



Irish Academy of Engineering  
Review of Government Report on:  
*Security of Energy Supply of Ireland's  
Electricity and Natural Gas Systems*

**Press Release**

The Academy has commenced a review of the above report. While the statistical analyses are acceptable, it is evident to the Academy that measures proposed in this report will not meet Ireland's energy needs in 2030. The Academy, in the interests of Ireland's energy users, strongly recommends a major revision of the underlying thinking evident in the report.

The report proposed a number of options to maintain the reliability of Ireland's electricity system in 2030.

- An initial reading of the report exposes many major technical shortcomings and inadequacies in the proposals for future actions. In the opinion of the Academy these thoroughly invalidate its use in underpinning Government policy going forward.
- The report excludes a critically important option, namely the importation of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) via an Irish import terminal. The reasoning underpinning this decision is seriously flawed. The lack of such a facility in the medium and long term poses a high risk to the reliability of the Irish power system. Far from being excluded, this option should have been considered as a potential major contributor to the long term security of Ireland's energy supply.
- Green hydrogen technology will hopefully play a role in decarbonising energy consumption both in Ireland and worldwide. Despite the optimism in the report

this technology is not remotely close to commercial development and is highly unlikely to be available at large commercial scale before 2035.

- Large scale storage of hydrogen is only possible today in geological salt deposits. No geological formations suitable for the storage of hydrogen exists within Irish jurisdiction. This is not addressed in the report.

Don Moore (Chair of the Energy Committee at the Irish Academy of Engineering) commenting on the report said:

*“While the report’s statistical analyses estimating the risk to the Irish power system are adequate, the measures proposed to provide an acceptable reliability standard in 2030 are simplistic in the extreme, are technologically flawed, ignore financing and permitting timescales and, overall, render the report entirely unsuitable as a basis for further energy planning”*

*“The single import point for Irish gas supplies at Moffat, Scotland, remains a serious strategic threat to the reliability of Irish gas supplies. It is essential for the security of Irish energy supplies that Ireland develops its own LNG import facility as soon as possible.”*

## Ends

Don Moore [donm74820@gmail.com](mailto:donm74820@gmail.com) / 087 244 8914

## Notes to the Editor:

**About the Irish Academy of Engineering:** Engineering Academies throughout the world are a key feature of all developed economies. Irish Academy members include many of the most experienced engineers and technologists in the island of Ireland.

The aim of the Irish Academy of Engineering is to advance the wellbeing of the country by marshalling the expertise and insights of eminent engineers to provide independent advice to policy makers on matters involving engineering and technology.

IAE website – <http://iae.ie/>