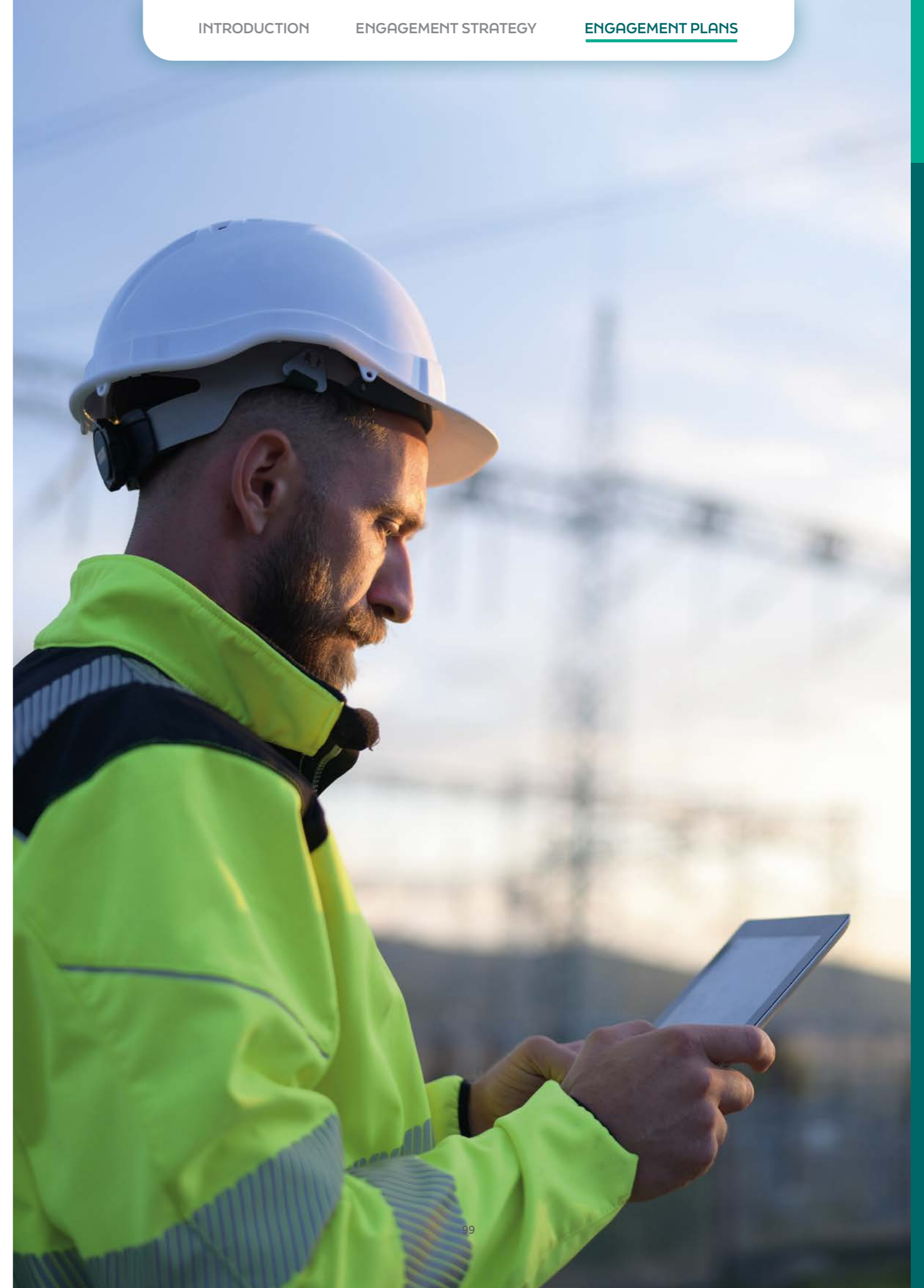
Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Monthly Future Power Markets Newsletter	<p>Future Power Markets Newsletter:</p> <p>EirGrid will continue to issue our Future Power Markets newsletter every month. These are published on the EirGrid website and promoted via our social media channels.</p>	<p>Future Power Markets Newsletter:</p> <p>EirGrid's Future Power Markets monthly newsletter serves as an important medium for us to update stakeholders on developments across Energy Market Policy, Scheduling and Dispatch Programme, Future Arrangements for System Services and the Balancing Market Reform. The publication complements our monthly Future Power Market Industry Workshops by keeping stakeholders up to date on the most recent developments across our core project areas and workstreams.</p>
Strengthen relationships with EU counterparts and contribute to relevant EU future markets policy developments	<p>EU engagement:</p> <p>In 2025, 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.</p>	<p>EU engagement:</p> <p>These engagements allow EirGrid to contribute to relevant market 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.</p>
RESS 5 finalisation of terms and conditions, industry briefings and auction completion	<p>RESS 5 terms and conditions:</p> <p>In 2025, we will continue to engage regularly with DECC and their legal and energy consultants to agree the draft RESS 5 terms and conditions for consultation, while incorporating lessons learned from RESS 4. The auction is due to run in Q2 – Q3 2025.</p>	<p>RESS 5 terms and conditions:</p> <p>RESS 5 in will be the last RESS auction allowed under the current European State Aid approved 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 within the 2023 CAP 24/25 Targets. EirGrid, as the Auction Administrator, will publish the RESS 5 timetable, qualification and auction information packs and chair an Industry Auction Information Session.</p>
Complete the Offshore Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (ORESS) Tonn Nua Auction	<p>Tonn Nua Auction:</p> <p>In 2025, we aim to complete the ORESS Tonn Nua industry briefings and information sessions with DECC (once the South Coast DMAP and Final ORESS Tonn Nua terms and conditions are published).</p> <p>We expect the completed ORESS Tonn Nua auction registration, qualification and auction to occur in Q1 2025.</p>	<p>Tonn Nua Auction:</p> <p>Through these engagements, we will successfully identify the single winner of the 900 MW Tonn Nua Auction Capacity to allow for Maritime Area Consent (MAC) application and letter of offer from DECC.</p> <p>Publication of the ORESS Tonn Nua Provisional and Final Auction Results in conjunction with DECC.</p>
T-1 2025/2026 Capacity Auction to help secure electricity demand	<p>T-1 2025/2026 Capacity Auction:</p> <p>EirGrid will publish Auction Information Packs for industry stakeholders, with the auction to take place in early 2025.</p>	<p>T-1 2025/2026 Capacity Auction:</p> <p>Auction aims to ensure enough MWs are secured in order to meet demand for the 2025/2026 Capacity Year. Auction Results to be made public.</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
T-4 2029/2030 Capacity Auction to help secure electricity demand	T-4 2029/2030 Capacity Auction: EirGrid will publish Auction Information Packs for industry stakeholders, with the auction to take place in (around) September 2025. EirGrid 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.
Market Operator User Group (MOUG) engagements	Market Operator User Groups: EirGrid will host six Market Operator User Group engagements in 2025.	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. These meetings give attendees direct access to key people in EirGrid including SMEs while allowing them the opportunity to give feedback. EirGrid also gives full updates with regards the previous few months as well as upcoming changes.
Weekly participant calls	Weekly participant calls: EirGrid will host calls with participants on a weekly basis throughout 2025.	Weekly participant calls: These engagements 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.

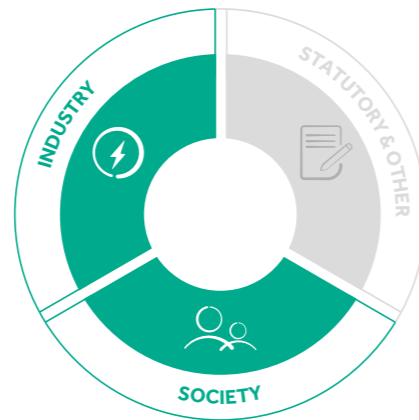
Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
System services		
System Services Procurement Gates	System Services Procurement Gates: In 2025, EirGrid will hold two DS3 bidders' sessions in relation to each procurement gate. We will provide daily support via email and/or telephone relating to DS3 current and future participants queries.	System Services Procurement Gates: These engagements will allow for the successful procurement of system services via the approved gate.
Outage planning and outturn availability		
Generator Outage Scheduling	Generator Outage Scheduling: In 2025, EirGrid will continue to engage with our generation customers to schedule outages and deliver the annual generator committed outage programme for 2026 as well as management of the ongoing 2025 outage plan. We will provide support relating to generator outages and queries.	Generator Outage Scheduling: These engagements will allow for the successful delivery of the generator outage programme for 2025 and the publication of the 2026 committed outage programme.
Generator and Outturn Availability Forum	Generator and Outturn Availability Forum: In 2025, EirGrid will meet industry via the Generator Outturn Availability Forum to provide updates to industry on transmission outages, outturn availability reports and to address generator customer queries.	Generator and Outturn Availability Forum: These engagements will provide a summary of Outturn Availability for 2024 as well as an overview of the transmission outages planned in 2025 to provide transparency and support queries.

