



# County Mayor's Conference

## Ireland's Energy Opportunity : Cork's Response

Inchydoney Island Lodge and Spa Hotel  
4th March 2011



# County Mayor's Conference 2011

## Ireland's Energy Opportunity: Cork's Response

**Conference Objective:** To showcase a new era of energy projects coming on-stream from Cork, and to highlight the opportunity for a strategic response from the Cork region, to the national energy agenda.

**Venue:** Inchydoney Island Lodge and Spa Hotel on 4th March 2011

**Fee:** €50 which includes tea/coffee and lunch.

To register for the conference email: [mayor@corkcoco.ie](mailto:mayor@corkcoco.ie). Delegates will be invoiced after attending the conference. For all other queries contact Mary Murphy, Secretary to the Mayor, at 021-4285457.

### AGENDA

**8.30 - 9.30am** Registration, tea/coffee

**9.30am** **Official Opening** by Cllr. Jim Daly, Mayor of County Cork

**9.45am** **"Position the Region for Energy Investment"**  
Martin Riordan, County Manager, Cork County Council.

**10.00am** **SESSION ONE**  
**"The National Context for Developing the Energy Sector"**  
Chaired by Martin Riordan, County Manager, Cork County Council.

**National Overview – SEAI**

Eoin Sweeney, Head of the Ocean Energy Development Unit,  
Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland.

**A National Level Industry Perspective – Focus on Marine Renewables**

Peter Coyle, Chairman of the Marine Renewables Industry Association

**Enterprise Irelands role in supporting Irelands indigenous Ocean Energy Sector**

Tom Kelly, Divisional Manager, Cleantech, Enterprise Ireland

**Grid 25: An Enabler for Regional Development**

Dermot Byrne, Chief Executive, EirGrid

**Questions and Discussion**

**11.00am** TEA/COFFEE

## AGENDA continued

11.30am

### SESSION TWO

**“Shaping Cork’s Future Energy Trajectory”,**  
Chaired by Cllr Jim Daly, Mayor of County Cork.

**Renewable Energy Opportunities – BordGais**  
John Mullins, Chief Executive, BordGais

**The Vision of the Lower Harbour Energy Group**  
Speaker to be confirmed

**Creation of Ireland’s First Energy Park**  
Neil O’Carroll, Lead Executive, ConocoPhillips Ireland

**You can’t beat geography: A Port of Cork perspective**  
Captain Michael McCarthy, Commercial Manager, Port of Cork

**Maritime and Energy Research Campus & Commercial Cluster**  
Valerie Cummins, Director of MERC

12.45pm

LUNCH

2.00pm

### SESSION THREE

**“Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the Emergence of Cork as an Energy Hub”**  
Chaired by Professor Karsten Menzel, Informatics  
Research Unit for Sustainable Energy, UCC.

**SME Perspective on Wave Energy Potential: Ocean Energy Ltd.**  
John Keating, Commercial Director, Ocean Energy Limited.

**SME Perspective on Polygeneration Technology: Organic Power Ltd.**  
Maurice McCarthy, Managing Director, Organic Power Ltd.

**The Consultancy Sector: Case Study of Carbon Capture and Storage, Kinsale Gas Field**  
Nick O Neil, Director, SLR Consulting Ltd.

### **PANEL SESSION**

### Questions and Discussion

3.30pm

Closing Remarks





**Cllr Jim Daly** Mayor of County Cork

Cllr Jim Daly was elected Mayor of County Cork at the Annual General Meeting of Cork County Council, on Friday, 25th June 2010. Cllr. Daly hails from Clonakilty and was first elected to the Council in 2004 for the Skibbereen Electoral Area. He retained his seat in the local elections last year and was a candidate in the 2011 general election. He is a secondary school teacher and has taken a break from teaching to concentrate full time on his political career.

**Martin Riordan** Cork County Manager

Martin Riordan took up the position of Cork County Manager on February 19th, 2007. Mr Riordan has 30 years experience in local government and the health service. He started his career as Clerical Officer in Dublin City Council and worked in Waterford City Council and the South Eastern Health Board before taking senior appointments; Head of Finance - Donegal County Council 1991, Head of Finance - Cork City Council 1994, County Manager - Laois 2003, County Manager - Kerry 2004.



**Eoin Sweeney** Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland

Eoin has a Masters degree in Economics from University College Dublin. His work has focussed on Natural Resource development. He managed the Discovery Programme, a major component of SeaChange, the Strategic Programme for the marine sector 2017-2013, in the Marine Institute, initiating the SmartBay initiative and programmes in Marine Biodiscovery and environmental sensors. He is currently Head of the Ocean Energy Development Unit, in the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland.



