

# Irish **Wind** Magazine

**OFFSHORE** 2024  
EDITION



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**Rising tide for offshore jobs**

**Build Our Grid**

**Get Out in The Wind**

 **WIND** ENERGY IRELAND

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER











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## Welcome to the Offshore 2024 Edition of Irish Wind

WEI is the national association for the wind industry in Ireland. This magazine provides updates on news and events in the wind industry in Ireland and is a resource for WEI members in the interests of the promotion of wind energy.

Please contact Lisa-Anne Crookes with comments / suggestions for future editions on [lisa-anne@windenergyireland.com](mailto:lisa-anne@windenergyireland.com)



# FOREWORD

It wasn't quite a takeover but the large Ireland pavilion and the dozens of Irish industry and Government leaders at the Wind Europe Annual Event in Bilbao at the end of March, showed in no uncertain terms that our country is ready to take its place as a wind energy leader in Europe.

It was the first time – though certainly not the last – that a joint industry-Government presence of this size had been organised at one of these events and its success is a real tribute to the efforts of the Wind Energy Ireland events team and our colleagues in the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications.

For 3 days we told Ireland's success story to investors, governments, manufacturers, EU officials and supply-chain leaders. No other European country gets a higher share of its electricity demand from onshore wind than Ireland and our onshore pipeline is only growing.

Indeed, as I was writing this for the magazine, news broke about the new partnership between Bord na Móna and SSE Renewables to accelerate the development of onshore wind farms.

Over 20 years we have built a thriving national industry, not just in onshore, but increasingly competing in the offshore space in Europe and further afield.

Now, with some of the best natural wind resources in the world, we are set to replicate this achievement for offshore wind energy.

## Offshore progress

Our Phase One projects are entering the planning system. The first Designated Maritime Area Plan will have been published by the time this magazine appears as, likely, will the Future Framework which will set out plans for the development of offshore renewables in the 2030s and help to accelerate the delivery of floating offshore wind.

The Government's new industrial strategy for offshore wind energy, launched in March and heavily promoted in Bilbao, will help to ensure the benefits from our offshore wind revolution stay in Ireland, creating Irish jobs, supporting local businesses and revitalising our coastal communities.

So there is a lot happening and we need those policies, those plans, those strategies and those ideas. But we also need to see delivery, to move from consultation to construction.

We need to see wind turbines getting in the ground more quickly than ever before which means a fit-for-purpose planning system. We need to



**Noel Cunniffe**  
CEO

see the cables that will reinforce our electricity grid physically being laid. We need to see workers laying the foundations of new electricity substations and of the new piers in our ports which will take delivery of our offshore turbines.

## United political support

And, in what will certainly be an election year, we need political parties united behind the need to accelerate the delivery of renewable energy and the building of grid infrastructure.

The days of tolerating someone opposing a wind farm or an overhead line for the sake of thirty or forty first preference votes must come to an end. Those who stand in the way of Irish energy independence, need to be called out, not applauded; challenged, not tolerated.

Everyone has their own particular part to play, great or small, if we are to bring about Ireland's renewables revolution. Decisions will not just be made in government buildings or corporate boardrooms but around kitchen-tables and in community halls.

Our task as industry is to ensure the right decisions are made, the right investments, the right policies and auction designs, the right planning reforms and the right grid reinforcements.

We have no time for mistakes, we can afford no wasted effort.

At one of the last sessions at Bilbao, addressed by Minister Eamon Ryan, our colleagues in Vestas launched a new campaign with a powerful message which needs to be repeated again and again this year:

**"A plan for a wind farm is not a wind farm, a promise is not a wind farm, a press conference is not a wind farm, targets, declarations, climate goals, they're not wind farms."**

Onshore and offshore, we need to build wind farms. Faster.



# MEMBERSHIP NEWS



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## Bardex Corporation

Bardex provides innovative engineering insights and design and manufacture proprietary equipment solving the marine industry's heaviest challenges. The Bardex mindset is to become a trusted partner by understanding project needs and collaborating to deliver reliable solutions – an approach proven by the completion of more than 300 projects and supported with 22 patents.

Our engineers are subject matter experts in their respective specialties, and many of them have offshore experience in the world's major offshore energy locations in the Gulf of Mexico, the North Sea, Australia, West Africa, Asia, Pacific, Brazil, and other key offshore areas. Our facilities are ISO 9001 Quality Management System, ISO 14001 Environmental Management System, and ISO 45001 Occupational Health & Safety Management System certified. In addition to our BarMoor™, OmniLift™, and other established products and workflow integrations we continue a 60-year tradition of embracing the challenge to prototype any other specialised heavy lifting equipment for a diverse range of applications.



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## Murphy

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Since 1951, Murphy has delivered power projects involving overhead and underground cables, substations, converter stations and both renewable and conventional generation facilities. Today Murphy employs almost 4,000 people working across the business in Ireland, UK, Canada and USA.



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## Technological University Shannon

The Technological University Shannon (TUS) is a recent merger (2021) of two well-established Institutes of Technology (Limerick Institute of Technology and Athlone Institute of Technology). TUS has deep engagement with industry and hosts several significant regional initiatives, such as the Regional Skills Forum Manager, the FactoryxChange EDIH, the IDEAM Industry cluster, the Electrical Contractor's Industry Consortium, the Digital Factory Technology Gateway and 6 industry incubation and start-up acceleration centres.

TUS is focused on developing and delivering industry-based research degrees, specifically in digitalisation, sustainability and social innovation. TUS is proud to partner with the DigiWind Project, a major initiative funded by the Digital Europe Programme (DEP). The project aims to revolutionise renewable energy education by introducing Specialised Education Programmes (SEP) for professionals in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM).

These programmes will equip learners with advanced digital skills and specialised wind and energy systems knowledge.

TUS, in partnership with Digiwind, is offering its first Short Advanced Programme (SAP) (L9, 10 ECTS), The Leadership in Offshore Renewable Energy Systems. This programme will enable industry professionals to engage with and assess the opportunities for offshore renewable energy (wind, wave, tidal, storage) in the Irish context.





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**Global Wind Projects**

Specialising in the installation and maintenance of wind turbines throughout the UK and Ireland, Global Wind Projects is a trusted partner for onshore and offshore wind energy solutions.

With an impressive track record of successfully completed projects and collaboration with some of the biggest contractors in the renewables sector, Global Wind Projects supplies skilled wind turbine technicians to original equipment manufacturers and wind farm developers, offering a seamless crane and installation package.

Through its affiliation with its sister company, Global Crane Services, Global Wind Projects provides an expanding crane fleet featuring modern, versatile models of the highest specification. Each crane is equipped with the latest innovative technology, enabling the company to deliver onshore, offshore, and pre-assembly projects of all sizes and complexities.



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**Select Access**

Select Access was founded in 2016 by co-founders John Kinsella and Paudi Reidy as part of The Select Group. Select Access is a leading provider of innovative and bespoke work at height safety systems across Ireland, the UK and Europe.

Select Access delivers your full-height safety and access solutions under one roof, thanks to our team of over 35 technical experts, in-house design team and installation teams. These services include the turnkey design, supply, installation, testing, maintenance and recertification of systems.

Health and safety is paramount at Select Access. Our systems are designed and installed to the highest industry specifications ensuring compliance with international standards and regulations. We are committed to ensuring that all employees are trained to the highest standard, ensuring the safety of our clients. In line with this mission, we have recently acquired the sales agency for Ireland for JibFlex, offering innovative safe, flexible, lifting solutions to clients.



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**Natural Forces Renewables Ireland Limited**

We are an independent power producer delivering renewable energy projects across Canada, Ireland and France through community partnerships.

Established in 2001 in Nova Scotia, Canada, Natural Forces remains a small company with big values and ambition. While our corporate headquarters are in Halifax, Nova Scotia, we also have regional offices in British Columbia, New Brunswick, Ireland, and France. Collectively, we have around 300 MW of renewable energy projects currently in operations across Canada, and are actively developing future wind, solar, and hydropower projects across Canada, Ireland and France.







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**IN THE**

**WIND**

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We understand the pressures of getting energy right.

We work with energy clients in every corner of Ireland helping them achieve their ambitions.

Find out more about how our team can do the same for you.



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# Ireland decarbonised. Ireland energised. Ireland Electrified.

By Cathal Murphy, Senior Policy Analyst, Ireland Electrified

## ireland energised electrified

**Decarbonisation through the electrification of heat and transport, which can use the renewable electricity we continue to grow in Ireland, means a better environment, increased security of supply on the island of Ireland, and a more efficient use of our renewable electricity.**

To help see this potential is met, Wind Energy Ireland has established a new association, Ireland Electrified, representing electric heat (both domestic and industrial) and transport electrification.

The possibilities for electric heat and transport and the benefits it can bring are extensive. The aim of Ireland Electrified is to provide a voice across the electrification sectors, advocating for change, developing policy positions and increasing awareness of the technology available for homes, industries and transport.

This will help all those active in the energy transition, and those making the move from fossil fuels, to maximise the potential from using a cleaner, more secure, electricity supply to provide their energy.

Ireland Electrified members join from both heat and transport sectors, as they see the need for change and for industry representation. The association is building towards broad representation from a wide range of sectors, including demand users, that have an interest in developing electric heat and transport.