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Future operations		
Grid Code Evolution to 2030	<p>Grid Code Evolution to 2030: EirGrid will hold virtual and in-person workshops as required with the Large Energy User Taskforce and other relevant groups. Formal Grid code review panel meetings will also take place throughout 2025.</p>	<p>Grid Code Evolution to 2030: Through our engagements, EirGrid will discuss and implement Grid Code modifications. Through these engagements, we are supporting EirGrid's mission to deliver 80% of electricity from renewable sources by 2030.</p>
Trialling of new technology providing system services	<p>Qualification Trial Process: EirGrid will initiate a Qualification Trial Process in 2025 informed by a call for inputs from industry.</p>	<p>Qualification Trial Process: These engagements will enable EirGrid to publish the Qualification Trial Process 2025 informed by a call for inputs. All of these engagements will ultimately support our work towards achieving our system operational policy ambitions along with our climate ambitions by 2030.</p>
Delivery of Low Carbon Inertia Services Phase 2	<p>Delivery of Low Carbon Inertia Services Phase 2: In 2025, EirGrid will engage through a broad spectrum of methods, including formal engagement processes and panels, industry forums, consultation publications and workshops.</p>	<p>Delivery of Low Carbon Inertia Services Phase 2: The purpose of these engagements is to inform stakeholders of the procurement process for LCIS Phase 2 and publish the Low Carbon Inertia Services (LCIS) Phase 2 Consultation(s). 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.</p>

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).



Innovation and research



Overview

Meeting the energy demands of tomorrow presents many complex challenges and moving towards a more sustainable future requires significant transformation. In order 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 research bodies to partner with** who are experts in areas in which EirGrid and SONI are not experts.
- **Identifies Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and research performing organisations (RPOs) that are creating a talent pool of graduates and researchers,** to support our work and long-term objectives.
- **Supports shaping the direction of research** across the island of Ireland and Europe.
- **Observes research and innovation developments** in industry and academia.
- Ensures that our staff are **kept up to date with developments.**
- Keeps stakeholders informed and **fosters innovation across our organisation.**



Strategy

Innovation and research engagement channels

As part of our work, we engage across multiple channels to support our work in cultivating innovation across our organisation as well as ensure we share and gain insights into the latest research to support our progress. These channels include industry advisory boards, various forums and panels and letters of support. We also engage with universities and technological universities in Ireland.

Innovation and research board

The Innovation and Research Management Board is an internal Board which oversees innovation and research related activities across the business whilst ensuring alignment within the company strategy is maintained.

Research forum

The EirGrid research forum is a cross-functional group that is made up of representatives from across the organisation. Although this is an internal knowledge sharing forum, external stakeholders are occasionally invited to present relevant research.

Implementation

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Champion the Emergence of the energy citizen through the EirGrid CleanerGrid competition	<p>CleanerGrid engagement:</p> <p>In 2025, we will be engaging with university/IT professors and staff and students of all colleges in the Republic of Ireland to promote and run our CleanerGrid competition.</p> <p>At the end of the competition, we aim to host an awards ceremony with a prize going to the winning team.</p>	<p>CleanerGrid engagement:</p> <p>CleanerGrid is a competition run by EirGrid for third level students. Now in its second 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.</p> <p>In 2025, our aim is to grow the CleanerGrid competition while building relationships with both universities and students.</p>
Support innovation and research in areas relevant to EirGrid's innovation and research strategy	<p>Letters of support:</p> <p>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 2025.</p>	<p>Letters of support:</p> <p>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.</p>

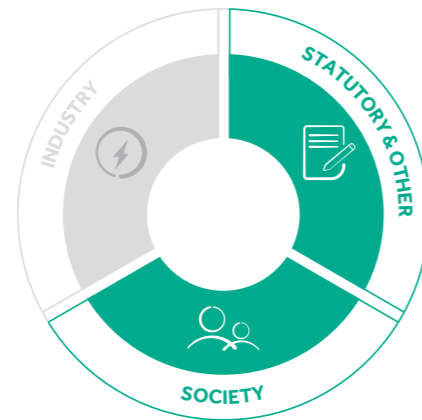


Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
<p>Build new academic relationships to further develop our nine Strategic Innovation Programmes within our innovation and research strategy</p>	<p>Strategic Innovation Programmes engagements:</p> <p>In 2025, we will continue to engage across a number 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.</p>	<p>Strategic Innovation Programmes engagements:</p> <p>To help better ensure both progress and success towards EirGrid's targets, we are committed to engaging across multiple academic, industry and research bodies to achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance data-driven decision-making using AI. • Develop a flexible Network Strategy. • Champion the emergence of the energy citizen through our CleanerGrid project (see above). • Understand the routes to SNSP (System Non-Synchronous Penetration). • Set the course for the control centre of the future with a continued focus on improving our security posture. • Lead the island's electricity sector on sustainability. • Prepare for a multi-purpose offshore HVDC (High Voltage Direct Current) grid. • Grow EirGrid TSO capabilities for developing and operating the new offshore grid. • Plan for a net zero carbon, customer focused, export capable power system.

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

Our engagement with our sustainability partners such as Business in the Community Ireland (BITCI), and SciFest, aims to foster collaboration that drives impactful environmental, social and governance (ESG) initiatives. Through these strategic alliances, we strive to create meaningful change by supporting communities, driving sustainable initiatives in education and promoting sustainable business practices. Our objective is to leverage these partnerships to enhance our ESG footprint, create shared value, and contribute to a more sustainable and equitable society. Our engagement with our key partners is outlined in the table below.

In addition, EirGrid has a number of other stakeholders and industry peer groups who we interact with and share knowledge and key learnings in terms of our work relating to our sustainability strategy as well as that relating to 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 knowledge and leverage the benefit of this network of sustainability leaders. We also regularly engage with other Commercial Semi-State bodies on sustainability matters as well as NewEra with particular focus on the Commercial Semi State Climate Action Framework.

Business Working Responsibly Mark

The Business Working Responsible Mark ('The Mark') is Ireland's Environmental, Economic, Social and Governance (EESG) standard. Third-party verified by the National Standards Authority of Ireland, it is the standard for sustainability that fosters a culture of continuous improvement, ongoing accountability, and leadership. Since 2010, EirGrid has been accredited with the Mark, which highlights 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.

To achieve The Mark, EirGrid goes through a rigorous audit-based process that embeds a strategic management system which comprises of a suite of indicators straddling all four pillars of EESG. Within each indicator, companies demonstrate their performance using both an environmental and social lens.

EirGrid's reaccreditation audit will take place in 2025. Our recertification of the Mark further evidences our primary goal and notes our position amongst leading companies committed to sustainability.

Implementation

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Committed to a sustainable society	<p>SciFest:</p> <p>In 2025, we will continue our partnership with SciFest. Engagement will include various events and awards.</p>	<p>SciFest:</p> <p>The SciFest programme promotes science, technology, engineering, and maths (STEM) education through the provision of a forum for students at local, regional, and national level to present and display their scientific investigations.</p> <p>EirGrid is a Project Partner with SciFest which sees the EirGrid Cleaner Climate Award rolled out to the SciFest@School, SciFest@College and the SciFest National Final.</p> <p>Through our engagements, we are continuing to support second level students to explore and develop their ideas relating to a cleaner energy future.</p> <p>These engagements are also hugely important for raising awareness of EirGrid's work to share knowledge and build trust in the community, which is vital for both acceptance and project delivery.</p>
Committed to a sustainable society	<p>DCU Access to the Workplace Programme:</p> <p>Regular engagement throughout 2025 and a summer intern will be placed in the organisation.</p>	<p>DCU Access to the Workplace Programme:</p> <p>Aligning with our focus on education, 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.</p> <p>As part of our partnership, a student from the DCU Access to the Workplace Programme will undertake an internship in EirGrid during the summer 2025, providing invaluable professional experience and developing important skills which can be applied as they return to complete their final year of studies.</p>
Committed to a sustainable society	<p>Ellenfield Community College Dublin:</p> <p>We will continue our mentoring programme (called 'World of Work') with leaving certificate students through the Business in the Community Ireland (BITCI) Action on Education Programme.</p> <p>Engagement will include hybrid group mentoring sessions on a variety of topics including career opportunities, personal effectiveness, and important life skills development.</p>	<p>Ellenfield Community College Dublin:</p> <p>Through these engagements, we help students gain exposure to new and different perspectives while improving communication, self-confidence and self-awareness.</p> <p>These engagements also help us enhance our partnerships with local communities and empower young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Committed to a sustainable society	<p>Young Social Innovators:</p> <p>In 2025, we will continue our partnership with Young Social Innovators.</p>	<p>Young Social Innovators:</p> <p>Since 2022, we have been in a partnership with the non-profit organisation Young Social Innovators (YSI). The partnership saw EirGrid become the new Climate Action and Energy partner to YSI for a three-year period and also involved the launch of a new Climate Action and Energy Award.</p> <p>Through this partnership, we recognise the importance to involve young people in dialogue surrounding climate action efforts.</p>
Committed to a sustainable society	<p>Elevate Pledge (BITCI):</p> <p>Engagement in 2025 will include meetings and data sharing.</p>	<p>Elevate Pledge (BITCI):</p> <p>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 2025.</p>
Committed to a sustainable society	<p>Friends of the Earth/Renewable Grid Initiative:</p> <p>In 2025, we plan to continue our collaborative project 'Our energy future' with Friends of the Earth and the Renewable Grid Initiative to engage communities and groups on Ireland's energy transition.</p>	<p>Friends of the Earth/Renewable Grid Initiative:</p> <p>The core activity of the project is focused on inclusive discussions and reflections with communities, civil society organisations, local groups, and other stakeholders.</p> <p>It is intended that this project will conclude in 2025 with the development of a pact by the renewables sector to secure ongoing support and resources for biodiversity measures in renewable development.</p>
Committed to a Sustainable Society	<p>Electric Aid:</p> <p>Electric Aid is a social justice and development fund between EirGrid and ESB employees. In 2025, ElectricAid will continue to support 76 projects in six continents. All funded projects are linked to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.</p>	<p>Electric Aid:</p> <p>ElectricAid's focus of support is on development, and it supports communities through self-help and, when needed, emergency relief.</p>
Committed to a Sustainable Society	<p>STEM Teacher Internship programme:</p> <p>EirGrid has committed to participating in the STEM Teacher Internship (STInt) programme again for 2025. Our roles will be advertised in early 2025 through the STInt Portal.</p>	<p>STEM Teacher Internship programme:</p> <p>The STInt Programme is a national programme by DCU to provide primary and post primary teachers with paid summer internships in STEM roles.</p> <p>We are aiming to have recruited two teachers to start with us in June 2025.</p>

