

## AGENDA

10.00-10.30 REGISTRATION AND COFFEE

### SESSION 1: COMMUNITIES AND THE RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY SUPPORT SCHEME

10.30 –10.40 **Welcome by Tomás Ó Síocháin, CEO Western Development Commission**

10.40 –10.50 **Introduction by Paul Kenny CEO Tipperary Energy Agency**

10.50 –11.20 **Lessons Learnt from Germany: renewable energy auctions and communities**  
Craig Morris Renewable Energy Agency Germany

11.20 –11.50 **Lessons Learnt from Denmark: renewable energy auctions and communities**  
Dr Louise Krog Jensen, Sustainable Energy Planning Research Group, Aalborg University, Denmark

12.50 –12.10 **RESS and Community owned energy in Ireland: what will the future look like?**  
Enda Gallagher Dept. Communications Climate Action & Environment

12.10 –12.30 **Q&A with panel of speakers**

12.30- 12.45 **COFFEE**

### SESSION 2: COMMUNITIES AND THE BIOGAS SECTOR

12.45 –13.05 **What Support Scheme is needed in Ireland for 20% target by 2030?**  
Ian Kilgannon, Business Development and Innovation Manager, Gas Networks Ireland

13.05 –13.25 **Dingle community owned Anaerobic Digester project: A Feasibility Study**  
Xavier Dubisson, XD Consulting

13.25- 13.45 **Incorporating Renewable Gaseous Fuel in Future Energy Systems**  
Dr Richard O'Shea, MARÉI Centre, ERI, UCC

13.45 –14.00 **Q&A with panel of speakers**

14.00 –15.00 **LUNCH**

**Conference organised by:**



**Dr Orla Nic Suibhne**  
LECo Project Officer,  
Western Development Commission



**Deirdre de Bhalis**  
Dingle Hub Manager,  
Dingle

## SPEAKERS

**Paul Kenny**  
CEO, Tipperary Energy Agency



Paul is the Chief Executive Officer of Tipperary Energy Agency. He has been with the agency since 2006 and Chief Executive since 2012. He is involved with both renewable energy (wind and bio-energy) and energy efficiency projects. Paul has worked on most sustainable energy technologies and was instrumental in founding the Superhomes deep retrofit programme and a key supporter of the Community power and sustainable Tapp initiatives. In 2013 Paul was recognised as the Green leader at the green awards, and in 2016 listed as in the Top 20 people to lead Ireland's response to climate change. Paul has engaged heavily with policy formation, presenting to the citizens assembly and 6 times to 3 different Oireachtas committees. Paul is a chartered engineer, holds a 1st class honours degree in Mechanical Engineering from UCD, three L6 Special purpose certificates in sustainable energy and an MSc in energy from Heriot-Watt in Edinburgh.

**Dr. Louise Krog Jensen**  
PhD in Energy Planning at  
Aalborg University, Denmark.



Louise Krog Jensen is working as a Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Sustainable Energy Planning Research Group at Aalborg University. She holds a PhD in "Strategic Energy Planning" (2019) also from Aalborg University, where she has worked with local strategic energy planning in a Danish context. Louise is a part of the Sustainable Energy Research Group at Aalborg University where they are working with an interdisciplinary approach to Sustainable Energy Planning. The subject of study is energy planning in general and focus is placed on a combination of technical and geographical aspects, such as energy system analysis (ESA) and geographical information systems (GIS), and on economic and institutional aspects, such as feasibility studies and public regulation and participation seen in the light of technological change.

**Craig Morris**



Craig Morris (@PPcherf) is an advisor at Germany's Renewable Energy Agency (AEE). From 2016-2018, he was a Senior Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies in Potsdam, Germany, where he investigated the flexibility of nuclear reactors in combination with wind and solar power. He is the co-author of Energy Democracy, a history of Germany's Energiewende (energy transition) as a grassroots movement (Paigrave 2016). He served as technical editor for the 2014 and 2016 editions of IRENAs's Remap and of the 2015 edition of Greenpeace's Energy (R)evolution. In 2008, he cofounded Berlin's PV Magazine; in 2010, Renewables

International. In 2012, he became lead author of the Böll Foundation's EnergyTransition.com. Since 2002, he has also authored articles and books in German and served as editor for numerous German periodicals in the energy sector. In 2014, he won the International Association of Energy Economists' prize for energy journalism.

**Enda Gallagher**



Enda holds a degree in business from the University of Limerick. He has held a variety of positions in both the public and private sectors, including sales and marketing positions with Mars/Masterfoods, Marketing Officer for the Geological Survey of Ireland and Press Officer for the Department of Climate Action. He has also worked across various energy policy roles within that department including Energy Efficiency, Strategic Energy Policy and he now works in the Electricity Policy Division of the department where he has responsibility for electricity infrastructure. He also has responsibility for the development of community energy policy, in particular within the context of the Renewable Electricity Support Scheme.

**Dr. Richard O'Shea**



Richard O'Shea is a Post-Doctoral Researcher with Bioenergy and Biofuels Research Group within MARÉI and is based in The Environmental Research Institute in UCC. Richard received his undergraduate degree from UCC in Energy Engineering in 2014 and a PhD funded by Eirvia and SFI on "Pathways to a Renewable Gas Industry in Ireland" from UCC in 2017. Richard's work covered the operation of lab scale anaerobic digesters, as well as techno-economic modelling, and optimisation. Richard has also represented Ireland at International Energy Agency Bioenergy meetings on flexible energy production from biomass.

