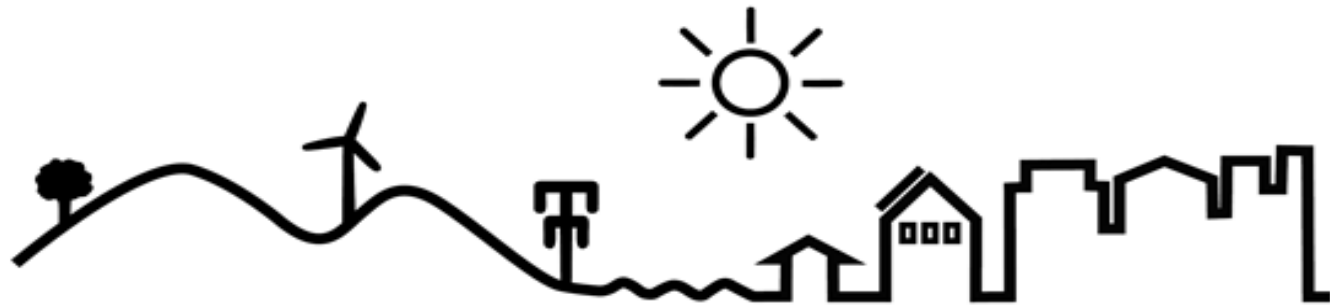


Upgrading the Energy Grid

Des Cox,
Senior Co-Ordinator,
Public Planning, EirGrid



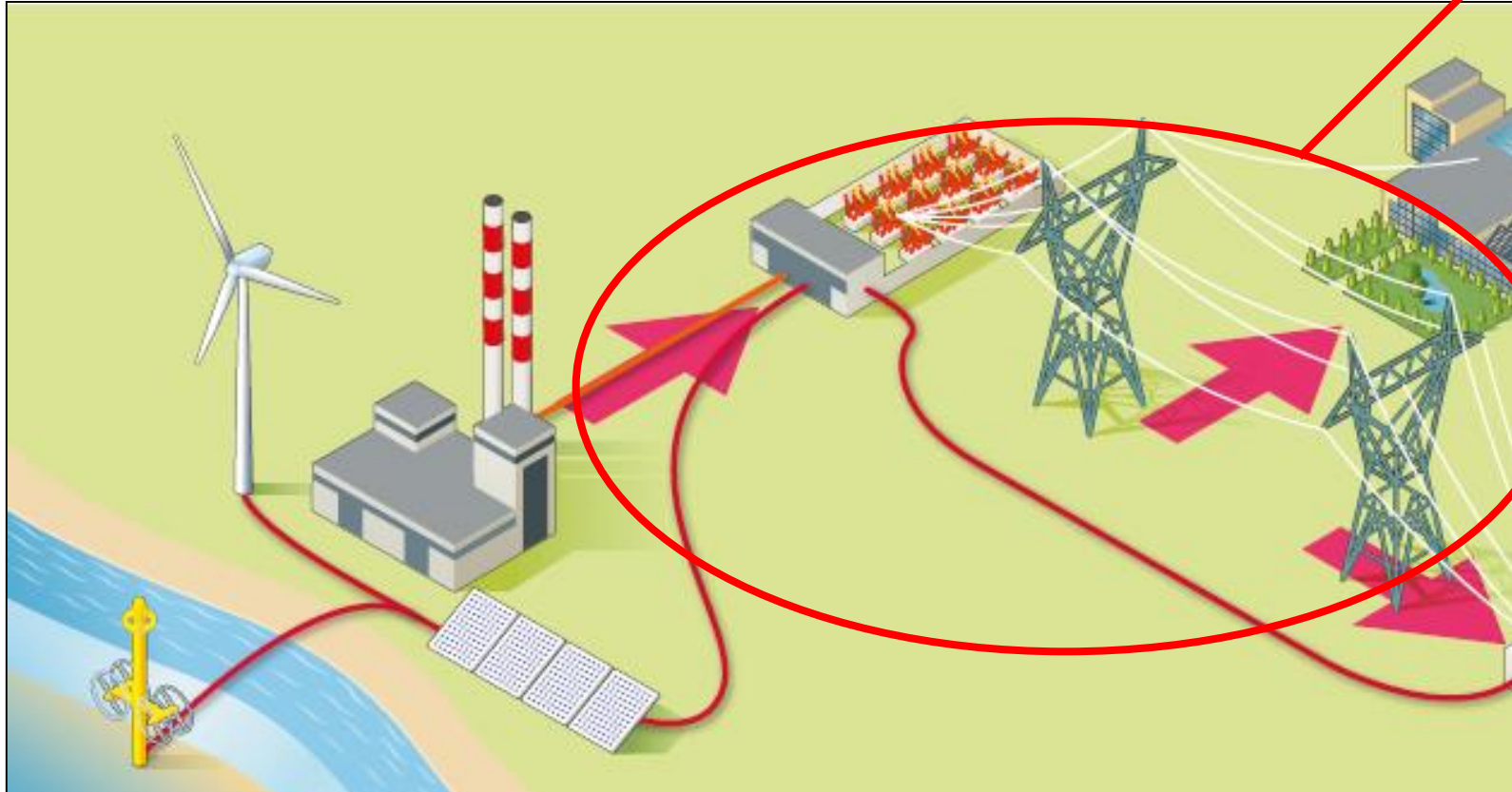
SPECIAL

**SPATIAL PLANNING and ENERGY for
COMMUNITIES IN ALL LANDSCAPES**

EirGrid – Who Are We?

National Electricity Transmission System Operator(TSO)

110kV
220kV
400kV



EirGrid – Who We Are Not

National Electricity **D**istribution **S**ystem **O**perator(**DSO**) – ESB
Wind Farm / Renewable Energy Developer

EirGrid – Roles and Responsibilities

National Electricity Transmission System Operator (TSO).
Statutory Instrument No.445 of 2000 - Article 8(1)(a)...

*“To operate and ensure the maintenance of and, if necessary, develop a **safe, secure, reliable, economical,** and **efficient** electricity transmission system, and to explore and develop opportunities for interconnection of its system with other systems, in all cases with a view to ensuring that all reasonable demands for electricity are met having **due regard for the environment.**”*



