

ENERGY

CONFERENCE

From targets to action

*Delivering Ireland's
energy ambition*

WELCOME



EOIN CASSIDY

Partner, Energy Sector Lead,
Mason Hayes & Curran

Eoin Cassidy is a partner in the Construction, Infrastructure and Utilities team and is the head of the Energy sector in Mason Hayes & Curran. Eoin is recognised as one of Ireland's leading energy advisors and has advised on some of the most significant energy projects and transactions in the Irish market.

He provides advice to clients on complex infrastructure projects during development, financing, construction and operation.

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PANEL 1

How can policy and regulation create the framework for industry to deliver?

PANEL MODERATOR

**DEIRDRE NAGLE***Partner, Head of Planning & Environment Law*

Mason Hayes & Curran

Deirdre is Head of the Planning and Environment law team at Mason Hayes & Curran. Her extensive expertise includes advising on the planning aspects of major state infrastructure projects, particularly in the energy sector.

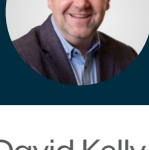
Deirdre practises in both contentious and non-contentious planning and environmental law. She has extensive experience in advising and acting for state bodies on major projects relating to all aspects of the consenting process including compulsory acquisition.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

**ANN DOHERTY***Chief Executive Officer,*

Port of Cork Company

Ann Doherty is CEO of the Port of Cork Company. She has over 30 years of senior leadership experience in healthcare and local government. She is leading the Port's growth, including the €100 million Cork Offshore Renewable Energy 1 (CORE1) berth. This project will help make Cork Ireland's leading hub for offshore renewable energy and support the country's move to cleaner energy.

**DAVID KELLY***Chief Executive Officer,*

Gas Networks Ireland

David Kelly is the Chief Executive Officer of Gas Networks Ireland who brings more than 25 years of senior executive experience across both the public and private sectors. David is currently the 137th President of Dublin Chamber and has been a member of Dublin Chamber Council since 2023 and a member of the Board of Directors since 2024.

David is also a member of the Dublin Chamber Planning & Infrastructure Taskforce and sits on the Dublin City Council Climate Change, Environment and Energy SPC.

**COMMISSIONER FERGAL MULLIGAN***Chairperson,*

Commission for Regulation of Utilities

Commissioner Fergal Mulligan has been a member of the Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU) since May 2024 and was appointed Chairperson in March 2026. Fergal previously worked as the Director of the Digital Connectivity Office in the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment and prior to that led the delivery of the Government programme to ensure all citizens have access to high-speed broadband under the National Broadband Plan. He previously held a senior management role with the telecoms regulator ComReg and various accounting and audit positions.

**SIOBHÁN O'SHEA***Chief Infrastructure Officer,*

EirGrid

Siobhán O'Shea was appointed Chief Infrastructure Officer in January 2026, having served as Chief Infrastructure Officer Onshore (Interim) since May 2025. She is responsible for the planning and consenting of onshore grid infrastructure, including the public consultation processes and landowner engagement, and customer connections across the Republic of Ireland. Siobhán has held a range of senior leadership roles in EirGrid Group in Group Regulation and External Affairs.

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LEGAL UPDATE

Material developments on grid connection policy and planning law

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



ROB MCDWYER

*Partner, Construction,
Infrastructure & Utilities,
Mason Hayes & Curran*

Rob is a partner in the Construction, Infrastructure & Utilities team at Mason Hayes & Curran, specialising in Energy law. Prior to joining the firm in 2023, Rob worked for more than a decade at Iberdrola Australia (previously called Infigen Energy) in Sydney as their Deputy General Counsel.

Rob has extensive and varied renewable energy and infrastructure experience, and has advised owners, operators, contractors and financiers on significant wind (onshore and offshore), solar and energy storage projects. Rob was a member of the Offshore Phase 1 Working Group that met regularly with EirGrid for workshops aimed at achieving consensus on the regulated grid connection arrangements for the Phase 1 projects.



ELAINE KEATING

*Senior Associate,
Planning & Environment,
Mason Hayes & Curran*

Elaine is a Senior Associate on the Planning & Environment team at Mason Hayes & Curran. She acts in both contentious and non-contentious planning and law environmental matters.

Elaine has extensive experience providing advice on environmental assessment documentation and procedures. This includes regularly reviewing planning and environmental documentation for large strategic planning applications and providing advice on consenting requirements and statutory procedures, most notably compulsory acquisition. In addition, Elaine has broad experience acting in judicial reviews across high profile, complex planning and environment cases.

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PANEL 2

How can industry turn ambition into action?

PANEL MODERATOR

**KEITH NEWMAN**

*Partner, Construction,
Infrastructure & Utilities*

Mason Hayes & Curran

Keith is a Partner in the Construction, Infrastructure and Utilities team at Mason Hayes & Curran. He advises on all aspects of energy and data centre projects.

Keith advises corporates, utilities, developers and lenders on a wide range of energy projects. He works across various technology types including wind, solar, storage, geothermal and conventional power generation, both onshore and offshore. He advises on the full project lifecycle, including development, M&A, financing, regulatory and grid matters.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

**BRIAN ROUSE**

*SVP Land Development,
KRIOS Infrastructure*

Brian Rouse is SVP of Land Development at Krios, bringing more than 25 years of experience in land and infrastructure development, including over a decade leading data centre strategy across EMEA. Previously with Microsoft, Meta, and AWS, he has led large-scale development, permitting, and stakeholder engagement programmes, delivering complex digital infrastructure projects across global markets.

**MARGARET NEE**

*Head of Grid, Wind & Solar,
Statkraft Ireland*

Margaret Nee is Head of Grid, Wind & Solar at Statkraft Ireland and a Chartered Electrical Engineer with more than 25 years' experience in the Irish electricity sector. She specialises in grid connection strategy and optimisation, grid delivery, compliance, and energy policy development. She is an active member of Wind Energy Ireland and Solar Ireland committees and working groups.

**PAUL O'DONNELL**

*Partner,
Schroders Greencoat LLP*

Paul O'Donnell is part of the leadership team of Schroders Greencoat LLP with over 20 years of renewables and investment experience, of which the last 11 have been focused solely on renewables. Paul joined in 2009 and has specialised in managing investments in the wind and solar generation sectors, working across development, operations, technology, and financing. Prior to joining Schroders Greencoat LLP, Paul worked with Libertas Capital, the specialist renewable energy investment bank.

**LORNA DEVENNEY**

*Chief Financial Officer,
BnM*

Lorna Devenney is Chief Financial Officer at BnM (formerly Bord na Móna), where she plays a key role in shaping the company's growth, investment and sustainability agenda as it delivers one of Ireland's most significant renewable energy and climate action transformations.

A Chartered Accountant, Lorna joined BnM in 2013 and has held a number of senior leadership roles across the organisation.

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KEYNOTE SPEAKER



DAN O'BRIEN

*Chief Economist of the
Institute of International
and European Affairs (IIEA)*

Dan O'Brien is Chief Economist of the Institute of International and European Affairs, one of Ireland's leading think tanks. He is also a columnist with TheCurrency.ie and Adjunct Senior Research Fellow at University College Dublin's Geary Institute. He is a regular commentator on economic, public policy and international affairs issues.

For 3 years from mid-2010, Dan was economics editor of The Irish Times. Prior to that he spent a dozen years as senior economist and editor at the Economist Intelligence Unit, an arm of The Economist Newspaper Group. Dan has also worked for the European Commission and as a consultant for the United Nations.