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Driving climate action and transformation of the electricity grid	Carbon footprint assessment: In 2025, we expect to continue our carbon footprint assessment with the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi).	Carbon footprint assessment: Continuing our carbon footprint assessment in 2025 will help us set emissions reduction targets as we continue our efforts to reduce our carbon footprint.
Being a responsible business	The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) Monitoring and Reporting: Engagement to continue throughout 2025.	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: Engagement to continue throughout 2025.	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. EirGrid is accredited to the BWR Mark for a three-year period up to end 2025.

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Being a responsible business	Commercial Semi-State Climate Action Framework (CSS-CAF) (NewERA): Engagement to continue throughout 2025.	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. The framework will apply to every commercial semi-state company and covers five commitments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 a bi-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 2025 initiatives and comms throughout the year.	Smarter Travel Mark National Transport Authority (NTA): In 2025, we will continue working on improvements in our infrastructure to encourage employees to sustainably commute to work.

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

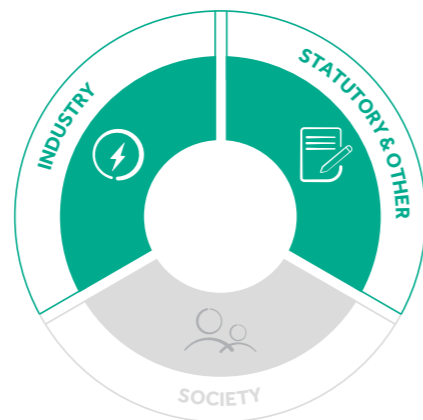


European, Government and policy engagement



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



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 by 2030 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, SEAI, GNI and academia to determine the generation, storage and supply of renewable energy sources such as green hydrogen.

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.



Strategy

The Renewables Grid Initiative (RGI)

The Renewables Grid Initiative is a unique collaboration of NGOs and TSOs 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.

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 such as offshore resource development, market integration and maintaining system security. EirGrid Chief Innovation and Planning Officer, Liam Ryan, is a member of the ENTSO-E board and has previously served as the Vice-Chair.

EirGrid ENTSO-E committees

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 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.

European Agencies

As part of EirGrid's European engagement, we also work closely with agencies such as Coreso, to support the continued development of Ireland's grid and market. As Regional Coordination Centres (RCCs), Coreso supports Transmission System Operators (TSOs) to contribute objectives that are in line with recommendations made by the European Commission.

Ostend TSO group

The Ostend TSO group 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. As a member, EirGrid exchanges expertise and ensures the requirements of the Irish system are considered.

Global Power System Transformation (GPST)

The Global Power System Transformation (GPST) is a consortium of TSOs who are operating power systems that have very high levels of variable non-synchronous renewable energy sources.

EirGrid's engagement with the Global Power System Transformation (GPST) Consortium of TSOs allows us to both share our expertise while collaborating with thought leaders in the electricity space to further cultivate innovative solutions that support the work we're doing to reach our targets.



Collaboration with other 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.

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, which result in collaborative reporting input

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.

Renewable Energy Taskforces

EirGrid continues to liaise with Government key stakeholders via both the Offshore Renewable Energy Taskforce and the Accelerating Renewable Energy Taskforce, in order to progress the delivery of offshore wind and related targets, as well as ensure continued alignment and messaging.

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.

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's in-house Ecologist, biodiversity is a particular focus of these engagements.

Implementation

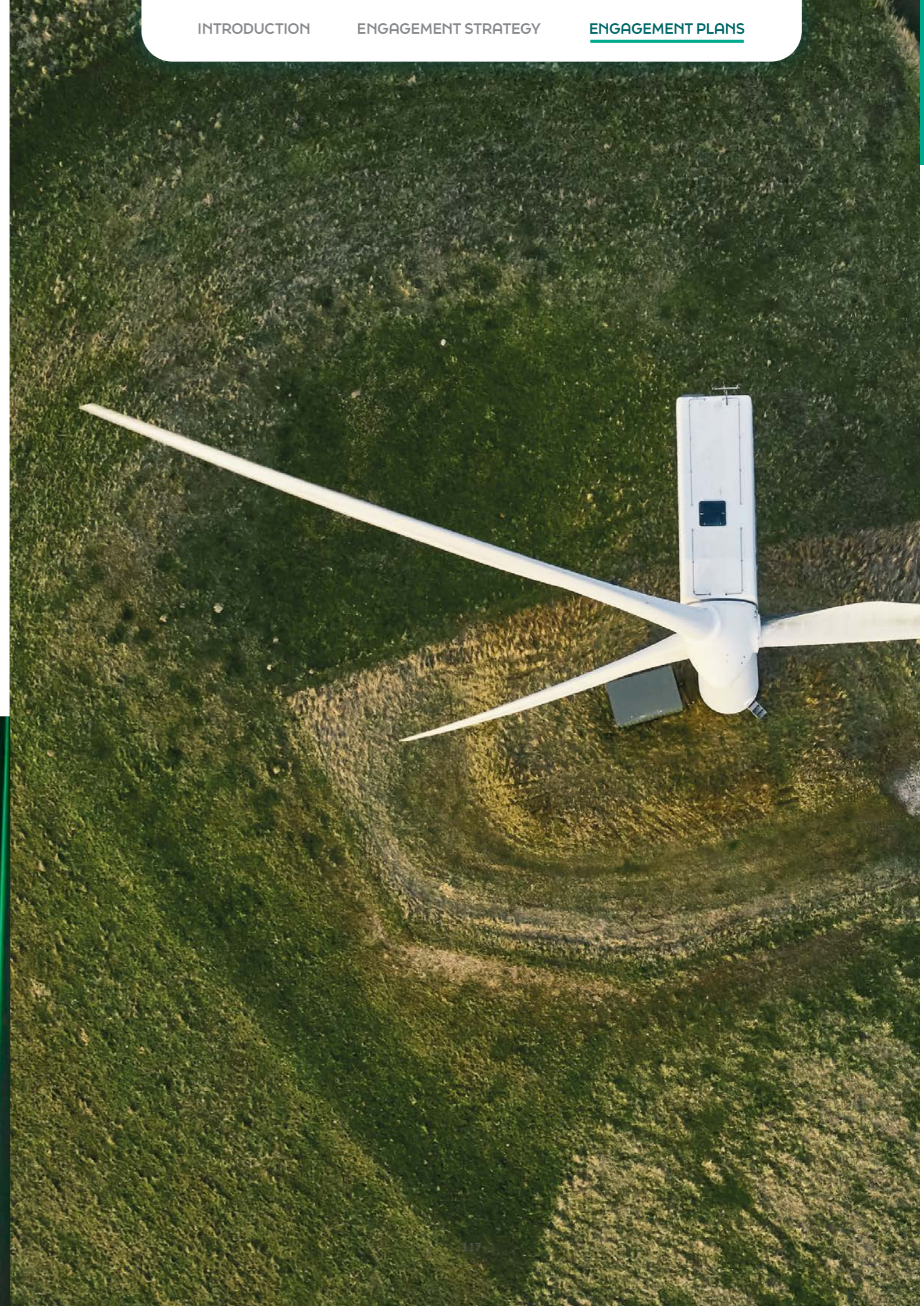
Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Obtain 80% of our electricity from renewable sources by 2030 and reach net-zero emissions no later than 2050	Climate ambitions: EirGrid will engage with the Government and CRU on a range of matters, including the Climate Action Plan, offshore transmission 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.	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: 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 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.	Broadening our engagement: These engagements will help ensure we are aligned with international best practice on key technical areas. They will 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: We will also continue to engage with the IEA across a range of areas, including the citizen's role in the energy transition.	IEA engagement: EirGrid will support IEA on developing tools for their global leadership on People-Centred Clean Energy Transitions.
	Government Climate Action Plan: We will keep the department updated on how EirGrid is progressing towards reaching the Government's Climate Action Plan targets via weekly engagements with DECC.	Government Climate Action Plan: These engagements are supporting the delivery of regular and timely updates to DECC as we work towards delivering the Government's Climate Action Plan targets.