Safe, Secure, Reliable



Balance

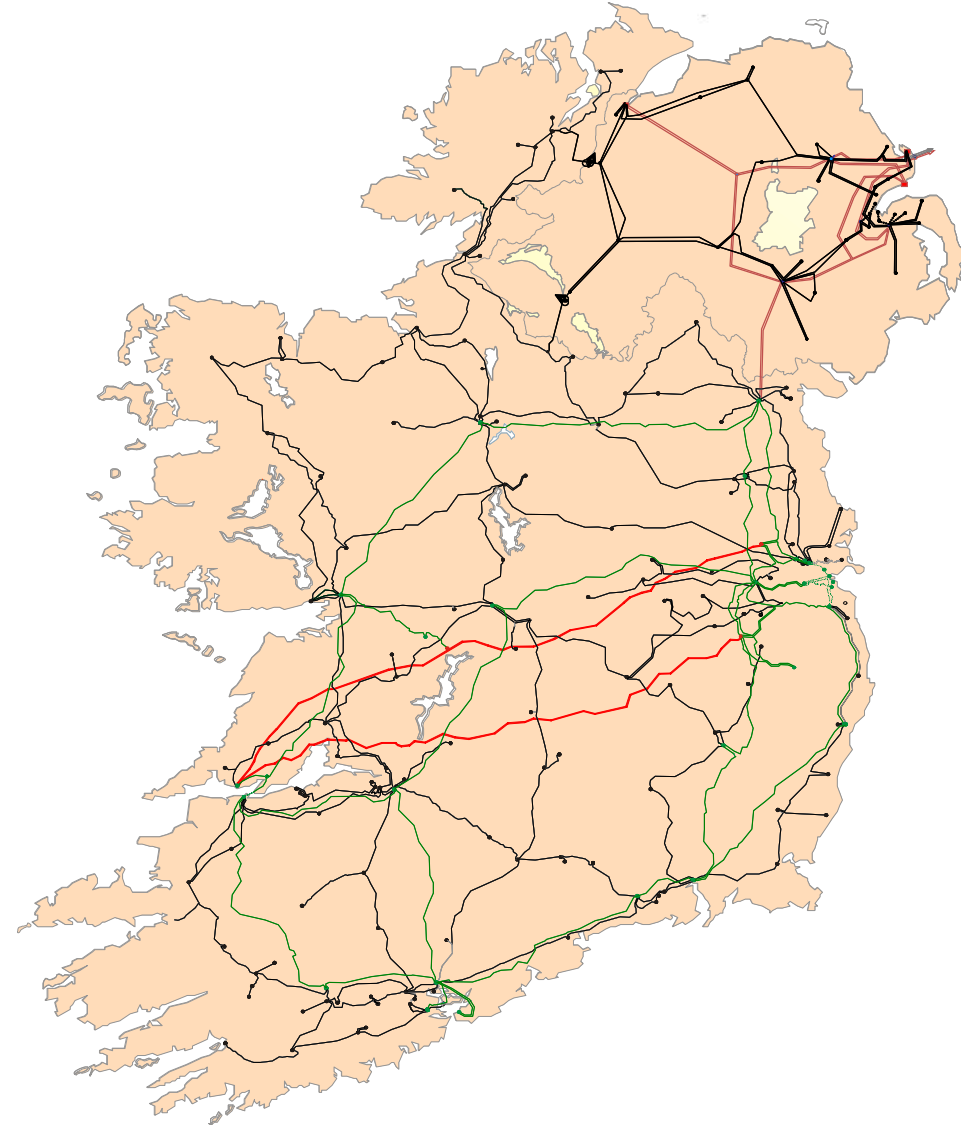


Costs & Efficiency

Community & Environment

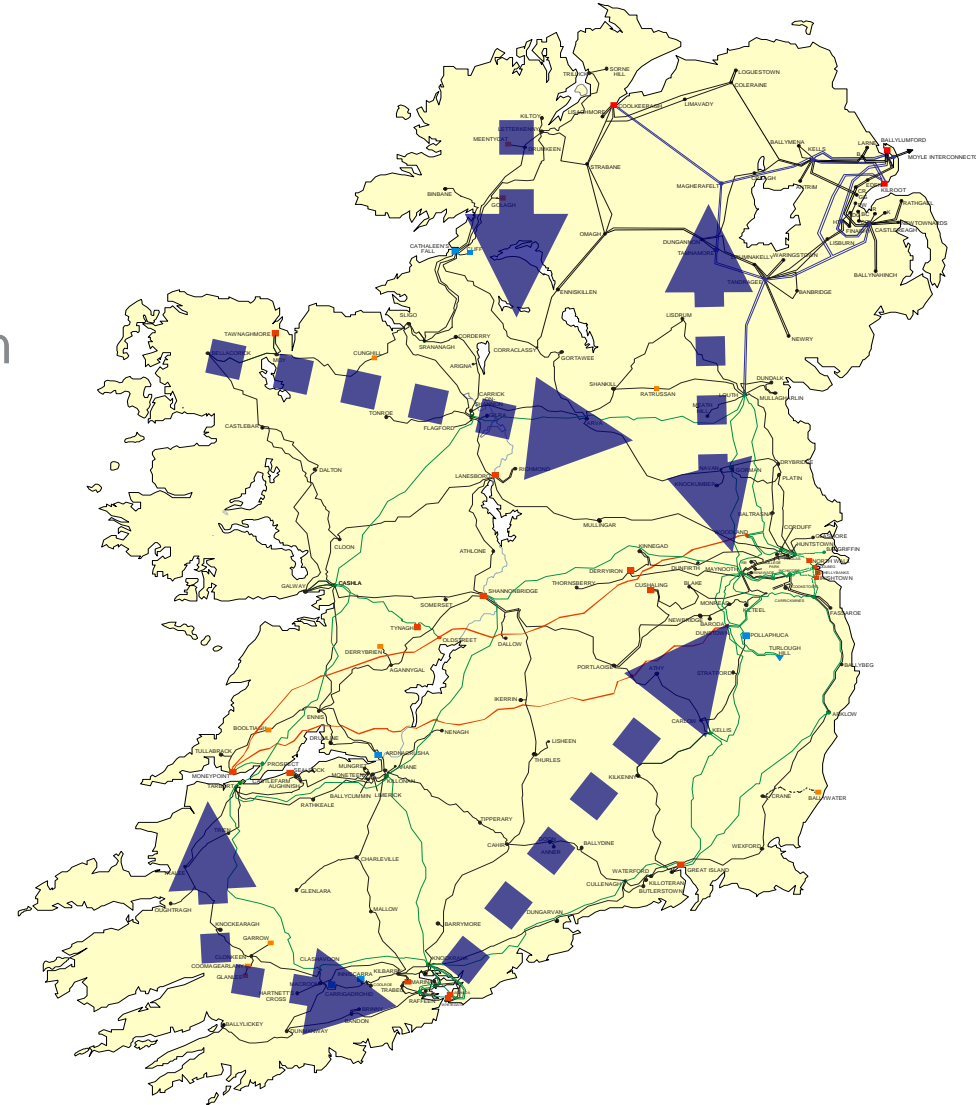
Transmission Grid

- High capacity, efficient, reliable link between
 - Generation Stations
 - Demand centres
 - Interconnections to other systems
- Grid needs to be developed when any of these change