Emissions from heat and transport forms a substantial part of our greenhouse gases. The Irish State has the worst performance in the EU for using renewable energy sources for heating. With a target of 12 per cent renewable heat and cooling in 2020, Ireland was only at 5.2 per cent on 2021 figures. Heat makes up the largest share of energy related emissions at 37 per cent and transport related emissions are responsible for 19 per cent of total emissions.

With the need for growth in electrification there are also requirements at present in the electricity market, such as grid issues, developing flexible demand, and the management of curtailment and constraints. Many of the policy requirements in electricity generation and supply can be helped greatly by increasing electrification. This must not simply be seen as new demand alone in electric heat and transport but also as a technology that is ready to use now that can provide benefits to the grid broadly.

The policy framework supporting electrification needs to be expanded and policy proposals developed by the association will be important. Though the possibilities are there, the policy requires further progression so that it can encourage greater electrification and support the transition away from fossil fuels.

Greater knowledge is key going forward. Ireland Electrified has already held webinars on the technology and supports available to transition to electrification and we will hold more throughout the year. We are developing research papers on electrification topics that will assist in advocating for the use of this technology and highlight its broad benefits.

Electrification is better for Irish homes, businesses and Irish industry, better for Irish transport, private and public, and better for the Irish electricity market. The more and more we decarbonise our heat and transport with electricity, the cleaner our environment, the more we enhance security of energy supply, and the more we see broader energy market gains. These sectors of heat and transport are currently heavily reliant on imported fossil fuels but have a readily available alternative in electrification that's well advanced across Europe.

Ireland Electrified will be a voice for electrification across both heat and transport and we hope to advocate for both so that they fulfil their immense potential ahead.

Ireland Electrified has already held webinars on the technology and supports available to transition to electrification and we will hold more throughout the year.

To be the first to find out more, visit [www.irelandelectrified.ie](http://www.irelandelectrified.ie)



## DOING MORE IN THE HEARTLAND WITH OUR ECO ENERGY PARK

Every day, businesses in Ireland become more innovative, more ambitious and more connected. As they do, more solutions are needed to support their energy demand, without putting more demand on our national grid. That's why we're constructing our Eco Energy Park, where wind, solar, battery and hydrogen power will work together in the heartland of Ireland, allowing Ireland to do more than ever before.

# Bord na Móna

FIND OUT HOW WE'RE DOING MORE AT [BORDNAMONA.IE](https://www.bordnamona.ie)



# Building Offshore Wind in Ireland a rising tide for industry and workforce

By Leo Bertels, Managing Consultant at BVG Associates



Ireland has a fantastic opportunity to benefit from the clean, secure and affordable renewable power provided by offshore wind. With a sea area 7 times its landmass, and excellent, consistent wind speeds, Ireland has all the key attributes to be an important market for offshore wind, as well as possessing the potential to become a significant exporter of clean energy to a decarbonised European market.

The Government has recognised this opportunity, and set out ambitious deployment targets, 5 GW of offshore wind capacity by 2030, 20 GW by 2040, and 37 GW by 2050. These goals will play a key role in Ireland's drive to generate 80 per cent of electricity from renewable sources by 2030, as part of the Government's Climate Action Plan.

Achieving these targets is likely to generate significant economic benefits to the Irish economy. The January 2024 report *Building our Potential: Ireland's Offshore Wind Skills and Talent Needs* was produced by Green Tech Skillnet and Wind Energy Ireland in collaboration with BVG Associates, Beauchamps and Gavin and Doherty Geosolutions, with support from Skillnet Ireland. It identified the potential for Ireland's 37 GW offshore wind ambition to add at least €38 billion to the Irish economy over the lifetime of all projects, including up to 86,000 FTE years of employment.

However, building offshore wind farms takes a complex supply chain, and a huge number of workers with specialist skills. To reap this significant economic benefit, it will be critical that Ireland ensures access to sufficient levels of resources at the local, regional and national level. This includes infrastructure, services and a skilled workforce to support the development of a domestic offshore wind industry. In a vibrant economy like Ireland's, with historically low unemployment levels, finding the workers with the right skills to unlock this industrial opportunity will be no small challenge, and it's vital that we begin building awareness and inspiring both young people and experienced workers looking for a

new challenge to recognise and pursue this opportunity.

With this in mind, and based on the *Building our Potential* report, the same team, with the help of web developer PixelHouse, has now developed an online tool to illuminate the opportunities presented by Ireland's ambitious offshore wind goals. The team is delighted to announce that the new tool will be available to the public shortly.

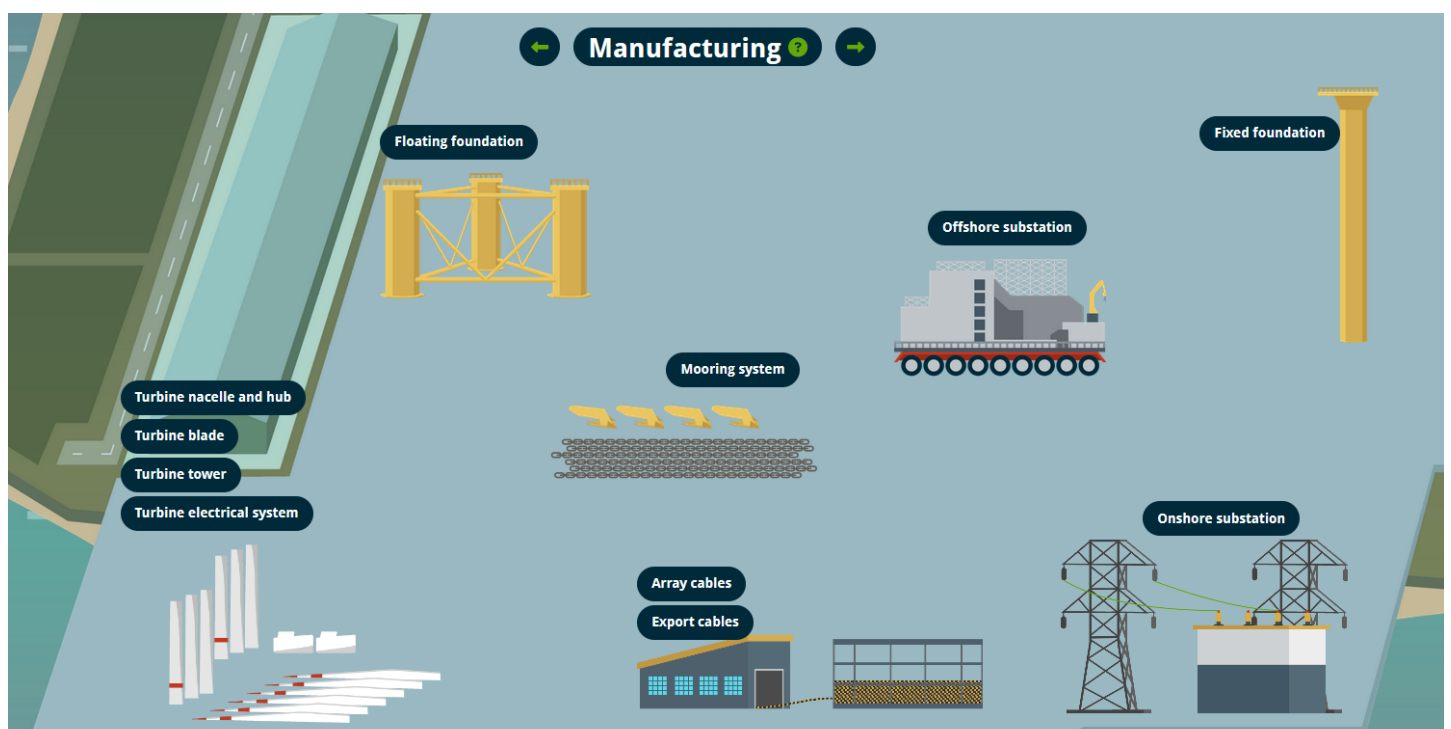
The tool is aimed at anyone with an interest in offshore wind in Ireland; how the industry works, where Ireland is on its offshore wind journey, and what employment opportunities it could provide. It is designed to be accessible for both complete novices to the world of offshore wind, and as a useful source of information for those who are early in their careers or new to the Irish market. It provides an overview of the offshore wind development process in Ireland, the lifecycle of a typical wind farm, the abundant job opportunities that offshore wind will bring to Ireland and the workforce skills needed to deliver them. It also includes a career quiz to help those with an interest in working in offshore wind identify which career paths could be right for them.

