

IPI CPD event 25 February 2016

**Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future
2015-2030 : Implications for the planning system**

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Challenge and opportunity

“Climate change just keeps getting scarier; it is, by far, the most important policy issue facing the world ... (But) we are now achingly close to achieving a renewable energy revolution”

- Paul Krugman



Key messages from the White Paper



Ireland's Transition to a
Low Carbon Energy Future
2015-2030



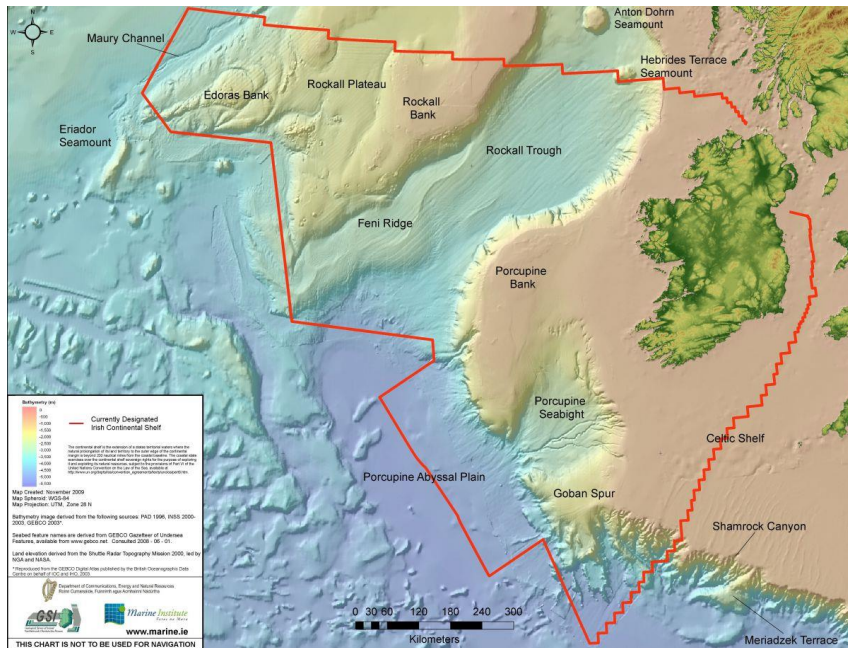
- Growing consensus among scientific community
- EU policy targets
- Implications of the White Paper for planning policy and practice

Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework

- Adds spatial dimension to White Paper – identification of suitable strategic areas
- Input to national and regional spatial strategies?
- Will supplement current DECLG wind farm guidelines
- 2030 time horizon – need for adaptable plans



Marine energy



- “Real map of Ireland”
- Significant potential for offshore energy – range of technologies
- Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan 2014
- Marine spatial planning Directive – the clock is ticking!

Solar energy – planning implications

- Factors driving new development in Ireland
- Range of potential environmental impacts
- Reliance on UK planning guidance to date



Role of communities



- White Paper policy
- Community projects
- Scottish experience
- Lessons from Denmark

Grid connections

- Review of Grid 25
- Implications of the ruling in the O’Grianna case
- CER consultation paper



National Planning Framework



- Prominence given to climate change and energy issues
- Need for NPF review mechanism
- Strategic infrastructure
- Sustainable land use and transportation policy

Scotland's Third National Planning Framework

- Role of planning in delivering low carbon commitments
- Cities as exemplars
- Economic benefits
- National developments
- Lessons for our NPF?