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
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 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 actively engage with the Ostend TSO group. In 2025, EirGrid's focus will include collaborating with NSEC working group to develop an expert paper as well as a grid map featuring projects in Irish waters.	Engagement with other TSOs: Through extensive and regular engagement across a wide range of European entities, EirGrid is able to both share and gain insights with regards to the latest innovations, as well as influencing outcomes to ensure Ireland's specific needs are recognised and represented in the development of European policy and standards. It also helps to ensure EirGrid remains aligned with other European TSOs as we work together towards our shared climate objectives.
Progress EirGrid's interconnection strategy	Interconnection engagement: We will look to assess the opportunities to develop further interconnection, particularly with France and Great Britain.	Interconnection engagement: Through our engagements, we aim to progress our work on the ENTSO-E offshore roadmap to support offshore development while identifying the steps needed to address key regulatory and technological gaps. We will also 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.
Reach our target of 95% System Non-Synchronous Penetration (SNSP)	GPST engagement: In 2025, EirGrid will continue to participate in the Global Power System Transformation (GPST) Consortium of TSOs who are operating power systems that have very high levels of variable non-synchronous renewable energy-sources.	GPST engagement: Our engagement with the Global Power System Transformation (GPST) Consortium of TSOs allows us to both share our expertise while collaborating with thought leaders in the electricity space to further cultivate innovative solutions that support the work we're doing to reach our targets.

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
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.	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 duties within this area.
Engage with European TSOs and energy industry on biodiversity mitigation and practice (onshore and offshore)	Renewable Energy Initiative engagement: In 2025, EirGrid will partake in integrated vegetation management biannual meetings. EirGrid will also partake in RGI steering group meetings to progress a research study on the impact of electromagnetic fields on flatfish. As part of our work with the Offshore Coalition for Energy and Nature (OCEaN), we will engage via a range of technical presentations, the OCEaN Members Assembly (June 2025) through working groups, via the OCEaN National Conference (Oct 2025) and other OCEaN technical meetings.	Renewable Energy Initiative engagement: Through these engagements, we will align the EirGrid biodiversity strategy and policy with European best practice, latest policy and legislation. We will also identify innovations to increase efficiency in delivering EirGrid biodiversity strategy targets.
Risk review and contribute to draft legislation	Contribute to public consultation: We will respond to the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) public consultation to review the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildlife Act 1976. Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000. European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011. Various related regulations/statutory instruments. 	Contribute to public consultation: This engagement aims to align EirGrid biodiversity relevant consenting and reporting with new legal requirements.
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 chaired by the Irish SEA Environmental Authorities which is made up of various Governmental departments as well as the Environmental Protection Agency.	National Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Forum: We will work to align EirGrid SEA practice with emerging requirements to optimise sustainable development. We will also help identify technical innovations (e.g., digital tools) to increase efficiency of SEA methods.

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Comply with legal requirements for, and deliver best practice in Appropriate Assessment	National Appropriate Assessment Forum: EirGrid will attend and contribute to the quarterly national forum for Appropriate Assessment chaired by the National Parks and Wildlife Service.	National Appropriate Assessment Forum: Through these engagements EirGrid will align with law and policy to de-risk EirGrid project consents.
Support and deliver nature restoration	MARA and NPWS Marine Unit engagement: In 2025, EirGrid will have direct engagement with Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (Ecologists), and the NPWS marine unit.	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 the offshore grid.
Project engagements on biodiversity matters	Biodiversity project engagements: We will work with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) to inform and de-risk planning applications from a biodiversity perspective.	Biodiversity project engagements: Align with regulatory requirements to de-risk EirGrid project consents.

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



Shaping Our Electricity Future Advisory Council



Overview

Published in 2022 and updated in 2023, [Shaping Our Electricity Future \(v1.1\)](#) provides a detailed Roadmap into the work required for EirGrid to meet our 2030 renewable ambitions.

In order to reach these targets, it's vital we work together with our stakeholders including Regulators and Government bodies, so that we can deliver and operate the appropriate resources on the system in a timely and efficient manner.

To allow for these key engagements to occur, EirGrid formed the Shaping Our Electricity Future 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, consultancy, Government, ESB Networks and the Regulatory Authorities.

Following an invitation for membership earlier in 2024, the SOEF Advisory Council now has 30 members with 12 invited guests from the Departments, DSOs and Regulatory Authorities (42 in total).

The remit and purpose of the Advisory Council is to:

- Provide a forum to communicate and share relevant information and to discuss stakeholder views and concerns on those issues which impact progress of the implementation of the roadmap.
- Discuss, review and ultimately help facilitate the progress of the Shaping Our Electricity Future (SOEF) roadmap.
- Provide input, advice and assistance on matters related to the roadmap and its implementation.
- Highlight areas of concern that this forum can help to address.
- Actively contribute to agenda preparation and identification of potential issues facing the industry in the energy transition.

Implementation

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
<p>The remit and purpose of the Advisory Council is to discuss, review and ultimately help facilitate the progress of the Shaping Our Electricity Future (SOEF) Programme.</p> <p>These targets include the delivery of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 GW of onshore wind. • +2 GW for hydrogen. • 5 GW of offshore generation. • 8 GW of solar. • Storage: 3.825 GW. 	<p>Advisory Council meetings:</p> <p>EirGrid will hold 3 x Advisory Council meetings across 2025.</p>	<p>Advisory Council meetings:</p> <p>The advisory council meetings offer key stakeholders a forum to advise, increase alignment, raise and resolve issues and ultimately support the delivery of the Shaping Our Electricity Future Roadmap.</p> <p>The SOEF Advisory Council is positioned to provide members the opportunity to give us guidance (based on their experience) on implementation of the roadmap.</p> <p>A key focus is also to allow for greater collaboration through the provision of in-person meetings (as opposed to the meetings being online).</p> <p>The meetings also offer the enablement of information sharing and increased alignment to support project development.</p> <p>Finally, the provision of a Q&A session at each Advisory Council meeting also allows for the identification of gaps and opportunities, as well as the chance for stakeholder feedback to be incorporated in the planning process.</p>
	<p>Workshops:</p> <p>Following on from each Advisory Council meeting, experts from the Advisory Council facilitate workshops as and when required on particular topics.</p>	<p>Workshops:</p> <p>These are ad hoc engagements as required which allow stakeholders to tackle a specific issue. The aim is to support problem solving as well as delivery of the SOEF Roadmap. This could result in the establishment of a Working Groups/ Taskforce, if and when required.</p>
	<p>Advisory Council meeting materials:</p> <p>Preparation and distribution of Advisory Council meeting materials in advance of each meeting.</p>	<p>Advisory Council meeting materials:</p> <p>Sharing information in advance of the Advisory Council meetings allows us to emphasise greater collaboration on the day, due to members arriving prepared and informed. It also better allows them to ask questions and provide greater input on the day.</p>
	<p>Meeting follow up:</p> <p>The provision of minutes and presentation materials following each meeting which include follow up actions. These are also published on the EirGrid website along with the presentations from the day.</p>	<p>Meeting follow up:</p> <p>This action allows members, including EirGrid, to remain accountable and offers a live and accessible record of each meeting so that all stakeholders can follow the council's progress.</p>

For more information on the Shaping Advisory Council email SOEF@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 electricity from renewable sources by 2030, 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.



Strategy

Engagement channels

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 DECC, 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

In 2025, 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 2025, 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 develop plans for the future transmission network required for a fully decarbonised power system in Ireland and Northern Ireland. This 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 2025, 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 2025, EirGrid will work with ENTSO-E and other TSOs, to develop the next Ten-Year Network Development Plan (2026).

In addition, EirGrid will continue engaging with DECC and the International Energy Agency (IEA) to consider strategic planning and scenario analysis for 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.

(See our chapter on national and international engagement for more details on our engagement with these bodies.)

Power system research and studies

In 2025, 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).