Features of the tool include:

## The interactive guide

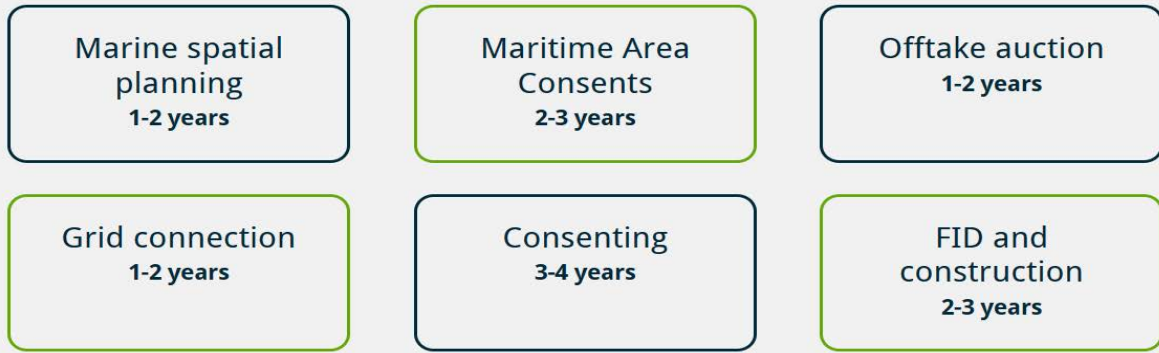
The online tool takes the user through the lifecycle of a typical offshore wind farm in Ireland. It outlines the main functions, key players and basic facts for the activities under each phase of the lifecycle including development and project management, manufacturing, installation, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning.

Users can then click through to explore detailed information on the individual areas of activity which make up the lifecycle, with in-depth information on the function of each component, and where it comes from.



A page from the interactive guide showing the manufacturing lifecycle phase of an offshore wind project

— Ireland's development process —  
10-12 years



A summary of the development process

### Development process

The tool walks the user through the development process of an offshore wind farm in Ireland. It outlines the technical details, timescales and key stakeholders involved in all the chief development stages. These include marine spatial planning to identify sites for development, through consenting and auctioning of offtake rights, through to construction and grid connection.

### Offshore wind sites and port facilities

The tool has an interactive map showing operational offshore wind projects and those that have gone to auction. The user can select each offshore wind site to reveal details of the project, including the capacity, developers, estimated completion date and whether the project is expected to be fixed or floating. The map will be continually updated as the Irish offshore wind industry expands, and projects successfully secure an offtake agreement in the future.

The map also highlights some of the key ports around Ireland with the opportunity to take part in offshore wind construction activity.



Map of offshore wind sites and potential construction ports.

### Career opportunities

The tool presents a 'jobs landscape', which shows the areas of employment in offshore wind in Ireland. It highlights the types of job opportunities the industry will create in to Ireland in the construction sector, ports, offshore on project sites, and in on land.



An example of an interactive 'job landscape'

As well as providing a summary of the job locations and the types of roles within them, the tool provides specific examples of offshore wind roles. It has a starting point of 42 key Irish job roles, ranging across the lifecycle of the wind farm.

**Development and consenting services**

**Description**  
Development and consenting covers the work needed to secure consent and manage the development process through to financial close. [Read more](#)

**Relevant careers**  
[Bid Manager](#) [Commercial Analyst](#) [Community Liaison Officer](#) [Grid Package Manager](#) [Project Manager](#) [Offshore Consents Manager](#)

Each role also has a detailed job profile, which outlines key job features such as: job description and working pattern, typical employer, place of work, future career possibilities, salary estimates, and which phase of the lifecycle the job is required. The number of roles is planned to be expanded over time as the tool evolves.

Finally, users can complete an interactive career quiz, answering questions on what they would like out of a career in offshore wind, to help them find a suitable career for them in this exciting sector.

So, you want a career in offshore wind? Take our short quiz to see what suits you:

Would you prefer to work inside or outside? \*

Inside  
 Outside  
 No preference

[Previous](#) [Next](#)

A snapshot from the career quiz

We hope that this tool will serve to build awareness of the huge opportunity for Ireland which offshore wind represents, and to inspire a new generation of Irish workers to seek this opportunity out, helping to build a dynamic sector which will benefit Ireland for years to come.

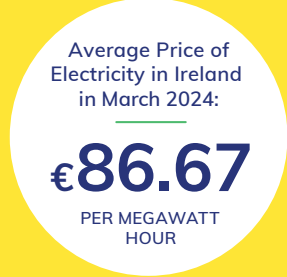


# MARCH WIND ENERGY REPORT 2024

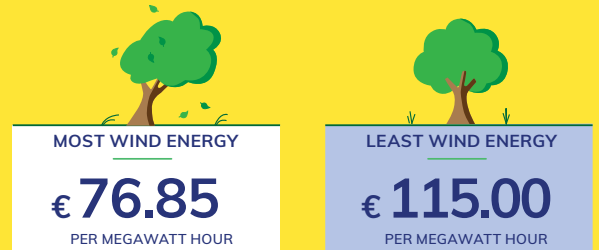


**WIND ENERGY PROVIDED 43% OF IRELAND'S ELECTRICITY IN MARCH 2024.**

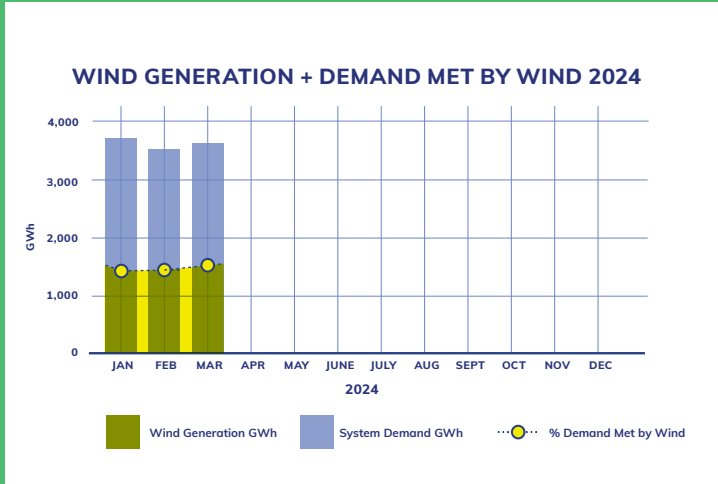
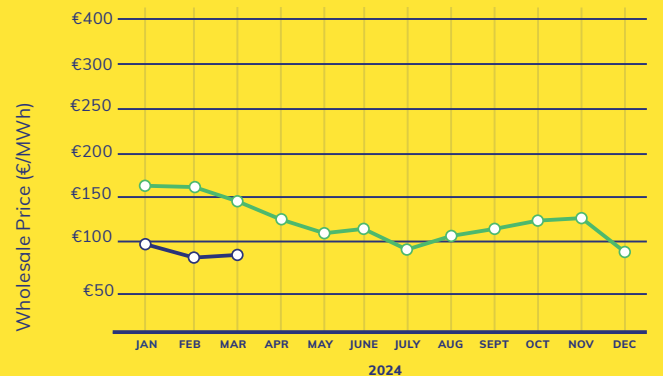
## WIND ENERGY CUTS THE PRICE OF WHOLESALE ELECTRICITY.



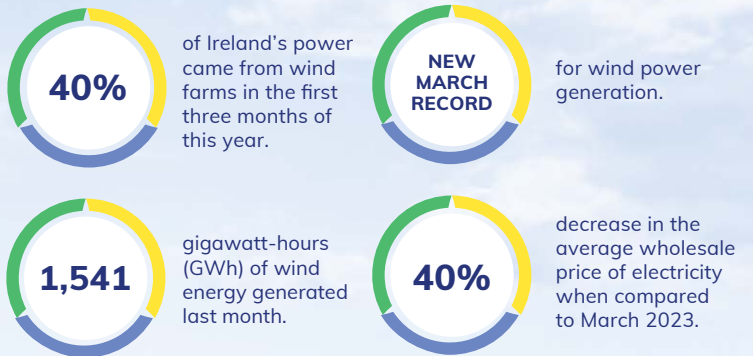
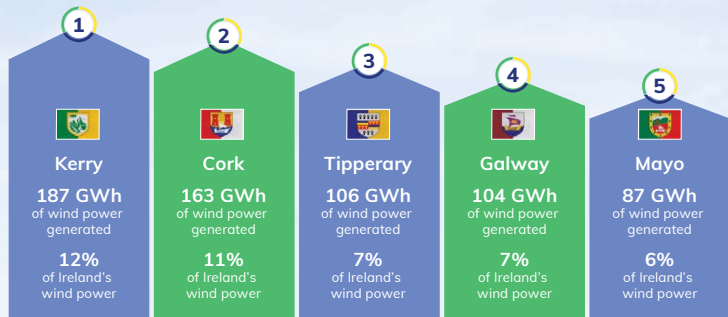
In March 2024 the Average Price of Electricity on the days with:



### MONTHLY PRICE COMPARISON 2023 2024



### Top 5 counties for wind power generation in March 2024



**References:**  
Generation provided by MullanGrid based on EirGrid's SCADA data which may change slightly as additional metered data is confirmed. Market data provided by ElectroRoute.

County-level generation provided by Green Collective based on SEMO daily metered generation.

A megawatt-hour (MWh) is a unit of electricity. A normal Irish household will use approximately 4.6 megawatt-hours of electricity in a single year. A 3 MW turbine producing electricity at maximum capacity for an hour will produce 3 megawatt-hours. A gigawatt-hour (GWh) is 1,000 MWh.