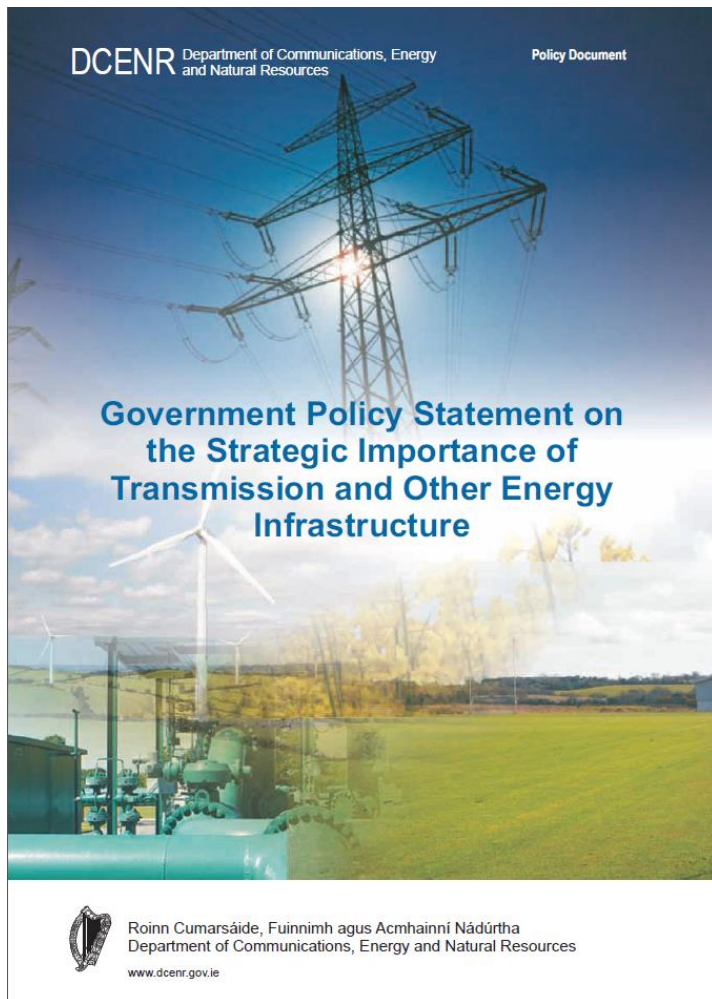


GRID25

- Government 40% target for renewables
- 4,000 MW of wind generation in Gate 3
- Balanced Regional Development
- Renewable and Conventional Generation
- Competitive Market
- Interconnection
- Sustainable Economic Development



Governing Context



“The major investment underway in the high voltage electricity transmission system under EirGrid’s **Grid25 Programme** is the **most important** such investment in Ireland’s transmission system for several generations. While the Government does not seek to direct infrastructure developers to particular sites or routes or technologies, the **Government endorses, supports and promotes the strategic programmes of the energy infrastructure providers**, particularly **EirGrid’s Grid25** investment programme across the regions and reaffirms that it is **Government policy** and in the national interest, not least in the current economic circumstances, that these investment programmes are delivered in the most **cost efficient and timely way possible**, on the basis of **the best available knowledge** and **informed engagement on the impacts** and the **costs of different engineering solutions.**” (July 2012)



