

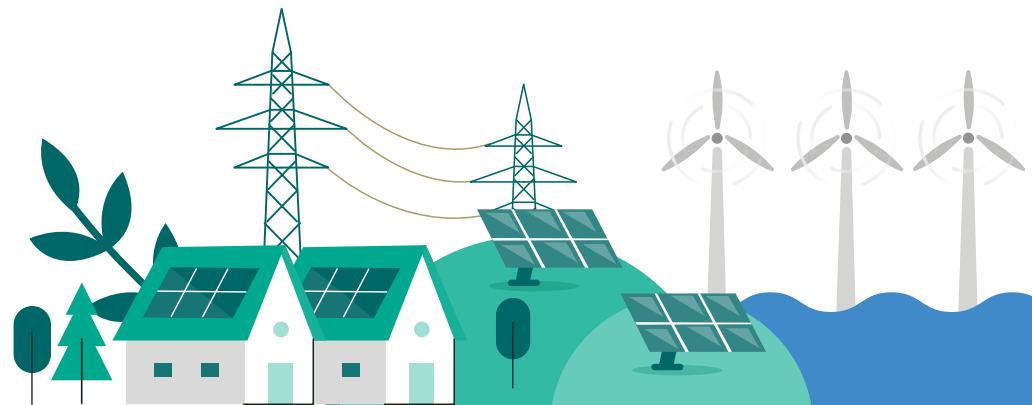


Shaping Our Offshore Energy Future

Who are EirGrid and what do we do?

EirGrid develops, manages, and operates Ireland's electricity grid. We are responsible for the safe, secure and reliable supply of Ireland's electricity. Our job is to bring power from where it is generated to where it is needed throughout Ireland, onshore and offshore.

While EirGrid is not responsible for generating electricity or building windfarms, we are responsible for connecting electricity generation infrastructure, such as offshore and onshore windfarms, into our national electricity grid.



Who can I contact?

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What is Shaping Our Offshore Energy Future?

The south coast has a key role to play in Ireland's offshore energy future, a greener power grid and energy independence.

The Government of Ireland's Climate Action Plan 2023 places offshore wind power at the centre of the State's commitment to producing 80% of our energy from renewable sources by 2030.

The Government's Department for the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) are currently holding a public consultation on the proposed location for the development of offshore renewable energy on the south coast. Details are provided in the Draft South Coast Designated Marine Area Plan (SC-DMAP).

Following conclusion of the consultation and issuing of the final SC- DMAP by government, as part of Shaping Our Offshore Energy Future, EirGrid plans

to develop offshore electricity substation(s) and associated undersea electricity cables. This new infrastructure will bring the power generated by offshore windfarms into our national electricity grid.

To achieve this, we will need to develop:

- Offshore substation(s) – to be located within Maritime Area A (Tonn Nua) of the SC-DMAP.
- A connection between the offshore substation(s) and existing substations onshore. This will involve undersea and underground electricity cables; and
- New substations near to existing substations onshore.

This will help deliver approximately 900 megawatts of additional electricity - enough to power almost one million homes with clean energy. This new electricity will be generated by offshore wind farms in Irish waters. Developing the offshore electricity grid is key to harnessing Ireland's offshore wind energy potential and providing greater security of electricity supply from a clean renewable source.

Figure 1: Typical configuration of offshore grid features and how it connects to the onshore grid.