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# Power a brighter future







# Powering Prosperity

## Ireland's Offshore Wind Industrial Strategy

By Helena Quilty, Principal Officer & Head of Offshore Wind Strategy Unit, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment

### Can you give readers a synopsis of what the industrial strategy is?

*Powering Prosperity – Ireland's Offshore Wind Industrial Strategy aims to build a strong and resilient offshore wind supply chain here in Ireland, as well as exploring opportunities for Irish companies to play a major role in the development of offshore wind projects at home and abroad. This strategy also endeavours to propel Ireland to the forefront of cutting-edge technology, through measures aimed at fostering a productive RD&I sector. In the longer term, the strategy will consider routes to market for our abundant clean renewable energy, as well as assessing regional development opportunities in areas central to the production of offshore wind energy.*

### We know the strategy will be iterative – how often is the strategy likely to be updated?

The forty actions will be implemented throughout 2024 and 2025 with the next iteration expected after that.

### How does it link in with the Future Framework?

Powering Prosperity is closely aligned with the Future Framework due to be published shortly by Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC). Both documents were developed as part of a whole-of-government approach to delivering offshore renewable energy (ORE).

The Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment (DETE) sits on the Offshore Wind Delivery Taskforce chaired by DECC, which coordinates work in this area across government.

### How will the industrial strategy be implemented between government and the offshore wind industry itself?

While the responsibility for delivery of the strategy's actions lies with government departments and agencies, effective implementation will not be possible without industry support. Therefore, it is intended to maintain and build on the positive engagement realised so far.

An Industry Forum was established last year comprising a broad spectrum of industry representatives and the intention is to continue this level of government-industry contact and collaboration in the implementation phase.

### The strategy sets out a range of mechanisms to support Ireland's supply chain as well as incentives to attract the international supply chain. What aspect will have the most impact to begin with?

Several of the shorter-term domestic actions will have the most immediate impact such as the delivery of public procurement training workshops to companies, increasing participation in business leadership programmes, and signposting and delivering targeted funding options.

### The strategy has a strong focus on strengthening the supply chain, research and innovation. Could you give us some insight into the wider offshore wind industrialisation plans for Ireland?

Ireland has the capacity to produce ORE exceeding its total energy demand. In addition to the potential export opportunities that this presents, we will pursue enterprise opportunities in Ireland associated with end uses for OWE.



A key benefit of ORE is the natural geographic spread of this industry. DETE will work with its agencies to ensure the benefits of this is felt across the regions, and as part of that, the co-location of large energy users, or clusters of industrial demand for energy with large OW projects will be considered.

The strategy also recognises the importance of floating offshore wind (FLOW) to Ireland's ambitions, which is why the feasibility of a demonstrator site dedicated to FLOW will be explored.

**What other countries have you looked at to inform the development of Ireland's industrial strategy and what have you learned?**

As part of the research process, DETE commissioned a study on international best practice focusing on five countries with active OW industries: Scotland, in the wider UK context, the Netherlands, France, Taiwan and the US state of Maryland.

This study highlighted two key approaches applicable to the Irish OW industry: effective clustering, particularly clusters engaged with Government, industry, and academia, and prioritising innovation, particularly fostering an environment supportive of innovation.

**Are there other countries you think Ireland should be building partnerships with to help accelerate the delivery of offshore wind energy while also growing our domestic supply-chain?**

Ireland is a member of the North Seas Energy Cooperation (NSEC); we will endeavour to utilise our membership of such cooperation alliances and existing bilateral agreements to develop our OW industry. A memorandum of understanding is in place between Ireland and the UK with a focus on cooperation and information sharing in the offshore renewable energy sector; this can be used to build capacity and export opportunities in the Irish OW supply chain.

We have already scaled up engagement with Scotland and are working together to establish a joint event on renewable energy, the first of which will take place in Ireland this year. We also have a fact-finding visit to the Port of Esbjerg scheduled for Q4 2024 and have recently discussed ORE with Danish counterparts, with a view to enhancing cooperation and learning from Denmark's vast ORE expertise.



# Feel the wind in your wallet.

Wind farms take the sting out of rising electricity prices by kicking more expensive fossil fuels off the grid, helping you to avoid blowing a fuse the next time you check your bill.

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VALUE

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# Non-Price Criteria – a European View

By Pauline Fournols, Senior Advisor Energy Policy, WindEurope

The EU wants to have 420 GW of wind energy installed by 2030, up from 220 GW today, to meet its climate and energy security goals. This means Europe needs to build around 30 GW of new wind farms every year up to 2030.

The European wind industry can deliver this target. But over the past few years it has been struggling with inflationary pressures, increased interest rates, uncertainty on wind expansion volumes and poor auction design. All of which have undermined its ability to plan and invest in new manufacturing sites.

## Wind made in Europe

This is why the EU came up with its Green Deal Industrial Plan one year ago. At the heart of the Plan is the Net Zero Industry Act (NZIA), Europe's response to the American Inflation Reduction Act. It aims to strengthen Europe's clean tech manufacturing and contribute to ensuring that the future of wind energy is "made in Europe". The European Parliament and the European Council reached a final agreement on the Act on 7 February this year.

A core provision of the final text is related to wind energy auctions. It enshrines pre-qualification criteria on cybersecurity, responsible business conduct and the ability to deliver on projects to ensure auctions don't award contracts to only the cheapest projects but to those projects that bring the most value to the European society. National Governments can also reward bids based on sustainability, energy system integration or supply chain resilience. What was only an incentive in the EU State aid guidelines is now mandatory. This is a decisive step away from price-only auctions.

Last year's EU Wind Power Package had already included the use of pre-qualification criteria for wind auctions in its list of 15 immediate actions

to support the scale up of the European wind industry. 26 EU Member States, including Ireland and 300 wind companies then committed themselves to implement these actions by signing a European Wind Charter. The NZIA mandates member states to apply non-price criteria to 30 per cent of the scoring in national renewables auctions with price still the major factor.

## Technology specific

But the application of non-price criteria is not a one-size-fits all solution. They should be technology specific – the EU wind and solar industry are in two completely different stages and we cannot apply the same remedy to both. Even for wind, distinction should be made between onshore, bottom-fixed offshore and floating wind. Onshore wind projects are smaller, governments need to handle a large volume of projects, and therefore the focus should be to max out on prequalification criteria to avoid lengthening procedures. For bottom-fixed offshore, non-price award criteria should be used to differentiate between projects and avoid the use of uncapped negative bidding, which is particularly detrimental to the supply chain and drives up capital costs of projects. Floating wind has not yet the same level of commercial development and this should be considered when designing the auctions.

The NZIA also calls on national governments to apply price indexation in auctions to factor in possible increases in input costs. And to assess the effects of negative bidding on the speed and scale of renewables deployment.

Setting a level playing field and recognising the value of European manufacturing is essential to delivering on Europe's energy security and climate targets. Pre-qualification and non-price award criteria will play a bigger role in selecting winning bids in Europe in the future.



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# Growth and greater engagement in NI

By Steven Agnew, RenewableNI Director

As the leading voice in Northern Ireland's renewable energy sector, RenewableNI is driving policy changes and fostering collaboration within the industry to accelerate the transition to clean, sustainable energy.

RenewableNI members are business leaders, technology innovators and expert thinkers from right across the industry. Working with our members we engage, educate and stimulate debate in the renewable electricity industry to increase public, political and investor support for the delivery of the net zero infrastructure Northern Ireland needs.

Since the return of the Northern Ireland Assembly – the NI legislative body – and Executive ministers, RenewableNI has benefited from increased direct political engagement.

RenewableNI has addressed the Committee for the Economy on the need to create an Accelerating Renewables Taskforce. A briefing of the Infrastructure Committee and meetings with the new Economy and Infrastructure Ministers have been agreed, and we welcomed Economy Minister Conor Murphy MLA establishing a 'critical objective' to reduce carbon emissions.



Tamasin Fraser was elected as the new Chair of RenewableNI, Sara Tinsley as the new Deputy Chair. Pictured here with Steven Agnew, Head of RenewableNI

## Growing RenewableNI

RenewableNI recently welcomed our new Chair and Deputy Chair. Tamasin Fraser, founder and Managing Director of renewable energy development and advisory company Omnipower Renewables, was elected as the new Chair, with Sara Tinsley Planning and Environmental Consents Manager at Energia Renewables, becoming the new Deputy. Voted for by RenewableNI's members, they will deliver leadership and industry expertise for their two-year term.

RenewableNI welcomed the publication of the Design considerations for a renewable electricity support scheme for Northern Ireland. The new scheme is a crucial policy measure by the Department for the Economy that will issue a new wave of renewable generation projects after a decade of stagnation.

Recognising this as only the step first step of renewable policy needed to meet the legal obligation of 80% renewable electricity by 2030, RenewableNI is continuing to call for an Accelerating renewables Taskforce.

RenewableNI will be engaging the policy makers and our members on the scheme.



Celebrating the recent sell out event, Women in Renewables, chaired by Ruth Forbes from event partner A&L Goodbody.

## Promoting Voices

In March, RenewableNI held its second Women in Renewables event, bringing 120 women together to discuss increasing diversity and inclusion on the sector.