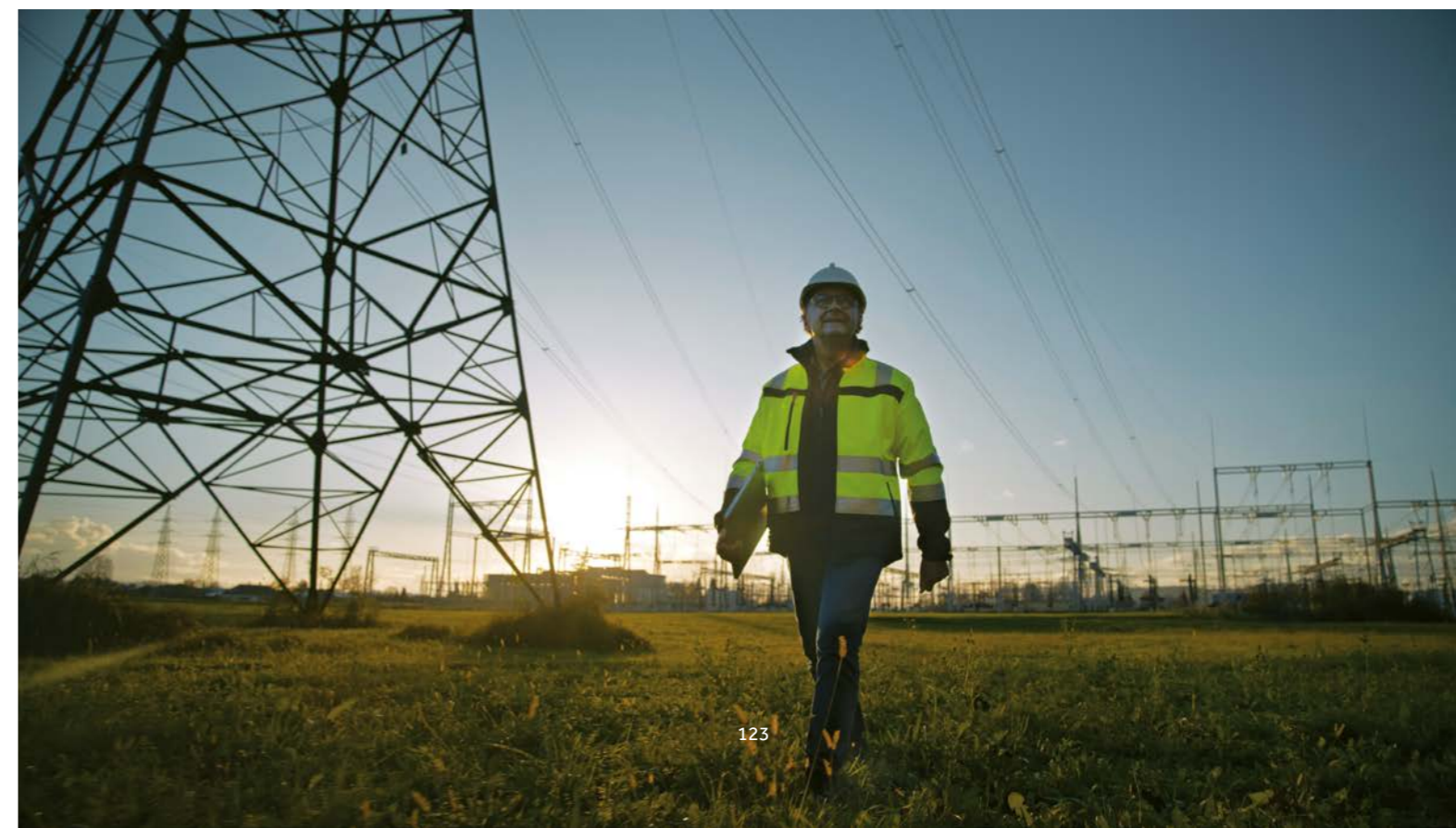
Studies have shown that electricity demand is anticipated to grow throughout the energy transition. EirGrid will engage with statutory and industry bodies exploring future energy demand, in particular relating to Large Energy Users (LEUs) such as data centres, electrified transport and heating.

Ten Year Transmission Forecast Statement 2025

EirGrid will work with SONI to develop and publish the Ten-Year Transmission Forecast Statement 2025.

Goals	Planned engagements for 2025	Planned outcomes
Joint system operation planning	Joint system operation planning: We 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: We will continue to engage with the Distribution System Operator (DSO) ESB Networks for grid upgrade projects.	Grid connections: Through our continued engagement with the DSO, EirGrid aims to successfully plan and deliver future grid connections.
Offshore and interconnection projects	Offshore and interconnection projects: In 2025, we will engage with offshore projects (offshore wind, radial connections and interconnectors), Wind Energy Ireland and CRU.	Offshore and interconnection projects: These engagements will support the successful planning and delivery of offshore projects connecting to onshore grid.
Commence development of Transmission Development Plan 2026	Transmission Development Plan 2026: EirGrid will engage with Government, CRU and industry, regarding the development of the Transmission Development Plan for consultation in 2026.	Transmission Development Plan 2026: Through effective engagement, we aim to have the Transmission Development Plan 2026 ready for consultation by the end of 2025.

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).



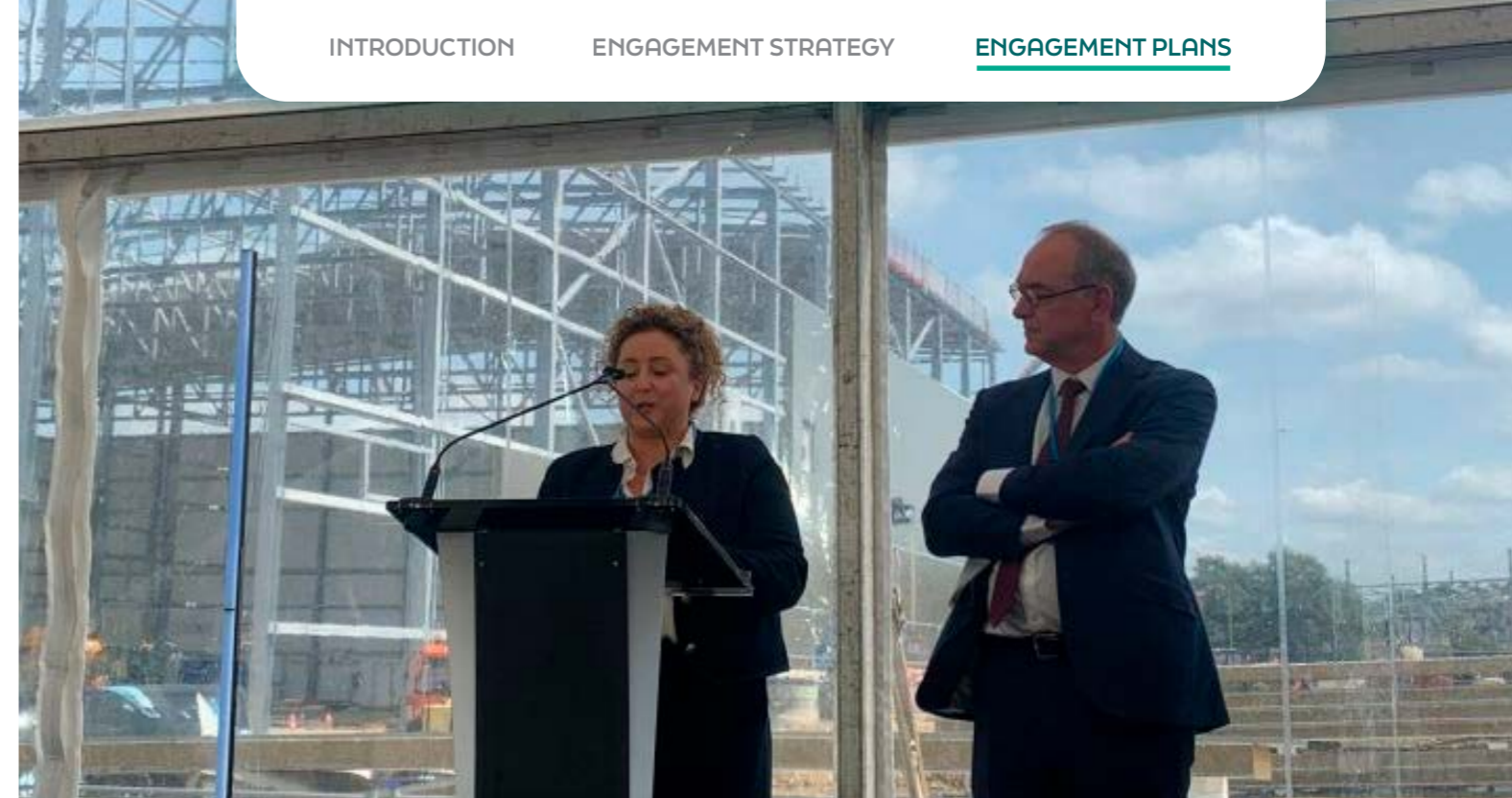
Stakeholder feedback

On the 16th October 2024, EirGrid published its Draft Stakeholder Engagement Plan 2025 and it became available for viewing and consultation on the EirGrid website. Stakeholders were then invited to submit their consultation responses via the EirGrid Consultation Portal. The portal was open until the 15th of November 2024, when the consultation period ended. Full details of EirGrid’s response to consultation comments received via the consultation process can be found in our [Consultation Response Paper](#).