**Xavier Dubisson**



Xavier has over 25 years' experience as an engineer in the field of sustainable energy in Ireland and internationally. He came from Belgium to live in West Cork in 2001, where he worked with SEAI for 6 years. Since then, he has worked as a consulting engineer and collaborated on a wide range of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, while also supporting policy-making in the area. He is one of Ireland's leading experts in energy planning initiatives by local authorities, community groups and industry stakeholders. He is currently working on a number of community energy projects involving solar energy and anaerobic digestion.

## SPEAKERS CONTINUED

### Ian Kilgallon

Gas Networks Ireland - Innovation & Business Development Manager

Ian's team in Gas Networks Ireland (GNI) is focused on developing and implementing new strategies to decarbonise energy in support of a circular and low carbon economy. Current priorities are focussed on Renewable Gas initiatives which aim to deliver Sustainable, Environmental, Economic, and Social benefits across a range of sectors, along with enhancing Security of Supply (energy



independence).

Working in the gas industry for over 16 years, Ian has previously held the positions of National Metering Manager, Market Operations Manager, Regulatory Affairs and Key Account Manager. Prior to working in gas, Ian, who is an Industrial Engineer, spent 18 years supporting new-product development, and establishing manufacturing and supply chain operations across Europe, Asia and North America, for Apple, EMC and Dell.

## ORGANISATIONS

Renewable Energy Agency Germany



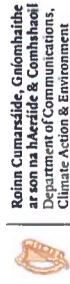
The Renewable Energies Agency ("Agentur für Erneuerbare Energien e. V., AEE") is supported by companies and associations from the renewable energy sector as well as the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, and the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

Sustainable Energy Planning Research Group, Aalborg University



The Sustainable Energy Planning Research Group works with an interdisciplinary approach to sustainable energy planning. The subject of study is energy planning in general and focus is on technical and geographical aspects, such as energy system analysis, and economic and institutional aspects, such as feasibility studies and public regulation seen in the light of technological change.

DCCAE



The Department of Communications, Climate Action and the Environment is responsible for the delivery of policies and programmes in a number of areas and must ensure that all of its policies are in line with EU and global obligations. These policies are of vital national strategic importance and play a major underpinning role in our national economic development. The areas for which the department is responsible are, by their nature, undergoing substantial and rapid change.

Gas Networks Ireland



Gas Networks Ireland is part of Ervia. They own, operate, build and maintain the natural gas network in Ireland and connect all customers to the network. Their core purpose is to ensure that over 688,000 homes and businesses receive a safe, efficient and secure supply of natural gas, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Dingle Hub



The Dingle Creativity and Innovation Hub (Dingle Hub) is a community enterprise initiative supported by Enterprise Ireland, eir, Údarás na Gaeltachta, Kerry County Council, Net Feasa and the Dingle Business Chamber. Their aim is to foster opportunities, through collaborative projects, to improve core skills, assist learning new skills and help develop entrepreneurship on the Dingle Peninsula

MaREI Centre UCC



MaREI is the marine and renewable energy research, development and innovation Centre supported by Science Foundation Ireland. It combines the expertise of a wide range of research groups and industry partners, with the shared mission of solving the main scientific, technical and socio-economic challenges across the marine and renewable energy sectors. MaREI is coordinated by the Environmental Research Institute (ERI) at University College Cork and has over 200 researchers working across 6 academic institutions collaborating with over 45 industry partners.

# Community Owned Energy in Ireland: Lessons Learnt from Germany and Denmark

ABOUT Local Energy Communities (LECo) Project



LECo is a 3 year, €1.95m project, funded by the NPA programme that aims to bring together the combined experience, knowledge and expertise of the project partners and provide conditions for the creation of energy self-sufficient Local Energy Communities.

The LECo project shall respond to the needs of remote communities and settlements for a sustainable energy supply. The goal is to combine new innovative technologies with locally available natural resources, and to raise awareness of energy efficiency and possibilities to use the renewable energy. The approach is based on the model of local cycle economy. In the project, Local Energy Communities will be formed, which will create synergetic effects to the local economy and social coherence.

Existing cases of Energy Villages inside and outside the NPA area will be analysed in the form of documented cases and will deliver guidance about success factors and pitfalls for Energy Villages.

- <https://localenergycommunities.net/>
- <http://leco.interreg-npa.eu/>

ABOUT The Western Development Commission (WDC)



The WDC is a State agency established under statute to foster and promote the economic and social development of the Western Region (Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, Roscommon, Mayo, Galway and Clare).

- The work of the Western Development Commission focuses on investment, lending, regional development and policy analysis.
- Lookwest.ie offers an overview of business activity and life in the Western Region including an up to date jobs platform.
- The WDC is leading on The Atlantic Economic Corridor initiative. The AEC is an initiative to attract investment, support job creation and improve the quality of life in the West from Kerry to Donegal. This includes the Enterprise Hubs Project which is a 3-year project to create an interconnected community network from the 101 hubs identified as either operating or in development, in the AEC region.