Building on the success of last year, the sell-out event, provides a valuable platform to champion female voices and highlight role models. An all-female panel of industry experts, chaired by Ruth Forbes from event partner A&L Goodbody, discussed the importance of trailblazers in the industry. They recognised that those women who had great experiences were following in the footsteps of other women who had to battle for rights.

The panel also included Head of Renewable Electricity at the Department for the Economy, Zoe Crowe; Eimear O'Reilly, Head of Professional Services and Projects, Everun; and Sam McCloskey, Country Director, Simply Blue Group.

## Building Northern Ireland's Offshore Wind Industry

RenewableNI will be holding an offshore wind event in September in Parliament Buildings, Stormont, for MLAs and policy makers. The session will highlight the economic and environmental benefits the new offshore wind industry will bring to Northern Ireland.

It is key to promoting the policies needed and inter-departmental collaboration required to achieve the legal obligation of 80 per cent renewable electricity generation by 2030 in Northern Ireland. This is a major milestone to Northern Ireland having a net zero electricity system by 2035.

In March, RenewableNI submitted a response to the Consultation on Offshore Renewable Energy Installation Policy Options which gets provisions for a decommissioning regime underway.

The sector is eagerly awaiting the Offshore Renewable Energy Action Plan (OREAP) It is expected imminently, as government departments finalise cross-checking.

At the time of writing the publication of consultation on the SEA and initial resource zones was still unpublished. The delay was proposed by the Offshore Renewable Energy Forum (OREF) following concerns over zones. RenewableNI continues to engage on this.

For more information visit [www.RenewableNI.com](http://www.RenewableNI.com)





# Skills Connect

## Supporting Career Transitions to the Renewable Energy Sector

In 2021, Green Tech Skillnet launched unique Skills Connect training and work placement programmes for transitioning the jobseeker to the energy sector. These suites of programmes won the IITD Best Talent Development Initiative in 2022.

The **Wind Turbine Technician** programme delivers a suite of Global Wind Organisation (GWO) safety and technical certified training, wind sector overview and personal development skills workshops. Technicians obtain the GWO certificates required to go out on site after training.

The **Work in Wind** programme delivers a wide array of training covering the lifecycle of a wind farm, an overview of onshore and offshore wind; grid; policy; planning; markets; community engagement, and environmental impact management. The graduates of the Work in Wind programme also obtain certification in the fundamentals of asset management for wind farms developed by SEAI and WEI stakeholders for ISO 55001 standards.

### Work in Wind

<b>Personal Development Coaching</b>
CV Development and Competency Interviews
Workplace Resilience
Communication and Interpersonal Effectiveness
<b>Introduction to Terminology &amp; Foundational Understanding</b>
Industry Introduction to Onshore and Offshore Wind
Lifecycle of a Wind Farm
Asset Management in the Wind Sector: A Foundation Course
Workshop with industry experts
<b>Bespoke and in-depth industry modules</b>
Overview of Electricity Grid Policy in Ireland
Overview of Electricity Market Policy in Ireland
Overview of Planning Systems for Onshore and Offshore Wind
Overview of Offshore Wind
Overview of Community Engagement, Communications and Public Affairs in Ireland
Overview of Biodiversity and Environmental Management
<b>Work Placement</b>
Work placement with industry companies

### Wind Turbine Technician

<b>Personal Development Coaching</b>
CV and Interview Skills
Effective Communication and Resilience in the Workplace
<b>Introduction to Terminology &amp; Foundational Understanding</b>
Turbine Awareness Training
Workshop with Technicians working in the industry and industry experts
<b>Globally Recognized Certified Health &amp; Safety and Technical Training</b>
GWO Basic Safety Training (BST)
GWO Basic Technical Training (BTT)
GWO Advanced Rescue, Hub, Spinner and Inside Blade Rescue (ART-H)
Wind Turbine Safety Rules (WTSR)
Slinger Signaller
Enhanced First Aid
<b>Work Placement</b>
Work placement with industry companies

### Interested in hosting an intern or a technician?

CVs are available on request. We can also facilitate an introductory meeting or interview with candidates in advance of the work placement starting to ensure best fit. Please contact [ledi.hoxha@windenergyireland.com](mailto:ledi.hoxha@windenergyireland.com)



2024 Courses
Postgraduate Diploma in Engineering for Climate Action
Offshore Wind for Professionals
Wind Energy as Gaeilge
IOSH Managing Safely for Wind Power
IOSH Construction and Operations Safety for Solar Power
Project Management & Impactful Leadership Training for Wind Energy Professionals
GWO Safety and Technical Training
QQI Domestic Solar Photovoltaic Course
Grid Connection Process
Introduction to BESS
Suite of Energy Systems and Battery Storage courses
Heat Pump Installer
IAM Certificate in Asset Management
Diploma in Sustainability Reporting
Management & C-suite Courses
QQI Certificate in Industrial Electrical Safety and Systems
Electricity Market Fundamentals
Corporate Power Purchase Agreements
Master Less Than 500GT Bridging Course STCW
Advanced Diploma in Planning and Environmental Law
Renewable Energy Finance
Introduction to Green Hydrogen
Diploma in Renewable Energy Systems
Sustainability & ESG in Practice

CPD Programmes
Certificate in Sustainability Strategy, Risk and Reporting
Retrofitting Domestic Buildings for Energy Efficiency
Environmental Essentials for Engineering Projects
Diploma in Sustainability Reporting
Sustainable Green Organisations
HV Electrical Installations
Certified Energy Auditor

Micro-credentials
Air Pollution: Monitoring Assessment and Control
Creating Value with ESG
Low Carbon Power Technology
Electricity Grid Operation
Fundamentals of HV Systems
Renewable Grid Connection Design
Introduction to Coastal and Marine Governance
Solar Energy Conversion and Application
Transformative Energy Production and the Path to Decarbonisation
Fundamentals of Modern Energy Storage Solutions
Hydrogen: A Fuel of the Future and its Renewable Pathways
Battery Technologies for Sustainable Energy
Environmental Impact Assessment for Wind Farms

To book a course, please visit our website [www.greentechskillnet.com](http://www.greentechskillnet.com)

If you are interested in a course which isn't listed, would like to run some training in-house, or have any queries, please contact [training@greentechskillnet.com](mailto:training@greentechskillnet.com)

We are constantly developing new programmes aimed at both new recruits, and existing professionals seeking to enhance their skill sets within the renewable energy sector. If you are interested in participating in one of our advisory groups focused on skills development, please contact Jeanette Gill [jeanette.gill@windenergyireland.com](mailto:jeanette.gill@windenergyireland.com)





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## Thousands of new jobs in the energy storage sector



Thousands of new jobs could be unlocked in the energy storage sector by 2035 according to a recent report by KPMG titled *Charged Horizons - Exploring the Energy Storage Landscape and Workforce Potential in Ireland*.

KPMG estimates that there is the potential for 2,000 to 5,000 new jobs to be created in the energy storage sector by 2035 across the areas of construction, engineering and financing. This includes both direct and indirect employment.

Energy storage is one of the fastest growing segments within the power sector. This growth is mainly driven by lithium-ion battery storage, but other forms of energy storage such as new battery chemistries and green hydrogen are also becoming prominent, all of which will prove crucial to unlocking Ireland's full renewable potential. However, the lack of a consistent talent pipeline for the sector puts this growth at risk, due to an overall lack of awareness of the sector, lack of defined career paths, and a lack of suitable training courses.

Ireland currently has 700 MW of battery storage operational, however, the KPMG report shows that up to 8 times more energy storage of different capabilities is needed by 2035. New technologies mean that batteries will be able to store more energy for longer periods, but significant investment is needed to capitalise on the potential and respond to the growing needs of the power sector.

Without energy storage we will waste a lot of renewable energy and it will make it harder to phase out fossil fuels. For example, in 2020 Ireland had to turn down enough wind energy to power the city of Galway

twice over for the year because our grid wasn't strong enough to carry the power or because there was not enough demand for this energy during very windy periods. With energy storage we could soak up this renewable energy and use it at less windy times or when the grid can accommodate.

KPMG analysed different scenarios for 2035 and 2050 in terms of the pace and buildout of Ireland's renewable resources alongside growth in energy demand and a potential energy export market. Interestingly, the need for storage is high across all scenarios but the amount of jobs that can be created in the sector is dependent on the pace and rollout of renewable energy as a fast transition requires immediate skills development while a delayed transition spreads this need out over the longer term.

**Ireland's energy storage sector has grown rapidly in recent years, largely on the back of expertise transferred from the wider renewable energy sector but to deliver its full potential we now need to invest in developing the skills and workforce to meet our much greater future energy storage needs.**

This requires dedicated training programmes and learning opportunities to provide a career path in the sector. ESI and Green Tech Skillnet have recently worked with the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) to support the rollout of energy storage training courses and programmes in Ireland. We are also seeing that several third-level institutions are offering micro-credential courses that include energy storage which should help support the development of the required skills in the sector.

Ireland can continue to be a world leader in renewable integration by putting in place investment signals for longer duration energy storage and also investing in the skills and training requirements for the sector as we increase our wind and solar energy and strive towards our carbon reduction targets.

