



**IAE Symposium  
Energy Committee**

# Agenda

1 Introduction

2 Reports

3 Communications

4 Summary



# Membership

- Kieran O'Brien, Chairman
- Dr Anthony Barry
- Michael Hayden
- Brian Sweeney
- Frank Turvey
- Dr Ed Walsh
- Pat Lynch
- Dr. Gerry Byrne
  
- Support:
  - Gerry Duggan
  - Don Moore
  - D G Nolan
  - Tom Reeves



# Introduction

- Energy policy post economic crash
- Competitiveness
- Energy efficiency
- Infrastructure
- Short term and long term considerations



# Reports

The Irish Academy of Engineering

REVIEW OF IRELAND'S ENERGY  
IN THE CONTEXT OF  
THE CHANGING ECC

Executive Summary

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The Irish Academy of Engineering

Irish Energy Policy  
Update on Electricity Price Competitiveness

December 2009



# Communications

- Energy institutions

- EirGrid

- CER

- Policy makers

- DCU

**Being right is not enough!**

- Energy Committee

- Industry

- IBEC



# Summary (1)

1. Ireland should retain a flexible approach to future energy technology investments and considers all technologies based on their techno-economic merits.
2. Policymakers urgently need to update techno-economic energy studies to take account of the dramatic fall in energy demand and the recent significant changes in world energy markets.
3. While meeting its international carbon abatement obligations, Ireland, given its small size and many domestic economic problems, should not seek a leadership role in the international climate change debate and should be conscious that the EU position on climate change is not acceptable to most of the rest of the world.



# Summary (2)

4. Ireland's permitting system for large infrastructure investment is not fit for purpose as has been demonstrated repeatedly on the Corrib gas project. Recent legislation dealing with strategic infrastructure is most unlikely to alter this situation. This dysfunctional system needs to be re-examined with a view to a radical legislative overhaul.
5. The Academy believes that there is a major opportunity to improve Ireland's carbon emissions at low cost by engaging in a large scale programme to upgrade the insulation of existing Irish dwellings. Investment in such a scaled up programme would also provide an ideal economic stimulus with a positive effect on employment and minimal "leakage" overseas.
6. The IAE strongly recommends that all significant policy changes and investment proposals be accompanied by a comprehensive "Price Impact Analysis" detailing the effect of the proposal on the prices paid by energy consumers. Such analyses should be carried out by the promoters of the proposal, submitted to the CER and published for comment prior to proceeding with such proposals.



# Summary (3)

7. In order to benefit from increased electricity interconnection with the UK it is essential that the trading rules in the UK and Ireland converge around some common processes and principles. Given that the East-West interconnector is under construction this issue is now urgent.
8. New technologies such as smart metering and electric transport will undoubtedly arrive over the next few decades. However there remain many uncertainties in relation to the adoption of these technologies and the IAE advocates a cautious approach particularly with respect to large scale up-front capital investment.
9. The Academy is greatly concerned at the risks being taken on Natural Gas supply security. The immediate priority is to complete the Corrib project. While the proposed LNG project on the Shannon estuary will also increase security it is imperative that Ireland move quickly to increase gas storage from the very low levels pertaining today.



# Coming soon...

- Year end report
- Short term focus - 5 years
- Recognise national constraints
- Preserve
- Examine wider range of options for EU carbon abatement compliance

**Keep communicating!**





Thank You!