The Challenge of Grid Development



Grid 25 Initiatives

1

Conduct a comprehensive underground analysis for the Grid Link and Grid West projects. We will work with the Government-appointed Independent Expert Panel to review underground and overhead options before we proceed to the next stages of project development.

2

Introduce a Community Gain Fund encompassing a fund for localities and residences located close to new pylons and stations.

3

Continue to monitor research developments and provide information on health and power lines.

4

Comprehensively address major issues arising such as tourism, agriculture and equine concerns.

5

Review of our consultation process to enhance future public engagement.

2015 – Review of our Approach to Consultation

Theme 1: Develop a Participative Approach

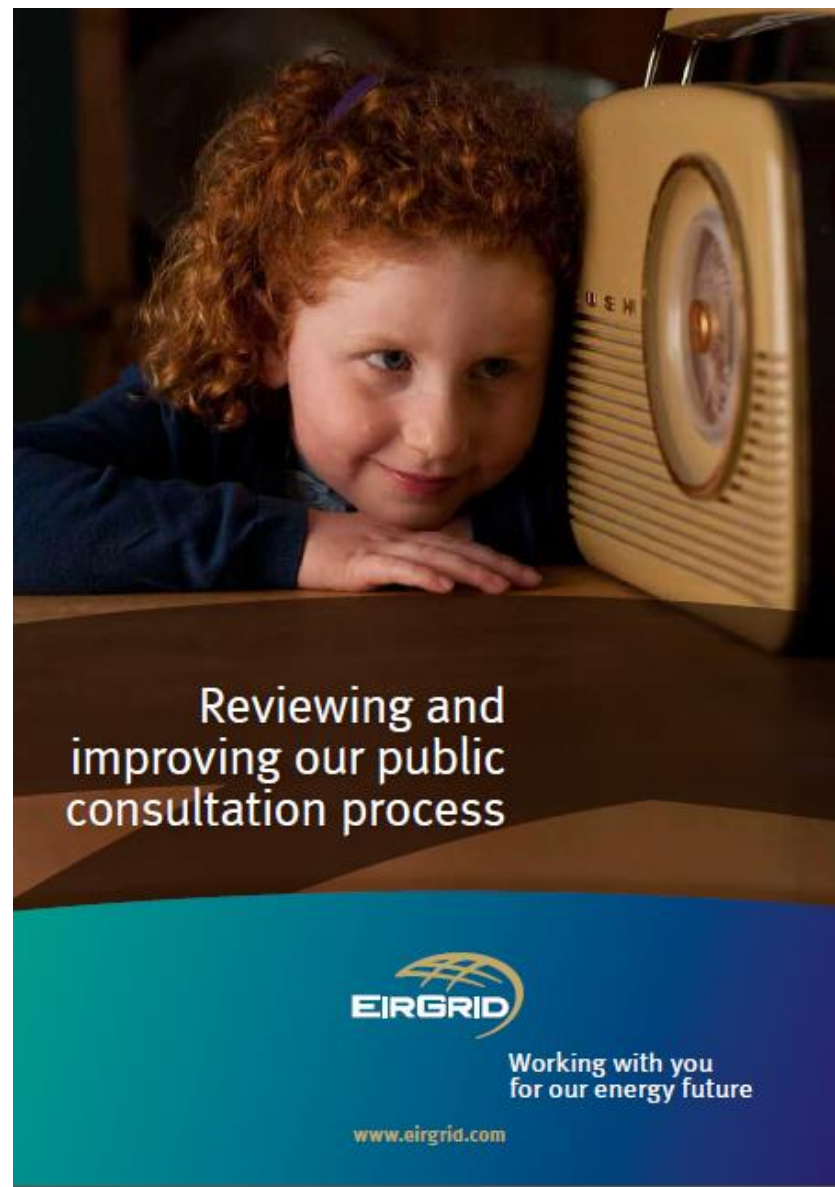
We will move to a more community-focused approach when developing electricity projects - to enable greater stakeholder participation from the outset.