Consultee comments received were grouped into the following themes:

- Offshore and onshore.
- Dispatch down.
- Outturn Availability Forum.
- Connection.
- EirGrid’s approach to stakeholder engagement.
- Outages.

The table below provides a summary of the feedback received and EirGrid’s responses to these comments.



Summary of consultee comments	Summary of EirGrid responses
Offshore and onshore	
Greater transparency on the deliverables of the Offshore Wind Delivery Taskforce with general improvements on all workstreams to continue.	The external communications for the Offshore Wind Delivery Taskforce are managed by DECC who decide what information is shared with industry and the general public.
Proactive and collaborative engagement with regards to ORESS 2.1 (Tonn Nua).	The critical ORESS Tonn Nua milestone deliveries from EirGrid prior to the auction are set out in the CRU Grid Access Pathways decision, details of which can be accessed via the Grid Connection Information (GCI) Pack or via EirGrid’s Industry Engagement Plan.
Clarification on the Tonn Nua Maximum Export Capacity (MEC) was requested.	This information is outlined in the Government’s ORESS Tonn Nua Offshore Wind Auction publication and will also be included in the Grid Connection Information Pack which will be issued 90 calendar days before the ORESS Tonn Nua auction.
Proposals for the Phase 1 Co-ordination Group were also suggested.	EirGrid has shared these suggestions internally for consideration.

Summary of consultee comments	Summary of EirGrid responses
Dispatch down	
Greater transparency around the reasons for dispatch down were requested, along with a request for continued focus and discussion on this area.	EirGrid acknowledges the need for continued focus on this highly complex matter and we are happy to work towards engagements that will support deeper understanding with respect to policies and processes on dispatch down and information on predicted levels of constraint and compensation. Currently, there are several engagements and activities which support this work. EirGrid is open to further discussion on these topics and possible changes to our ways of working to help bring greater focus to areas of concern. EirGrid suggests using the Dispatch Down Quarterly and Monthly meetings (and the Account Management service) to initiate these conversations.
Outturn availability forum	
Suggestions were proposed for the TOP section of the outturn availability forum.	EirGrid will consider this feedback further in the development of the approach to the forum.

Summary of consultee comments	Summary of EirGrid responses
Connection	
One comment suggested the establishment of a grid connection policy forum to manage connection policy matters with regard to Enduring Connection Policy (ECP).	EirGrid will further consider the appropriate engagement structure around ECP.
One comment stated that onshore connection process and policy needs to remain a top priority.	EirGrid agrees the importance of continued focus on this area as we maintain our work on initiatives to augment and enhance our engagement with industry stakeholders.

Our approach to stakeholder engagement	
Suggestions were made to further enhance EirGrid's stakeholder engagement documentation.	EirGrid acknowledges this feedback noting that we have greatly enhanced this year's plan to further detail EirGrid's stakeholder engagement strategy, demonstrating where it sits within our wider, corporate strategy along with establishing key measures for effective stakeholder engagement. We will continue to examine and further develop our engagement strategy as well as drive improvements in response to stakeholder feedback.
One comment asked for EirGrid to consider extending our interaction with ESBN to its further role of Distribution Asset Owner (DAO).	EirGrid engages with ESB Networks in their capacity as Distribution System Operator (DSO) and DAO as required. As outlined on the ESB Networks website here , staff in the ESB Networks business unit carry out ESB Networks DAC's (Designated Activity Company) functions as DSO, in addition to the functions of ESB as the licensed DAO. The 2025 Stakeholder Engagement Plan refers to EirGrid's engagement with ESB Networks, which encapsulates engagements in its capacity as DSO, DAO and TAO as required.
One comment requested clarification on how feedback from our annual customer survey is shared across EirGrid.	EirGrid's annual customer survey is a key enabler for identifying lessons learned which leads to process improvements. As a result, survey results are circulated, tracked and presented on extensively internally within EirGrid.
The creation of an overarching report which demonstrates the delivery of the projects sequenced year-by-year to achieve EirGrid's grid transition and constraints alleviation planning and implementation activities was proposed.	While efforts to enhance the detail and transparency of our reporting structure and format are ongoing, direct engagement with industry is considered a key approach to addressing the issues and risks identified. TSO generator customers are invited to participate in one-to-one meetings with TSO project teams to review specific progress and performance related to the delivery of their projects and associated transmission reinforcement works. These discussions provide an opportunity to explore and address any specific concerns that may arise.

Summary of consultee comments	Summary of EirGrid responses
Suggestions to further enhance EirGrid's website were also put forward.	Phase two of our website development project will begin in 2025. Key focuses will include an Irish language version of the site, and following stakeholder panel feedback, a microsite for the grid code for improved accessibility. 2025 will also see further improvements to the publications search categorisation as well as ongoing improvements to the EirGrid consultation portal.
One comment asked for EirGrid to be explicit in regard to the organisation's structure, processes, and procedures which are designed to capture, collate, and bring stakeholder feedback to senior management for review.	Our 2025 stakeholder engagement plan includes extensive detail of our strategic channels for engagements for each area. These identify the mechanisms for engagement that stakeholders can leverage to provide feedback directly to the relevant contacts. EirGrid considers all consultee responses and ensures feedback is circulated across the organisation so that it can be used to inform key decisions.
One comment asked for earlier customer engagement, the provision of an organisational chart and for EirGrid to broaden the scope of our customer clinics.	EirGrid highlights that our account management engagements facilitate a more flexible channel for our customers to discuss emerging issues outside the business-as-usual activities (such as project and operational activities). This alternative route of engagement allows an adaptability which is key for early management of emerging issues and can provide efficiency to all processes. This more personalised approach is in addition to our broader industry engagement which is detailed in this plan under the heading, 'The engagement spectrum'. The provision of an organisational chart for customers will be a focus for EirGrid in 2025.

Outages	
One comment asked for the establishment of a standards and specifications forum (in addition to the Outage Transformation Working group) where existing specifications are reviewed for optimisation and any changes/mods to current specs to be approved following a presentation on cost benefit analysis to the forum.	EirGrid is open to developing a forum where engagement is held on transmission specifications with a number of nominated technical representatives, where feedback from connecting customers and industry representatives on transmission specifications can be provided and will be considered by EirGrid in any specification revisions. This activity is reflected in this plan under the Joint Outage Transformation Programme (JOTP) Customer and Industry Working Group under the chapter titled 'Our partnership with the TAO'.

Appendices
Planned
engagements
for 2025

04+

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

Consultations

Consultation	Audience	When	Engagement method	Objective
FASS Parameters and Scalars Consultation Paper	Industry	Q1 2025	EirGrid consultation portal and notification to customers and stakeholders mailing list	Seek industry feedback on TSOs proposals.
FASS Non-Reserve Product, Locations, Volumes and Procurement Consultation Paper	Industry	Q2 2025	EirGrid consultation portal and notification to customers and stakeholders mailing list	Seek industry feedback on TSOs proposals.
Annual Innovation Report Consultation	All	Q1 2025	EirGrid consultation portal	Seek feedback on Annual Innovation Report Consultation.
Draft Stakeholder Engagement Report 2024	All	Q1 2025	EirGrid consultation portal	Feedback on our stakeholder engagement throughout 2023 to allow for more meaningful and effective stakeholder engagement.
Joint TSO & TAO Annual Electricity Transmission Performance Report 2024	All	Q3 2025	EirGrid and ESB Networks consultation	Seek feedback on Annual Electricity Transmission Performance Report 2024.
PR5 TSO/DSO Joint Incentive Multi-Year Plan 2026-2030 Call for Input	Industry	Q3 2025	EirGrid and ESB Networks consultation	Seek stakeholder feedback on the proposed TSO/DSO multi-year plan 2026-2030.
PR5 TSO/TAO Joint Incentive Multi-Year Plan 2026-2030 Call for Input	All	Q3 2025	EirGrid and ESB Networks consultation	Seek stakeholder feedback on the proposed TSO/TAO multi-year plan 2026-2030.
Joint TSO & TAO Investment Planning and Delivery Report 2024	All	Q3 2025	EirGrid and ESB Networks consultation	Seek stakeholder feedback for the Investment Planning and Delivery Report 2024.
2026 Stakeholder Engagement Plan	All	Q4 2025	EirGrid consultation portal	To consult on the 2025 Stakeholder Engagement Plan, which summarises our engagement strategy and 2025 engagement planned activities.

