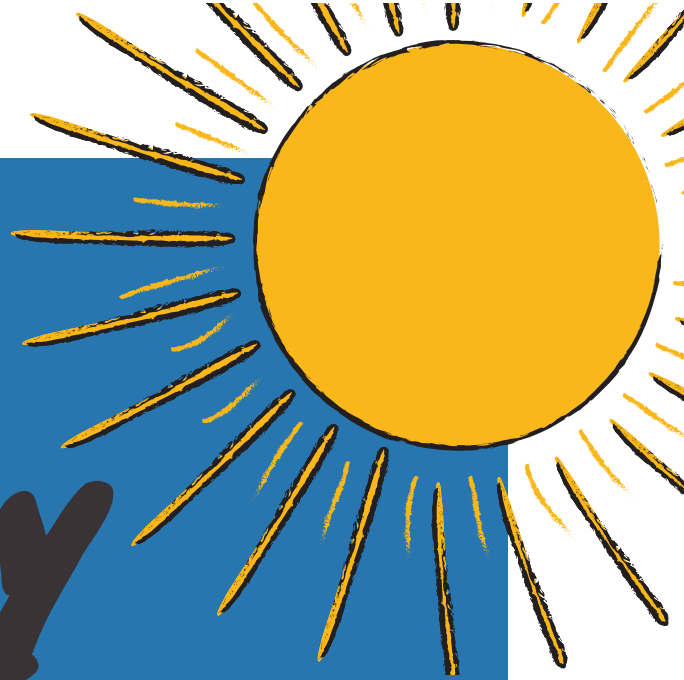


OUR ENERGY FUTURE



How Ireland can better protect the environment and biodiversity while delivering necessary infrastructure to meet climate and renewables targets

26TH OCTOBER 2022

**FUMBALLY STABLES
DUBLIN 8**



**Friends of
the Earth**



ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

Friends of the Earth is delighted to welcome you to an expert workshop, organised as part of the Our Energy Future project, a partnership with the Renewables Grid Initiative and EirGrid.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide participants with the opportunity to highlight concerns regarding environmental and biodiversity protection in the context of renewables expansion, as well as to map these issues and explore what changes are necessary at Government level.

The morning features a private facilitated discussion among civil society participants on issues relating to environmental impacts of renewables, changes to the planning system and the impact of offshore wind on MPAs. In the afternoon, civil society participants will have the opportunity to engage with state and industry stakeholders on these issues.



WORKSHOP AGENDA

9.45AM **Registration**

10.00AM **Welcome, outline of the day, housekeeping**

PART 1: ENVIRONMENTAL & BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION AND RENEWABLES ROLLOUT

Mapping of risks and concerns by civil society participants.

10.10AM **Small group work to look at key concerns**

Civil society participants will be invited to highlight their concerns re the following areas:

- Obligations to protect the environment and biodiversity in the context of renewables development.
- Proposed changes to the planning system
- Offshore wind and designation of Marine Protected Areas.

11.20AM **Small group feedback**



11.30AM **Coffee break**

PART 2: ENVIRONMENTAL & BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION AND RENEWABLES ROLLOUT

Mapping of recommendations by civil society participants.

11.50PM Small group work to look at policy recommendations

Civil society participants will be invited to put forward their respective initial suggestions regarding:

- Changes to existing and planned policies on the above areas.
- To highlight which Government authorities are relevant for these initial recommendations.
- Appropriate communication/public messaging.

12.50PM Small group feedback



1.00PM Lunch break

ENGAGEMENT WITH STATE AND INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS

1.45PM

Short inputs from state and industry stakeholders - including EirGrid, ESB, Hannah Hamilton, Paul Kenny and Wind Energy Ireland

- Brief introductory inputs to be provided by state and industry stakeholders (3 to 5 minutes each).
- Opportunity to provide overview of activities/views re environmental and biodiversity protection.

2.10PM

Q&A on state and industry stakeholder inputs

- Short Q&A opportunity for civil society participants to better understand stakeholder activities/views.



2.30PM

Coffee break

2.50PM **Review by civil society participants**

- Short session for civil society participants to regroup & review messaging for state and industry stakeholders.

3.05PM **Presentation by civil society participants of deliberations from morning session**

- Civil society participants to provide a summary of issues and initial recommendations from morning session to state and industry stakeholders.

3.35PM **Questions and answers**

- Opportunity for state and industry stakeholders to engage civil society participants on concerns/recommendations and to allow for further discussion.

4.20PM **Wrap up**

4.30PM **Close**

This workshop has been organised as part of Our Energy Future - a 3-year collaborative project of EirGrid, Friends of the Earth and the Renewables Grid Initiative to engage communities and groups around the country on Ireland's energy transition.