Theme 2: Change our Culture and Processes

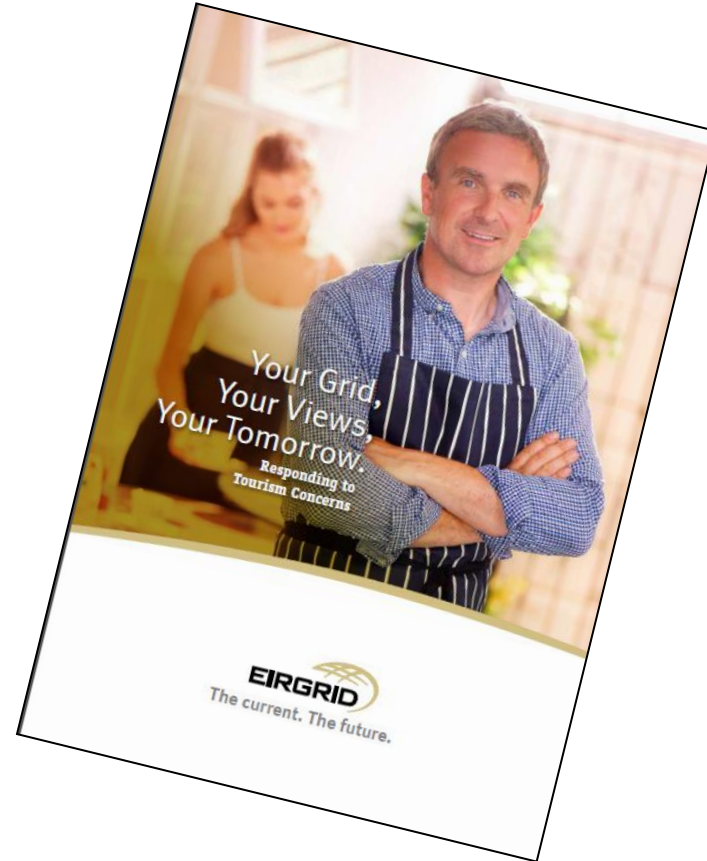
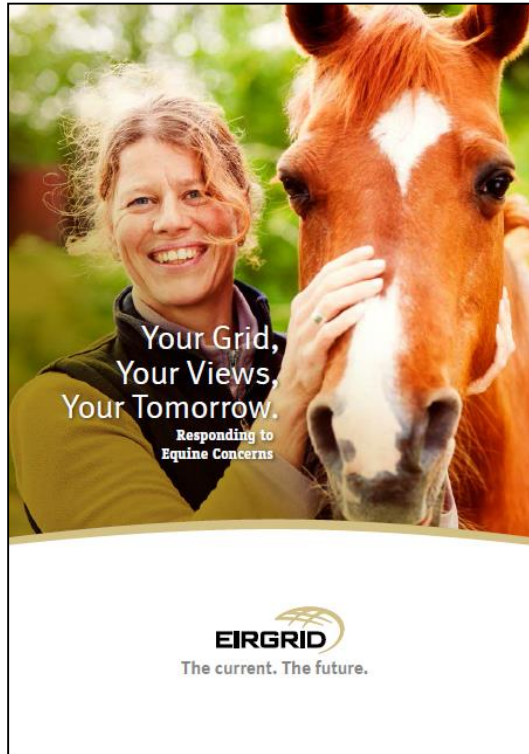
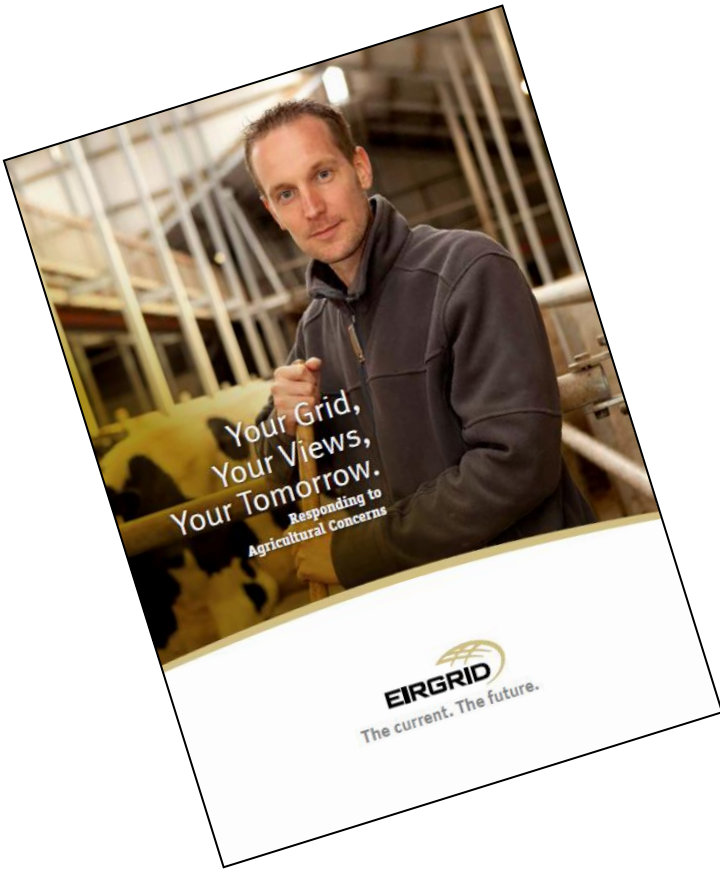
We will change the culture in our organisation - to develop stronger relationships with stakeholders and communities.

Theme 3: Encourage Leadership & Advocacy

We will seek support from the political system and state bodies - to better explain energy issues and make the benefits of a stronger system clearer to all.