Consultation	Audience	When	Engagement method	Objective
Customer workshops on Registration/Qualification/Auction processes	Industry	Ongoing	MS Teams workshop	To inform participants on the Registration/Qualification/Auction Process and allow them to ask questions.
Customer Survey	Customers	Q1 2025	Online survey	To seek customer feedback on engagement with EirGrid. This will shape our approach for the upcoming year.
All-island Resource Adequacy Assessment Input Assumptions Consultation	Industry	Q2 2025	EirGrid consultation portal	Gain feedback on the input assumptions that are to be used.
Customer Outage Planning Survey for 2026	Customers	Q2 2025	Online survey	To gather information that will input into the wider development of the Transmission Outage Programme for the forthcoming year.
Low Carbon Inertia Services (LCIS) Phase 2	Industry	Q1 2025	EirGrid and SONI consultation/Publication for comment	Consultation on LCIS Phase 2.
Proposed 2025/26 Transmission Loss Adjustment Factors (TLAFs)	Relevant stakeholder group	Q3 2025	EirGrid and SONI consultation	Publication for Comment. Publish Proposed 2025/26 TLAF for comment.
Proposed 2025/2026 Generator Transmission Use of System (GTUoS) Tariffs	Relevant stakeholder group	Q3 2025	EirGrid and SONI consultation/Publication for Comment	Publication for Comment Publish proposed 2025/2026 GTUoS tariffs for comment. If change is minimal – will run consultation if substantial change proposed.
Proposed 2026 Generator Unit Under Test (GUUT) Tariffs	Relevant stakeholder group	Q3/Q4 2025	EirGrid and SONI consultation/Publication for Comment	Publish Proposed 2026 GUUT tariffs for comment if change is minimal – will run consultation if substantial change proposed.
Proposed 2025/26 Other System Charges	Relevant stakeholder group	Q3 2025	EirGrid and SONI consultation	Consultation on Proposed 2025/2026 Other System Charges.
Balancing Market Principles Statement (BMPS)	Relevant stakeholder group	Q3 2025	EirGrid and SONI consultation	Consultation with industry on proposed revisions to the BMPS – a guide to the scheduling and dispatch process.
Market Operator User Group (MOUG) Presentations	Market Participants	Market Operator User Group meeting	Online presentations	Keep market participants up to date and answer queries.
Net zero network plan	All	2025	EirGrid website	Consultation on net zero network plan supported by engagement pre-consultation, during consultation and following up ahead of a final publication.

Publications

Publication	Audience	When	Engagement method	Objective
Future Power Markets Newsletter	All	Q1-Q4 2025	EirGrid website	Update stakeholders on the ongoing work across Future Arrangements for System Services, Scheduling and Dispatch, Long Duration Energy Storage, EU Market Policy and Balancing Market Reform.
Stakeholder Engagement Plan 2026 Consultation Response Paper	All	Q4 2025	EirGrid website	A summary of responses EirGrid received during the consultation process and explains how we will respond.
Final Stakeholder Engagement Plan 2026	All	Q4 2025	EirGrid website	A comprehensive summary of EirGrid's stakeholder engagement plans for 2026.
Stakeholder Engagement Report 2024 Consultation Response Paper	All	Q1 2025	EirGrid website	A summary of responses EirGrid received during the consultation process and explains how we will respond.
Final Stakeholder Engagement Report 2024	All	Q1 2025	EirGrid website	A comprehensive summary of EirGrid's stakeholder engagement in 2024.
FASS Non-Reserve Product, Locations, Volumes and Procurement Recommendations Paper	Industry	Q3 2025	EirGrid website and notification to stakeholders mailing list	Information purposes for industry/looking for a decision from RAs.
FASS Phased Implementation Roadmap V3.0	Industry	Q1 2025	EirGrid website and notification to stakeholders mailing list	Information purposes for industry on programme timelines.
DS3 SS Tariffs to DASSA Recommendations Paper	Industry	Q1 2025	EirGrid website and notification to stakeholders mailing list	Information purposes for industry/looking for a decision from RAs.
FASS Parameters and Scalars Recommendations Paper	Industry	Q2 2025	EirGrid website and notification to stakeholders mailing list	Information purposes for industry/looking for a decision from RAs.
LDES Procurement (Recommendations Paper)	Industry/RAs	Q2 2025	EirGrid consultation portal and notification to stakeholders mailing list	Information purposes for industry/looking for a decision from RAs.

Publication	Audience	When	Engagement method	Objective
Annual Innovation Report 2024	All	Q2 2025	EirGrid and SONI websites	Communicates the progress on innovative programmes throughout the year, as well as our ambition for future developments of programmes and new initiatives to begin.
Annual Report	All	Q3 2025	EirGrid website	Detailed report of EirGrid Group's operations and financials in 2025.
FASS Phased Implementation Roadmap V4.0	Industry	Q3 2025	EirGrid website and notification to stakeholders mailing list	Information purposes for industry on programme timelines.
Sustainability Report	All	Q4 2025	EirGrid website	Document will report on EirGrid's sustainability progress for 2025.
Winter Outlook 2025	All	Q4 2025	EirGrid website	Annual summary that provides information on expected electricity demand and capacity margin for the winter ahead in both Ireland and Northern Ireland.
Market Operator Quarterly Performance Report	Public	Within one month of reporting quarter on SEMO's website.	SEMO website	Report is published in accordance with section B.16.2 of the Trading and Settlement Code and the SEM Committee decision paper issued for the Legacy SEM market. B.16.2. The Market Operator shall report to the Regulatory Authorities in writing on a quarterly basis or at such other intervals as the Regulatory Authorities may reasonably request and in such manner and to such an extent as reasonably specified by the Regulatory Authorities.
Annual Market Operator Performance Report	Public	No timeframes when report is required to be published on SEMO's website	SEMO website	SONI Ltd. and EirGrid plc, operating as the Single Electricity Market Operator (SEMO) are required under their respective Market Operator (MO) Licenses to provide an annual report on Market Operator Performance to the Regulatory Authorities. The report is published in accordance with section B16.2 of the Trading and Settlement Code, Licence Condition 17(7) of the SONI MO licence and Licence Condition 10(8) of the EirGrid MO licence.

Publication	Audience	When	Engagement method	Objective
Publication of Grid Code Review Panel documentation including meeting minutes, modification proposals, recommendation papers and decision papers	Industry and public	As required	EirGrid website	To ensure all Grid Code users are aware of all meeting minutes, modification proposals, recommendation papers and decision papers.
RESS 5 Auction Timetable	Industry and public	Q1 2025	EirGrid website	To provide timeline of events for auction to industry, such as qualification process, review process, auction run date, etc.
RESS 5 Qualification Information Pack	Industry and public	Q1 2025	EirGrid website	Qualification Information Pack and information sessions are to brief potential applicants on the RESS qualification process and changes to the Eligibility and Winner Selection criteria in the Terms and Conditions.
2025/2026 T-1 Final Auction Information Pack – Capacity Market	Industry and public	Q2 2025	SEMO website	To provide industry with Locational Requirement MWs as well as the final parameter values to be used in the auction.
RESS 5 Auction Results	Industry and public	Q3 2025	EirGrid website	Report outlines the results of the RESS 5 auction as per the obligations set out in the Terms and Conditions.
Capacity Auction Timetable	Industry and public	Ongoing	SEMO website	To provide timeline of events for auction to industry, such as qualification process, review process, auction run date, etc.
Capacity Market Auction Results	Industry and public	Ongoing	SEMO website	To provide Capacity Auction results to industry as per timetable.
Enduring Connection Policy (ECP) 2.5/ECP 3 Constraints Reports Publication	Industry	Q4 2025 (TBC if this will be ECP 2.5 or ECP 3)	EirGrid website	The purpose of these reports is to provide generation developers with information on possible levels of renewable generation output reduction in Ireland for a range of future scenarios. It is a regulatory requirement (CRU/20/060).
RESS 5 Auction Information Pack	Industry	Q2 2025	EirGrid website	Auction Information Pack is to brief qualified applicants on the RESS auction process and publish the key auction parameters such as the Price Cap.
Initial Auction Information Pack – Capacity Market	Industry and public	Q2 2025	SEMO website	Estimated dates as timetable not finalised yet. Initial Auction Information Pack – Capacity Market.

