

Solar Energy

Ireland's next phase in renewable energy

Ireland is currently pursuing an ambitious 40% target for renewable electricity by 2020, and the Irish government is committed to the decarbonisation of the country's energy system.

To date, most of Ireland's renewable energy effort has focused on onshore wind electricity generation. However, in its latest Energy White Paper, the Irish government signalled the next phase in the process, which will include the deployment of solar energy.

We are ideally positioned to assist developers, lenders and utilities in this exciting new sector. Our market-leading energy practice already acts for a number of key players in Irish solar, and we would be delighted to talk to you.

Overview

Our market-leading energy team advises a wide range of clients in the Irish energy industry, including investors, developers, financiers and regulators. Despite the relative immaturity of the sector, we are already advising a number of developers of, and investors in, Irish solar energy projects and portfolios.

We have advised on Irish renewable energy projects since 1993, and have acted on the project finance/development/acquisition of projects with cumulative generation capacity in excess of 1GW and capital investment value of approximately €1.5 billion.

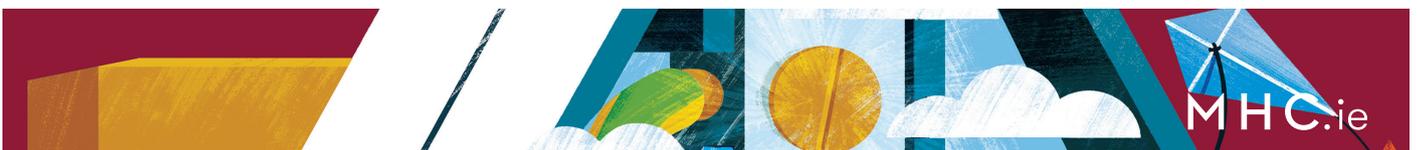
With expertise in key areas of law such as energy regulation and markets, construction, planning and environmental, real estate, banking and corporate, we are well positioned to provide clients with the most comprehensive suite of legal advice available in relation to the Irish energy sector and in particular the solar industry.

Our energy team provides advice to:

- **Investors / Utilities / Developers:** Brookfield Renewable Energy Partners, EirGrid plc., ESB, Gas Networks Ireland, SSE Generation Ireland
- **Lenders:** Allied Irish Banks, Bank of Ireland, Barclays Bank, Bremer Landesbank, DNB Bank, KBC Bank Ireland, KfW IPEX, Nord/LB and Ulster Bank
- **Developers:** Cubico Sustainable Investments, SSE Renewables, Gaelectric, Element Power, NTR, Neoen/BNRG, JBM Solar, PP Asset Management, Eco Wind Power, ABO Wind AG and other private consortia developers

Representative Solar Experience

- Advised Neoen on its joint venture arrangements with BNRG for the development of a portfolio of solar projects with a maximum export capacity of 220MW
- Advised the National Treasury Management Agency on its co-investment with German solar and wind park operator, Capital Stage AG in a €140 million fund to develop 20 solar farms in Ireland
- Advised an Irish solar development company on joint venture and financing arrangements with an international asset management company
- Advised an Irish solar development company on the roll out of option and lease agreements, grid connections and planning issues for solar parks in Ireland with a potential capacity of approximately 80MW
- Advised one of the world's leading renewable energy infrastructure companies (with a portfolio of over 2 GW) on its potential entry into the Irish solar market



What Others Say About Us

Our Energy Team



"A strong and really capable team, who know how to get things done in the right way".

Chambers & Partners, 2020

Our Energy Team



"The team has excellent knowledge of the energy sector in Ireland and of how it is impacted by national and European law and regulations". Legal 500, 2020

Our Team



William Carmody
Partner, Head of Energy &
Natural Resources
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William is joint head of our Energy & Natural Resources practice and a member of our Solar Energy team. He advises on the structuring and execution of funding for energy generation projects, together with investment in and acquisition of energy projects and businesses, with a particular emphasis on renewable energy generation. William has acted on lending transactions which have reached financial close, that have an installed energy capacity totalling approximately 1.76GW, and a combined funding value of approximately €1.6 billion.



Liam Brazil
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Liam is a partner on our Corporate team and has more than 25 years' experience in all aspects of company law. While Liam has deal experience across many industry sectors, he has established a reputation in the renewable sector and in particular in the sale and purchase of renewable energy projects. Liam recently advised Neoen on its joint venture with BNRG Renewables for the development of 220 MW of solar development projects.



Eoin Cassidy
Partner
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Eoin is a partner in our Solar Energy team. Eoin has been the lead advisor to solar developers Neoen and JBM Solar on each of their entries to the Irish solar market. He recently advised on Neoen's joint venture with BNRG for the development of a portfolio of solar projects with a maximum export capacity in excess of 220MW. He has also acted for funders financing renewable energy projects in Ireland, with a cumulative capacity totalling approximately 1.7GW and a combined funding value in excess of €1.5 billion.



Peter McLay
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Peter is a partner in our Solar Energy team. He advises on Irish and European laws and regulations applicable to Irish energy and natural resources projects, with a particular emphasis upon energy regulation and the interface of projects with wholesale and retail energy markets. Peter advises project sponsors, lenders, utilities and regulatory authorities in relation to all aspects of the Irish electricity, natural gas and petroleum sectors, as well as related areas of law such as environmental permitting and energy efficiency obligations.