2015 – Review of our Approach to Tourism, Equine, and Agriculture

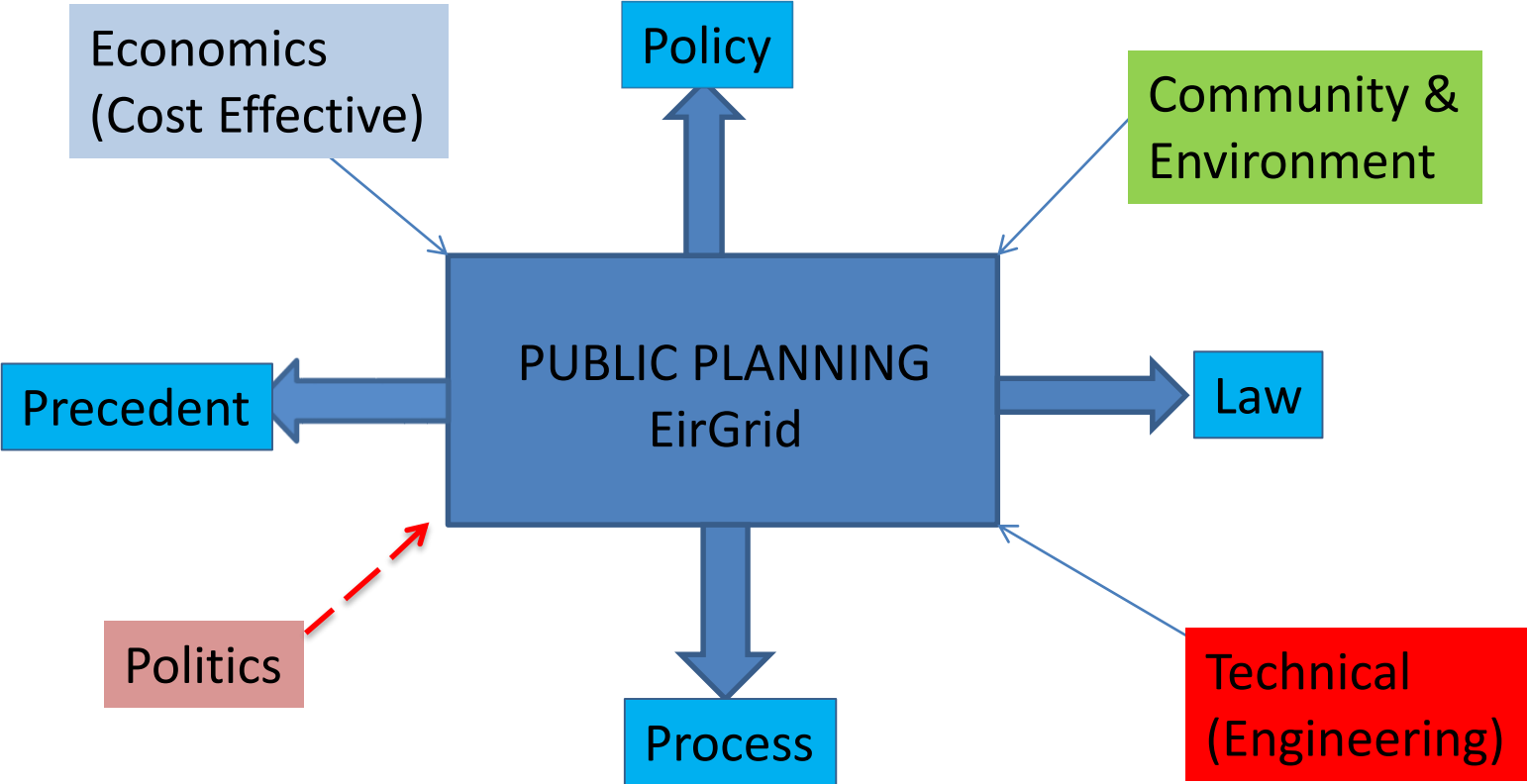


2015 – Your Grid, Your Views, Your Tomorrow

- Explains the need for and drivers of grid development.
- These factors are the context for a broader discussion about how we should respond to these needs.
- 3 Strategy Statements:
 - *“Open engagement and inclusive consultation with local communities and stakeholders will be central to EirGrid’s approach to network development”*
 - *“All practical technology options will be considered for network development”*
 - *“The network will be optimised to minimise requirements for new infrastructure*



Conclusions:



Thank You

Q&A

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