Publication	Audience	When	Engagement method	Objective
Joint TSO & TAO Investment Planning and Delivery Report 2024	Customers, industry participants and other interested parties	Q3 2025	EirGrid and ESB Networks websites	Report to provide stakeholders with an overview of the transmission development programme as at the end of calendar year 2024.
Joint TSO & TAO Annual Electricity Transmission Performance Report 2024	Customers and industry	Q3 2025	EirGrid and ESB Networks websites	Report seeks to provide customers, industry and stakeholders with clear and accessible reporting on our operation, development and maintenance of the transmission system. Estimated dates as timetable not finalised yet.
Final Auction Information Pack – Capacity Market	Industry and public	Q4 2025	SEMO website	To provide industry with Locational Requirement MWs as well as the final parameter values to be used in the auction. Estimated dates as timetables not finalised yet.
Capacity Market Auction Results	Industry and public	Q4 2025	SEMO website	To provide Capacity Auction results to industry.
PR5 TSO/TAO Joint Incentive Multi-Year Plan 2026-2030 including consultation responses	Industry	Q4 2025	CRU and EirGrid & ESB Networks websites	Report detailing the TSO/TAO multi-year plan 2026-2030 and the proposed milestones.
ORESS Tonn Nua (2.1) Auction Information Pack	Industry	Q1 2025	EirGrid website	Auction Information Pack is to brief qualified applicants on the ORESS auction process and publish the key auction parameters such as the Price Cap.
All-island Resource Adequacy Assessment	Industry	Q4 2025	EirGrid website	This publication is to replace the Generation Capacity Statement. Examines the balance between electricity demand and supply in Ireland and Northern Ireland for the following 10 years. It provides signals to the electricity market as well as to policy makers, regulators, industry, TSOs, Distribution System Operators (DSOs), electricity consumers, and the general public.
All-Island Outage Plan	EirGrid	Weekly	EirGrid website	All-Island Outage Plan covering the next 16 weeks to provide up to date information for industry.
Weekly Operational Constraints Updates	EirGrid	Weekly	SEMO Website	To provide information regarding constraints to industry.
Transmission Outage Summary	EirGrid	Fortnightly	EirGrid website	To communicate transmission outage dates for the next fortnight.

Publication	Audience	When	Engagement method	Objective
Wind and Solar Dispatch Down Reports	EirGrid and SONI	Monthly	EirGrid website	Monthly Wind and Solar Dispatch Down (constraint and curtailment) reports Ireland and Northern Ireland.
System & Renewable Summary Report	EirGrid and SONI	Monthly	EirGrid and SONI websites	Latest system and renewable KPIs and historical data for Ireland and Northern Ireland.
System Data Qtr-Hourly	EirGrid and SONI	Monthly	EirGrid and SONI websites	Quarter-hourly system readings.
Quarterly Imperfections Report	EirGrid and SONI	Quarterly	EirGrid, SONI and SEMO website	To report on imperfections, spend by quarter and year-to-date.
Publication of updated versions of the Grid Code	EirGrid	As required	EirGrid website	To ensure that all users have access to and are aware of the latest version of the Grid Code.
Combined Loss Adjustment Factors	EirGrid	As required	SEMO website	Loss factors as per the System Operator.
Outturn Availability 2025 Ex Ante Report	EirGrid	Q1 2025	EirGrid website	Outturn Availability Connection Asset Maintenance Plan for 2025 Outage Season.
Annual Dispatch Down 2024 Report	EirGrid and SONI	Q1 2025	EirGrid website	Annual Renewable Dispatch Down (constraint and curtailment) report Ireland and Northern Ireland.
SEMOPx Statement of Charges	EirGrid	Q3 2025	SEMOPx website	Charges for SEMOPx Annual Fees for 2025.
Approved Transmission Loss Adjustment Factors (TLAFs) for 2025/26	EirGrid and SONI	Q3 2025	EirGrid website	To communicate the approved TLAFs for 2023/2024.
Approved Generator Transmission Use of System (GTUoS) Tariffs for 2025/26	EirGrid and SONI	Q4 2025	EirGrid and SONI websites	Approved Generator Transmission Use of System (GTUoS) Tariffs for 2025/26.
Transmission Outage Programme (TOP) 2025	EirGrid	Q1 2025	EirGrid website	To communicate transmission outage dates proposed for 2025.
Regional Plans (strategic frameworks for the Northern, Western, Eastern and Southern Regions)	Regional Assemblies, Local Authorities, statutory and public stakeholders	Q1-Q4 2025	EirGrid website, meetings	To present EirGrid's plan to facilitate policy support for grid development in regional and local plan-making and in consenting processes.

Industry forums working groups hosted by EirGrid

Engagement topic	Audience	When	Method	Objective
Enduring Connection Policy (ECWP) 2.4 Final Result Presentation	Industry	Q1 2025	Webinar	To present to industry the final results of the ECP constraint reports, with specific area details, following publication of the full report in Q4 2024.
ECP 2.5/ECP 3 Constraint Reports Assumptions Workshops	Industry	Q2 – Q3 2025	Webinar	To provide industry and CRU/ DECC with information on the assumptions (initial Q2/Q3, final Q3/Q4) of the modelling process associated with the ECP constraint reports and seek feedback.
ECP 2.5/ECP 3 Constraint Reports Initial Results Presentation	Industry	Q4 2025	Webinar	To present to industry and CRU/ DECC the initial results of the ECP constraint reports, which is a CRU requirement (CRU/20/060).
Offshore Phase 1 workshops	Offshore Phase 1 Customers	Throughout 2025	Held In-person and virtually	Workshops with Offshore Phase 1 Customers throughout 2025 on multiple topics relating to design of offshore transmission assets.
TSO-RA meetings	Regulator	Throughout 2025	Virtual conference	Regular meetings/workshops on the SOEF Operations Programme.
TSO-DSO meetings	ESB Networks	Throughout 2025	Virtual meetings and in-person as required	Continued project management and governance meetings. This includes joint project management meetings on a weekly basis, monthly joint management meetings and quarterly meetings of the executives who sponsor the programme.
TSO-DSO Operating Model	Industry	Q2 2025	Virtual webinar and workshop	Re-engage Industry on the future TSO-DSO Operating Model. Both EirGrid and ESB Networks will provide this update to industry on progress of future TSO-DSO Operating Model, including plans for implementation.
TSO-DSO Operating Model	ESB Networks	Throughout 2025	Virtual meetings and in-person as required	Through continued collaboration, EirGrid and ESB Networks progress core operating model design activities and scope the required activities for implementation. The joint core group is expected to continue to meet on a weekly basis, with a leadership group engaged on a monthly basis in addition to this.

Engagement topic	Audience	When	Method	Objective
Generator and Outturn Availability Forum	Generation Customers and the regulator	2025	Industry Forum	This forum supports the increased knowledge across industry of the Transmission Outage Programme (TOP) 2025. This workshop will include programme risks and the impacts of delays.
Participant Update Call	Market Participants	Weekly	Virtual conference	Provide Trading and Settlement updates and general updates.
Future Power Market Industry workshops	Industry	Monthly	Held in-person and virtual	Monthly workshops with industry on Future Arrangements for System Services, Long Duration Energy Storage, Scheduling and Dispatch Programme, Energy Market Policy and Balancing Market Reform.
FASS: SS Code Working Group	Working Group Members	Monthly	Held in person	Monthly working group sessions to review the SS Code drafting.
Wind Industry Forums	Wind industry	Monthly/Quarterly	Virtual conference	Wind Industry Representatives Engagement Forum for industry.
Solar Industry Forums	Solar industry	Monthly/Quarterly	Virtual conference	Solar Industry Representatives Engagement Forum for industry.
Shaping Advisory Council Meetings	Industry	Three times a year	Industry Forum	Discuss, review and facilitate the progress of the Shaping Our Electricity Future programme.
Market Operator User Group (MOUG)	Market Participants	Six times a year	Virtual conference	Inform members of any key activities and updates.
Grid Code Review Panel Meetings	Industry	As required	Industry Forum	Review, discuss and ensure user consultation of recommendations for Grid Code amendments.
RESS Qualification Participant Sessions	RESS Participants	Annually	Virtual conference	Inform participants on qualification process for RESS.
Capacity Market Qualification Participant Sessions	Capacity Market Participants	Annually	Virtual conference	Inform Participants on qualification process for Capacity Market.

Project engagements

Project	Audience	When	Method	Objective
Dublin Central Bulk Supply Point Project	Local communities, technical stakeholders, the CRU	Throughout 2025	Public engagement including technical stakeholders	Identify best options and what area may be affected by the project leading to a planning submission.
Donegal to Srananagh	Local communities, technical stakeholders, the CRU	Throughout 2025	Public engagement	Following the successful identification of the Emerging Best Performing Technology Option, it will be presented to public and all relevant stakeholders.
Whitegate 110 kV Station Refurbishment Project	Customers	Throughout 2025	Public Engagement	Continued engagement with key stakeholders in East Cork, following successful completion of feasibility study.
Ballybeg-Arklow-Carrickmines 110 kV Capacity Needs	Local communities, technical stakeholders, the CRU	Throughout 2025	Public Engagement	Engage with local community on the positive impacts of the project and to build relationships before entering the planning permission phase.
Arklow 220 kV Station Redevelopment	Local communities, technical stakeholders, the CRU	Throughout 2025	Public Engagement	Continue engagement with local communities throughout 2025 to inform on project progression.

Key project engagements are detailed in the public engagement chapter.



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