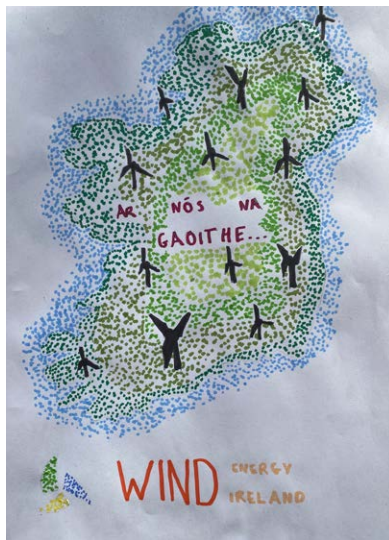
For more information on the work of Energy Storage Ireland or to read the KPMG report, please contact [info@energystorageireland.com](mailto:info@energystorageireland.com) or visit [www.energystorageireland.com](http://www.energystorageireland.com)



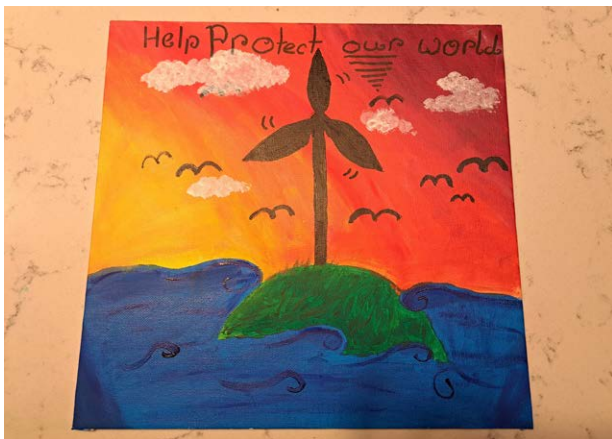
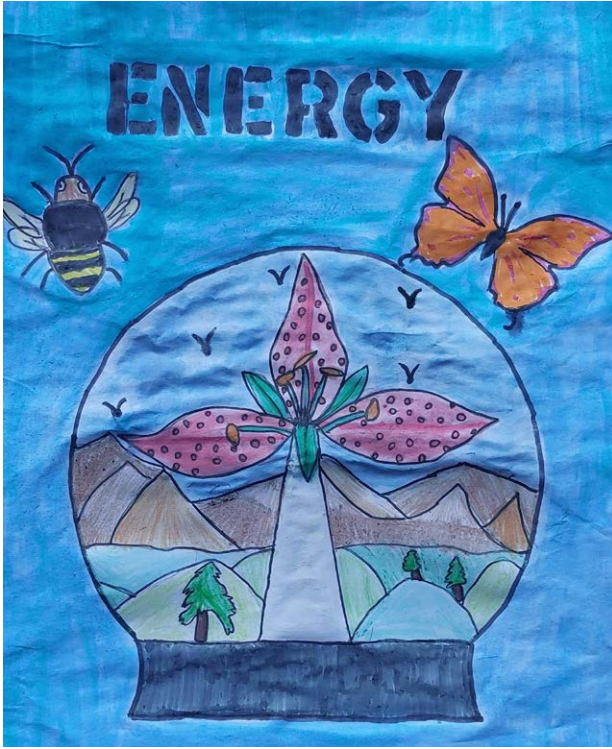
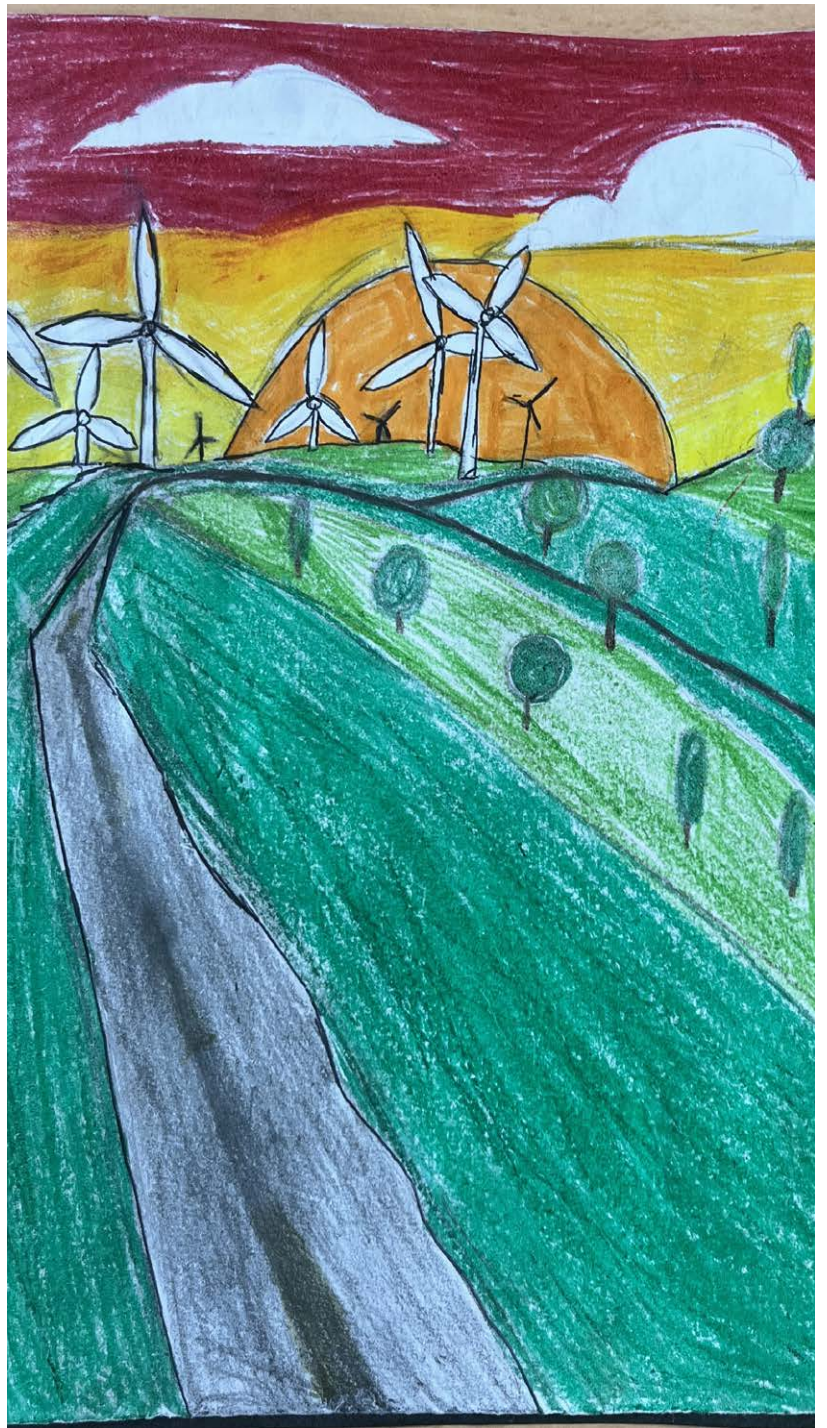
# Wind inspired art from classrooms across Ireland

Check out some of the 150+ entries to our recent art competition for primary schools around the country. Judges had a very tough time deciding on the overall winner, who won both a school tour for their class to Mountlucas Wind Farm in Offaly and will have their art transformed into a jigsaw.

Watch this space as plans are in place for an exhibition to celebrate the young artists. And their wind inspired creativity.











# Taking a stand on education

We started 2024 with a blast of education initiatives by taking a stand to promote the online jobs site [www.workinwind.ie](http://www.workinwind.ie) at the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition.

We had a very busy few days, with a constant queue of students, teachers and families waiting their turn to find out more about wind energy and jobs in wind.

A turbine making experiment complete with a wind machine, thanks to the crew from LearnRenewables, was a key attraction. We ran a daily competition and leaderboard for students who generated the most energy with Wind Energy Ireland hoodies and #PictureYourselfInWind tote bags as prizes.

It was a wonderful opportunity to link up with other education stakeholders and to chat to second level teachers about the many career paths in wind.

We have lots more public engagement ideas planned for 2024, so watch this space. In the meantime, please get in touch if you have any questions or ideas in relation to the site.







# Ahead of the Energy Curve

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# Pathway to renewables and STEM for girls

By Tina Raleigh, Head of Offshore, Statkraft Ireland

Women make up 51 per cent of the population but have just 25 per cent of the jobs that require STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) skills. This is a stark statistic and it is one worth reflecting on.

This gulf in female representation is not unique to the workforce. It is mirrored at third level where – according to figures from the Higher Education Authority (HEA) – courses in ICT and engineering, manufacturing and construction had the lowest percentage of female enrolments, at 23 per cent and 24 per cent respectively. The HEA figures for 2022/2023 also revealed that just one quarter of the graduates from courses in engineering, manufacturing and construction were women.

It has been well-documented that encouraging more women to get involved in a career in STEM would deliver benefits across the board. Recent analysis by McKinsey on the technology sector alone highlighted a talent gap of 1.4 million to 3.9 million people across the EU by 2027. Its research asserted that if Europe could double the share of women in the tech workforce to approximately 45 per cent, it could generate a GDP increase of somewhere between €260 billion to €600 billion.