**Peter Coyle** Marine Renewable Industry Assoc.

Peter Coyle is Chairman of the Marine Renewables Industry Association, the body which represents all of the interests-North and South- in the Wave and Tidal energy areas. He is also the Chairman of MERC, the unique joint venture between UCC, CIT and the Naval Service to undertake research in maritime and energy matters, and is on the Board of a number of private companies. Peter was previously an Executive Director of Enterprise Ireland and spent nearly twenty years prior to that with IDA.



**Tom Kelly** Enterprise Ireland

Eoin has a Masters degree in Economics from University College Dublin. His work has focussed on Natural Resource development. He managed the Discovery Programme, a major component of SeaChange, the Strategic Programme for the marine sector 2017-2013, in the Marine Institute, initiating the SmartBay initiative and programmes in Marine Biodiscovery and environmental sensors. He is currently Head of the Ocean Energy Development Unit, in the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland.

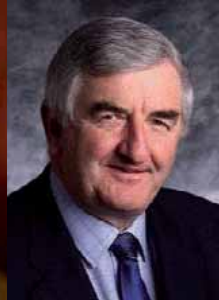
**Dermot Byrne** Chief Executive, EirGrid

Dermot Byrne was appointed Chief Executive of EirGrid in July 2005. From 1993 to 1997 he was Manager, Power System Operation in ESB National Grid. As Chief Executive of EirGrid, Dermot has developed EirGrid into a group structure with responsibilities in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, comprising EirGrid TSO, System Operator Northern Ireland (SONI), and the Single Electricity Market Operator (SEMO).



**John Mullins** Chief Executive, Bord Gáis

John Mullins was appointed Chief Executive and Member of the Board of Bord Gáis in October 2007. He previously held the position of Chief Executive with Bioverda, part of the NTR Plc Group. He worked previously as a Business Development Director at Greenstar, European Investments Director at ESB International Investments and as Senior Manager in Corporate Development at ESB. He also held the position of Senior Consultant in the energy area with PricewaterhouseCoopers in London.



**Neil O'Carroll** ConocoPhillips Ireland

Neil O'Carroll Chaired the Cork Chamber of Commerce Energy Working Group in 2010 which identified a number of energy related opportunities for the Cork region. Neil has over 40 years experience in the oil industry and is currently Lead Executive of ConocoPhillips Ireland whose assets include Whitegate Refinery and Bantry Bay storage terminal.



**Capt. Michael McCarthy** Port of Cork

Captain Michael McCarthy is the Commercial Manager for the Port of Cork whose role involves developing and integrating Corporate and Strategic policy for the port. He is responsible for a number of EU projects such as "Motorways of the Seas" and Integrated Freight Network Proposals, ATMOS, WEST-MOS and PROPOSSE, Celtic Wave and Cruise Atlantic Europe. He is currently President of the Irish Institute of Master Mariners.

**Valerie Cummins** Director, MERC

Valerie Cummins was appointed as the director of the Maritime and Energy Research Campus and Commercial Cluster (MERC) in June 2010. Prior to that, she was Director of the Coastal and Marine Resources Centre, University College Cork for 10 years, involving the coordination of 36 research staff. Prior to joining the CMRC, Valerie worked in the environmental consultancy industry and for the British Oceanographic Data Centre, UK.



**Prof. Karsten Menzel** University College Cork

Karsten Menzel was appointed Full Professor and Chair 'Information technology in Architecture, Engineering and Construction' at the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at University College Cork, Ireland in 2006. He is the Director of the Strategic Research Cluster ITOBO (Information Technology for Optimised Building Operation) and a member of the Engineering Committee of the Royal Irish Academy.



**John Keating** OceanEnergy Limited

John Keating is Commercial Director and Member of the Board of OceanEnergy Limited, Board and Council Member, Marine Renewable Energy Association and Chairman, Industry Led Research Group, Irish Marine Renewables. John holds a degree in Business Studies, specialising in Accountancy and Finance. John has been a leading advocate of the need to develop a strong indigenous Wave Energy Sector in Ireland.



**Maurice McCarthy** Organic Power Ltd.

Maurice graduated from Oregon State University in 1995 with an MS in Marine Resource Management. Maurice McCarthy has been working as a consultant to the Renewable Energy Sector since 1999. Maurice is managing director of erm21c Ltd., a project design, permitting, and project management consultancy. Maurice founded Organic Power in 2007 and has been Managing Director since. The company focusses on the delivery of projects in Biomass, CHP and Energy Storage.

**Nick O'Neill** SLR Consulting Ltd.

Nick O'Neill is a senior manager in the international energy sector, a trained petroleum geologist in exploration and drilling, and has 25 years experience of strategic energy exploration and management in the Europe, Middle East, Africa, South America and the North Sea. He is responsible within SLR Ireland for generating new business in the Energy sector. Nick is currently Project Manager for the Irish Petroleum Infrastructure Programme.

