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Department of Communications,  
Energy & Natural Resources

# Energy White Paper

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

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# Purpose of the Energy White Paper

- Sets a vision and framework to guide energy policy
- Update of energy policy from 2007 White Paper
- Covers period up to 2030
- Reflects significant European & international developments



# International Context

- Agreement by almost 200 countries at COP21
- Article 2:  
Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2° C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 ° C...



# European Context

- Emissions Trading System (ETS)
- Existing 2020 & proposed 2030 targets
- Energy Union:
  - Renewable Energy Directive
  - Energy Efficiency Directive
  - Emissions Trading System (ETS) reforms
  - Market reforms
  - Security of supply initiatives
  - Heating & cooling strategy



# 2020 Targets

- Renewable Electricity Sources (RES)
  - Overall target 16% (8.6% 2014)
  - Electricity (RES-E) 40% (22.7% 2014)
  - Heat (RES-H) 12% (6.6% 2014)
  - Transport (RES-T) 10% (5.2% 2014)
- Energy Efficiency:
  - Target: 20% (8-9% 2014)
- Non-ETS Emissions Reduction (cumulative)
- Interconnection



# 2030 Targets

- Overall EU energy targets:
  - Renewable energy: 27%
  - Energy efficiency: 27%
  - Interconnection: 15%
- Overall EU emission reduction targets:
  - Total reduction (v 1990) 40%
  - ETS (v 2005) 43%
  - Non-ETS (v 2005) 30%
- National non-ETS target to be determined



# Energy Policy in Ireland

- Sustainability: driven by climate change targets
- Security of Supply: vital to the functioning of society and the economy
- Competitiveness: to ensure enterprises prosper creating employment/wealth and to help ensure affordable energy for domestic consumers



# Citizens

- Consultation



Neil Walker @DrNeilWalker · 15 Dec 2015

[#energywhitepaper](#) [#ibec\\_irl](#)

Official launch is tomorrow. Easily the most consulted-on document since the foundation of the Irish State!



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- ‘Energy Citizens’
- Commitment to ongoing consultation
- Community participation
- National Energy Forum



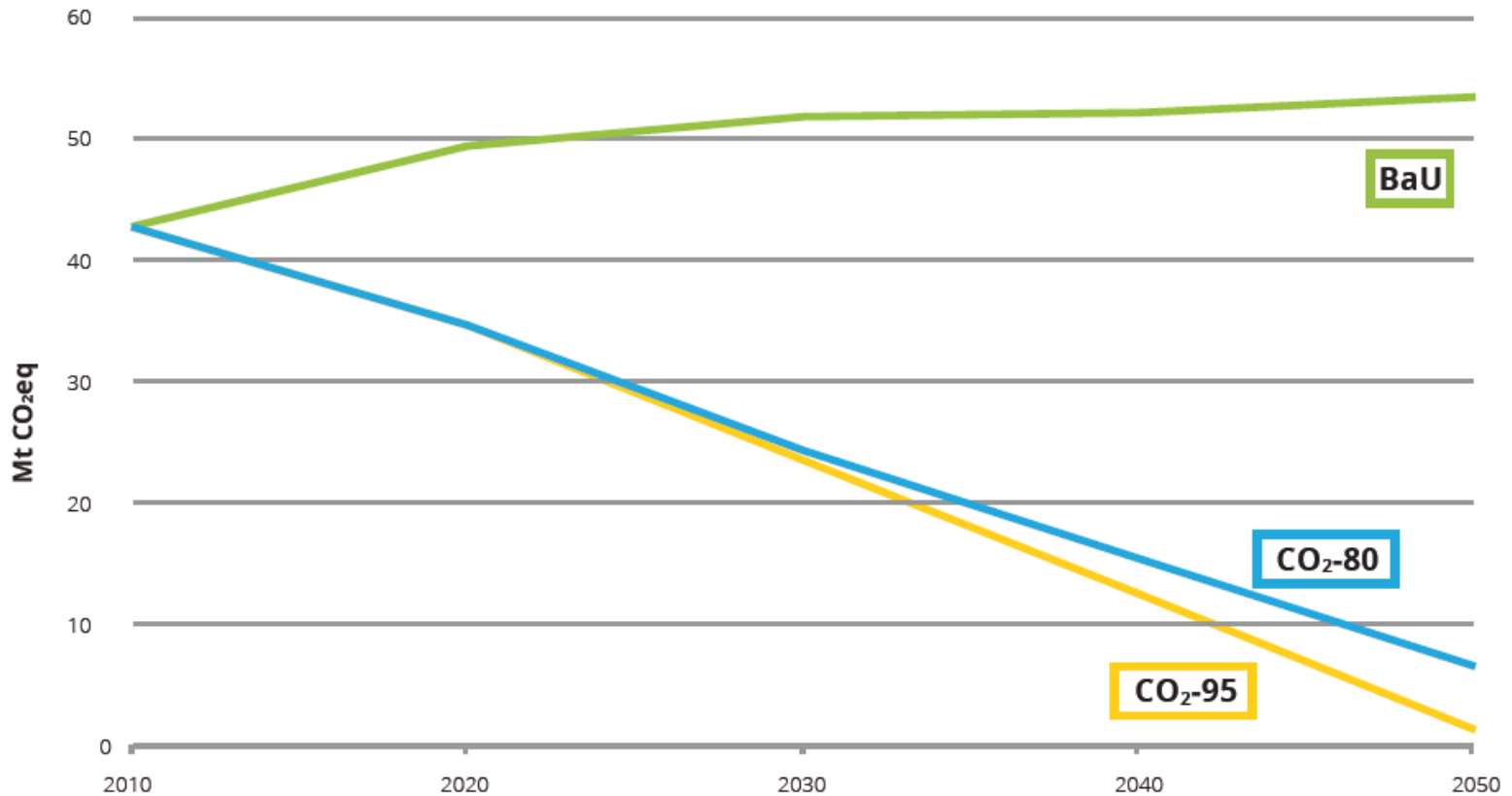


# Vision

- Low carbon energy system by 2050
- Emission from energy sector reduced by 80-95% by 2050
- Fossil fuels to drop from 92% of primary energy requirement to 26%-51%
- 2030 is significant milestone on transition



# Future Scenarios



# Electricity Sector

- Cost of carbon reducing fossil fuel use
- New renewable energy support scheme
- Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework
- Grid connection policy
- CHP policy framework
- Examination of micro-generation



# Transport Sector

- Biofuels obligation scheme
- Support adoption of zero and low emission vehicles
- Policy framework supporting infrastructure for alternative fuels (e.g. CNG, LPG, electricity)
- Measures to support modal shift, smart driving, public transport



# Heat Sector

- Renewable Heat Incentive
- Expanded Better Energy Programme
- Enhanced role for SEAI
- Part L of Building regulations
- District Heating policy framework
- Geothermal policy framework



# Energy Security

- Diversification: more renewables
- Infrastructure:
  - North-South Interconnector
  - Potential interconnectors to France & UK
- Storage:
  - 3 months supply of oil
  - Gas (including LNG)



# Competitiveness

- Ensure competitive markets
- Review of regulation
- Ensure policy choices are evidence based
- National affordable energy strategy
- Measure cost competitiveness



# Summary

- Transition to low carbon energy system
- Major changes in electricity, transport and heat sectors
- Increased use of renewable energy
- Increased focus on energy efficiency
- Investment in infrastructure