Closer to home, we can help tackle the STEM gender gap by engaging with secondary school students. In February of this year, I Wish – an organisation inspiring teenage girls to follow careers in STEM subjects – welcomed approximately 3,000 female students to its 10th annual event.

The showcase, which took place in Dublin's RDS, featured a range of speakers from industry and academia, giving us a unique chance to speak directly to, and hopefully inspire, girls who may be considering studying a STEM-related course in third level.

While it was extremely positive to see so many engaged and enthusiastic girls attend the event, it appears that there is still some way to go to address the barriers that my classmates and I faced in secondary school.

A 2023 report from I Wish, which focused on female students' attitudes to STEM, reveals that girls attending single-sex schools face limited subject choices, while in mixed schools, girls are more likely to say that boys are better suited to subjects such as maths and science.

Almost six out of 10 girls say they lack confidence in their ability for STEM subject, while approximately the same number cite a lack of confidence in pursuing a career in STEM subjects. Two-thirds of the teenage girls surveyed said there was insufficient information on careers in this area, while 61 per cent said they did not have access to work experience in the field.

It is not all bad news, however. The same report revealed that 84 per cent of teenage girls want to know more about STEM, providing a huge opportunity for those like me who are passionate about encouraging more young women to embark on an interesting and fulfilling career path.

While the Government can ensure that girls get the same educational opportunities as boys in secondary school, introducing these girls to role models is vital to address their lack of confidence. Indeed, I Wish's 2023 study showed that more than half of respondents cited a lack of female role models as a barrier to studying STEM subjects in school.

For that reason, events such as I Wish and Women in STEM are a great platform for those of us working in the renewable energy sector to talk to girls and show them what they can achieve. Other initiatives, such as Wind Energy Ireland's Work in Wind campaign, also clearly demonstrate the myriad opportunities in the industry.

There is certainly more work to be done, but if we keep engaging with young girls to show them what they can achieve, we may succeed in narrowing the STEM gender gap sooner rather than later.



# TAKE ACTION NOW

[buildourgrid.ie/action](https://buildourgrid.ie/action)

We all know that grid connections can be a huge barrier to renewable energy projects. Take this simple action now to help remove this unnecessary barrier to clean energy!

#### Email your TD

Ask your TD to support an additional grid connection window for renewable energy projects.

As it stands, the opportunity to apply for a connection to the electricity grid only comes about once a year. If a renewable energy project is left waiting for months to get planning permission from An Bord Pleanála and misses the window, they must wait nearly a full year before they can apply again.

That's more time lost, more carbon emissions and more imported fossil fuels in our system.

Ask your TD to write to the CRU and show their support for a second connection window.

[EMAIL YOUR TD](#)



Right now, the electricity regulator, the CRU, is considering adding a second annual application window. This would be a significant improvement and would give wind and solar farms two chances to get their grid connection every year, helping to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy.

We're asking you to email your TD. Ask them to write to the electricity regulator – the CRU – to support giving renewable energy projects two opportunities to apply for a grid connection.

[EMAIL YOUR TD](#)

Find out more and sign up to the campaign at

[buildourgrid.ie](https://buildourgrid.ie)





# Policy updates from Bilbao

By Caoimhe McCarthy, Policy Manager, Wind Energy Ireland

**Were you among the 12,000 people who attended the 2024 WindEurope Annual Event in Bilbao recently? There was a very strong Irish contingent boosted no doubt by the new Ireland Pavilion.**

This new area was a joint partnership between the wind industry, via Wind Energy Ireland, and the Irish Government, including the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC), the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment (DETE) and Enterprise Ireland.

The pavilion was sponsored by OceanWinds, Bord na Mona and Codling Wind Park, as well as supporting partners GreenTech Skillnet and the T-Shore project.

Across the 3-day event, the exhibition stand included Irish representatives from MARA, SEAI, Flotation Energy, XOcean, ASL Safety and Training, Doyle Shipping Group, South-East Group, GreenRebel, H&MV Engineering and SSE Renewables, as well as guests from the Department of Transport and EirGrid.

## Ireland is open for business

The theme of this year's annual event was 'Our Wind, Our Value' and there was little doubt that Ireland is indeed 'Open for Business.' It is hard to deny Ireland's natural wind energy resource and the opportunities that it presents to decarbonise not just our own energy system, but ultimately, that of wider Europe as well.

On the opening day, Wind Energy Ireland hosted a networking reception sponsored by OceanWinds and Bord na Mona. Noel Cunniffe, CEO WEI kicked things off before handing over to Angela Larkin from Ocean Winds and Brendan Connolly from Bord na Mona to say a few words to gathered guests while they enjoyed a pint of the black stuff! (Yes, we did have Guinness on tap, and yes, it did make us extremely popular!)

On Day 2, Wind Europe held its first ever dedicated Irish Market Session chaired by Dave Linehan, Head of Policy and Research, WEI.

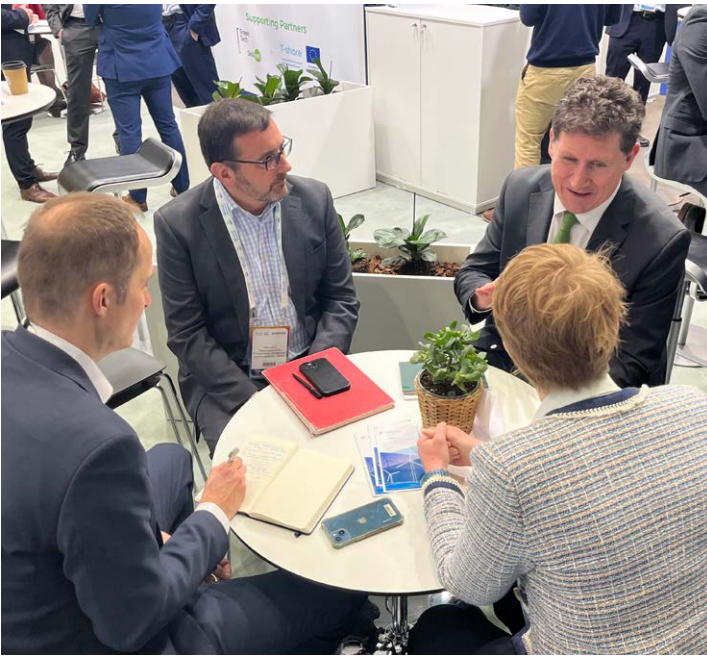
The panel included Matt Collins, Assistant Secretary DECC; Noel Cunniffe, CEO WEI; Laura Brien, CEO MARA; and Barry Kilcline, Head of Offshore, Ireland SSE Renewables. This looked at the Irish wind energy market – the bottlenecks facing the industry, including the planning system, grid infrastructure and supply chain constraints, and what we can do to address these challenges to accelerate deployment of both onshore and offshore wind and deliver our climate targets.

## Ireland's Offshore Wind Industrial Strategy

Also on Day 2, officials from the Irish Government hosted a reception which gave an insight into the strong commitment from government departments to deliver offshore wind, working across departments, state bodies, and in partnership with industry.







Giles Dickson, CEO WindEurope commenced proceedings, followed by speeches from Oonagh Buckley, Secretary General DECC, whose key messages were to make clear that the Irish government is taking offshore wind seriously and wants to engage with and work in collaboration with industry to make it happen.

Gary Tobin, Assistant Secretary DETE followed to introduce the recently published *Powering Prosperity – Ireland’s Offshore Wind Industrial Strategy*. The strategy will ensure that Ireland maximises the economic benefits associated with government targets to deliver 37 GW of offshore wind by 2050. The first iteration of the strategic roadmap within the strategy will focus on measures that maximise Ireland’s participation in domestic and international offshore wind energy supply chains, and look at ways to develop a globally recognised research, development and innovation ecosystem in the country.

And last, but by no means least, Matt Collins Assistant Secretary DECC, outlined the Government’s priority to support the delivery of Ireland’s Phase 1 offshore wind projects, to keep the ball rolling with the next phase of development - Phase 2, off Ireland’s south coast, with the next auction expected later this year, and Ireland’s first Designated Maritime Area Plan (DMAP) to be consulted upon in April and approved by summer 2024.

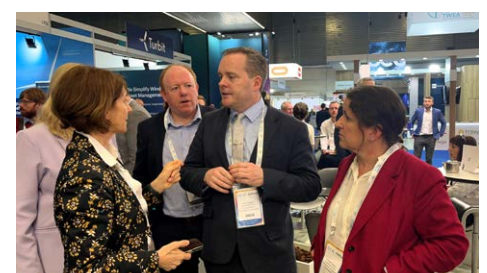
Matt also shared that the Future Framework Policy, which is Ireland’s vision for the long-term development of offshore wind beyond 2030,

to be published in the coming weeks, linking closely with the new Industrial Strategy, setting the pathway Ireland will take to deliver 20 GW of offshore wind by 2040 and at least 37 GW by 2050.

Day 2 also included a panel session focusing on ‘Grid Access for Wind Farms’, which Michael Mahon, Chief Infrastructure Officer, EirGrid took part in.

Finally, on Day 3, the event opened with a Ministerial Session which included Minister Eamon Ryan. During this panel the minister discussed the need for certainty and speed to accelerate deployment of offshore wind and emphasised that auction design needs to lead to action and accelerated rollout. He highlighted that early derisking will be critical, which can be done via the Maritime Area Consent system in Ireland. He also acknowledged that to enable certainty and speed we need a plan and visibility for delivering the capacity targets and for grid planning and build out.

***Bilbao was a fantastic whirlwind, and one which lived up to the theme of ‘Our Wind, Our Value’. The energy, enthusiasm and buzz across the 3-day event was evident and from a Wind Energy Ireland perspective, we hope this was the first year of many more to come which puts forward such a strong united front, showcasing Ireland’s wind and our value.***





# Full steam ahead for new WEI research projects

By Daire Horgan



## Did you know?

The Wind Energy Ireland research team has hit the ground running with the introduction of 5 new projects this year.

These include 3 SEAI projects: DIFOWT: De-risking Ireland's Floating Offshore Wind Targets through evidence-based research into high-risk areas identified by key stakeholders, Atlantic Float: The focus of the project is on the dynamic nature of floating wind turbines in the harsh Atlantic conditions and how this impacts the design parameters of various components, and AMS-FLOW: which seeks to address various technical challenges associated with scaling up FLOW installations, such as understanding met ocean conditions, optimizing mooring and export cable performance, and exploring emerging anchoring technologies.

We are also part of our second EU Erasmus+ project, supporting the Engineering Education for a Sustainable Future. Our role is to help shape the curriculum that prepares engineers to meet the challenges of sustainability in their careers. Additionally, we are partners of a Marine Institute funded project Offshore ADAPT, that will establish an evidence base drawing of the global best practice on design flexibility for Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) developments.

Through these projects, we're continuing our ongoing commitment to collaboration, innovation, and education in the renewable energy sector. Our aim is to collaborate widely, inviting others in the industry to join us in this journey towards a sustainable energy future.

## Research on show

In January 2024, we held the annual Poster Room event during the WEI Annual Conference, showcasing a wide array of innovative research from leading universities and research centres across Ireland. The event was a testament to the vibrant research community on the island, with Dr. Yadong Jiang from the University of Galway taking home the top honours for the REBLADE project.

We are excited to be hosting the 'Thesis in Three' event at the WEI Offshore Conference this May which takes centre stage on the first day. This initiative offers researchers a platform to present their work to some of the key stakeholders in the offshore industry, all within a tight three-minute window. It's a fantastic opportunity for academia and industry professionals to connect and exchange ideas.

As we approach the WEI Trade Show in November, we're gearing up for more research-focused activities. We encourage you to stay connected for updates on how you can get involved. These events are crucial in bridging the gap between academic research and industry, and we look forward to your participation in fostering this vital collaboration.



L-R: Padraig Gallagher - ATU, Dáire Horgan - WEI, Juanita Blue -ATU, Nuala Carr - ATU, Emmett Kerr - ATU, Stieneke Boerm - Noorderpoort and Yorrick van Bree - Katapult.

## Research reports

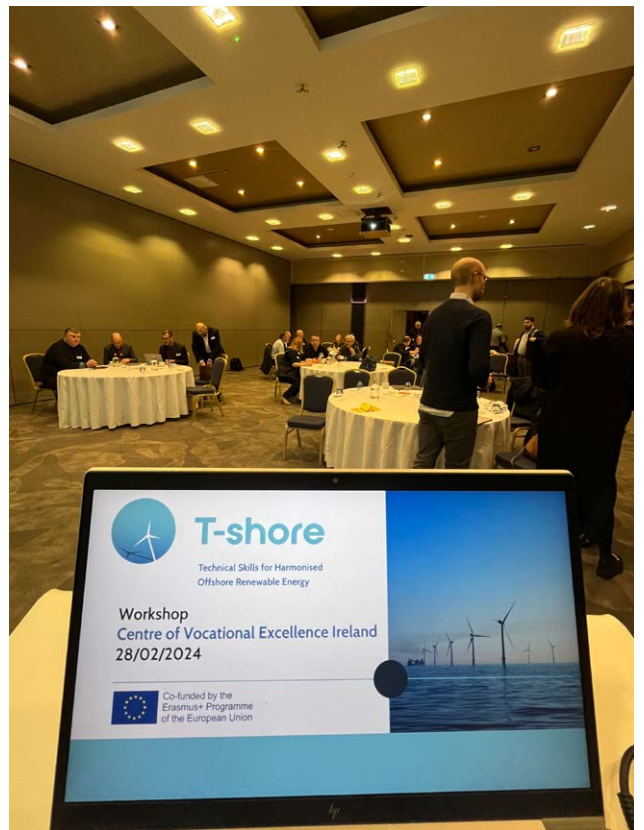
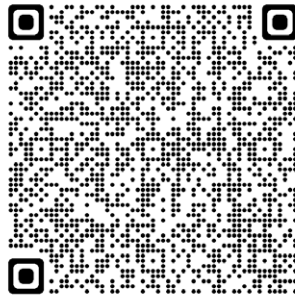
WEI, with our partners, produced key policy-research reports, including the Act Now - Accelerating onshore renewable energy in Ireland report by KPMG, *Building our Potential - Offshore Wind Skills* with BVG and *Cutting Carbon, Cutting Bills Report - Wind Carbon and Fuel Savings* annual report with Baringa. These works are essential in highlighting and addressing the critical issues our industry faces.

If you have any ideas or see a need for research on specific industry challenges, we encourage you to share your thoughts with us.

If any of our projects or events catch your eye, or if you're curious about our work, we are keen to discuss potential collaborations. We're not just focused on wind; we're open to projects across the wider renewable energy landscape in Ireland and the EU. However, what sets us apart is our unique access to the wind industry within Ireland.

If you're seeking a partner with expertise in communications, dissemination, and stakeholder engagement, coupled with unparalleled industry connections, we're here to talk. We believe there's ample opportunity for collaboration on future projects. Don't hesitate to reach out for a conversation.

Don't hesitate to reach out for a conversation →



## Look back to 2023 research

2023 was a busy year for the WEI research team. We further advanced the T-Shore project while successfully initiating three new projects funded by SEAI: Spine-H2 IRL, IDA-IRL, and RE:Harrier. Our role is to lead on dissemination, communications, and stakeholder engagement, with T-Shore operating at the EU level and the SEAI projects focusing on national engagement.

We developed distinct brands and identities for each project, ensuring that communication with stakeholders is both consistent and impactful. This branding effort is more than just creating a visual identity; it's about making each project recognisable and accessible to those involved.

One of our key strategies for fostering collaboration and sharing knowledge has been through organising events and workshops. These gatherings serve as a platform for direct interaction between project partners and the wider industry, including key stakeholders. They are opportunities for brainstorming, sharing ideas, and presenting project developments, which further promotes an open call for collaboration.



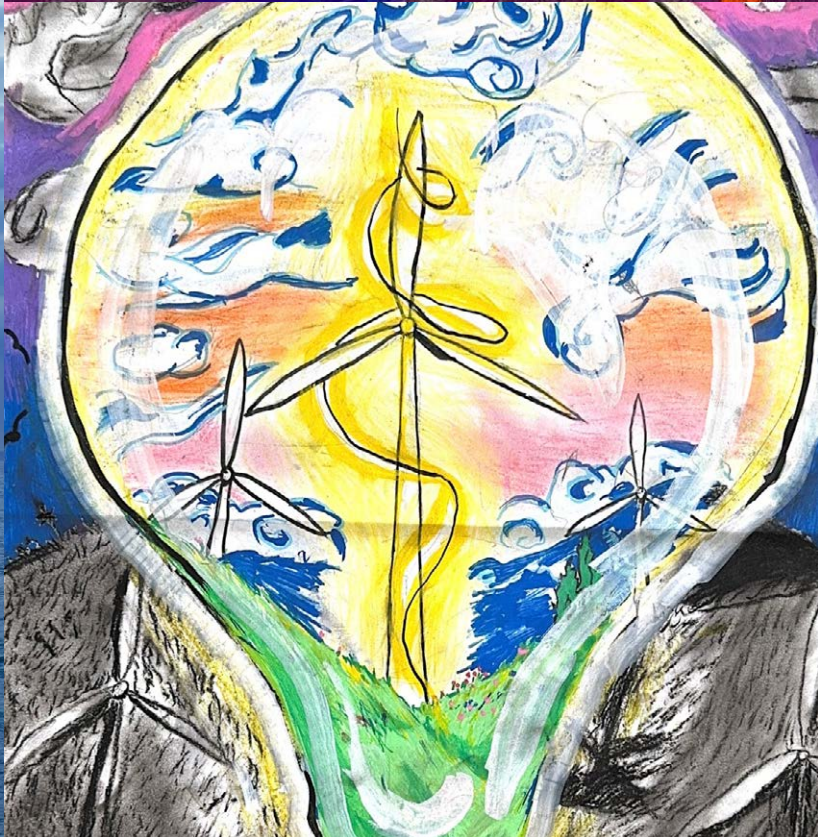
More on T Shore here →

ATU and WEI hosted a T-shore workshop in Athlone bringing offshore stakeholders in the training and education sector to explore the development of a Centre of Vocational Excellence (CoVE) for Offshore Wind Energy in Ireland.











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