

Financing Ireland's Energy Transition

Speakers & Bios

Eoin Cassidy

Partner & Energy Sector Lead,
Mason Hayes & Curran

Eoin is a Partner in our Construction team, and our Energy Sector Lead. He is recognised as a key practitioner and has advised on almost half of the renewable power on the Irish Grid. Eoin has acted for developers, investors and funders on the development, financing, acquisition and disposal of a significant number of energy projects.



Eoin Cassidy



Muireann Heron

Partner, Mason Hayes & Curran

Muireann is a Partner in our Financial Services department and member of the Energy team. She advises a range of clients, including Irish and international financial institutions on a range of domestic and cross-border transactions. Muireann has extensive experience in advising clients on commercial real estate finance, acquisition finance and project finance transactions.



Muireann Heron



Peter McLay

Partner, Mason Hayes & Curran

Peter is a Partner in our Energy Sector team. He advises on all relevant Irish and European law and regulation applicable to Irish energy projects. Peter has significant experience of associated law such as environmental permitting and energy efficiency obligations. He also advises large energy consumers on efficient and diverse procurement strategies.



Peter McLay



Financing Ireland's Energy Transition

Panel 1

30 Years Onshore: Leveraging Ireland's Renewable Financing Expertise

Roman Londner

Director, Energy Transition,
Eiffel Investment Group

Before joining Eiffel in 2019, Roman spent three years at infrastructure asset manager InfraRed Capital Partners in London where he invested more than €800 million in infrastructure, mostly renewable energy. At Eiffel, he is a director in the energy infrastructure investment division. With a team of more than 20 people, he invests in renewable and energy transition infra across Europe with debt, equity and quasi-equity mandates. This totals close to €1.5 billion under management.

Peter Kavanagh

Managing Director,
Highfield Energy Limited

Highfield Energy is a leading developer of renewable energy projects having deployed €390 million in Irish Renewable Assets to date, with a further €100 million currently in financing. Highfield Energy is also active in the US Energy market, having developed and transacted on over 500MWp of solar assets and 100MW of energy storage assets which are currently in construction and/or project financing.

Tara Deeny

Senior Manager,
Sustainable Energy & Infrastructure Finance –
Origination, Bank of Ireland

Tara is Senior Manager with Bank of Ireland, Corporate Banking. Tara has over 20 years experience in the financial sector working across a broad range of areas including asset management, specialist property and commercial lending and underwriting. Her current role is as an originator with the Sustainable Energy and Infrastructure Team providing project finance to the renewables sector in Ireland & UK.

Dermot Hughes

Head of Commercial Team, BNRG Renewables

Dermot joined BNRG in 2022 as Head of Commercial Team, managing all investment and financing activities across the US, Canada, Ireland, UK and Australia. With previous roles in financing renewable projects at ESB for eight years and with AIB prior to that, Dermot has worked on raising over €2 billion of project finance.

Roman
Londner



Peter
Kavanagh



Tara
Deeny



Dermot
Hughes



This panel will be chaired by Muireann Herson

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Panel 2

Countdown to 2050: Financing New Renewable Technologies

Karen Doyle

Head of Business Development,
Gas Networks Ireland

Karen is Head of Business Development at Gas Networks Ireland and has responsibility for the development of renewable gas and provision of route to market for biomethane green hydrogen. Her key focus is on decarbonisation of the gas network by 2050 through enablement of Hydrogen and Biomethane at scale. Karen has worked in the energy sector for over 20 years, and has structured and delivered a number of landmark projects across the sector.

Jim Arigho

Director, Climate Capital,
AIB

Jim Arigho is a Director in the Climate Capital Division of Allied Irish Banks. Jim has been with AIB for over 18 years working in both Project Finance and Acquisition Finance. Jim leads a team which principally covers the Irish market as well as UK Offshore, and has been involved in numerous Debt Financings including Onshore & Offshore Wind, Biomass, Anaerobic Digestion and Waste to Energy.

Barry Kilcline

Director of Development,
SSE Renewables

Barry Kilcline is Project Director for IJMuiden Ver Alpha, a 2GW offshore windfarm in the Netherlands, scheduled for energisation in 2029 and being delivered by SSE Renewables on behalf of SSE and APG. Prior to taking on this role, Barry had responsibility for development of SSE Renewables' pipeline of offshore wind projects around the island of Ireland, including the 800MW Arklow Bank Wind Park in the Irish Sea.

Niels Jakeman

Head of Energy Origination Europe,
Structured Finance, Nord LB

With 17 years of energy finance and investment experience across Europe and Asia, Niels is the Head of Structured Finance Energy Origination for Europe at NORD/LB, which supports clients with structuring, arranging and ultimately lending to project finance transactions. The team covers the full breadth of energy transition assets, which largely focuses on renewables, as well as storage, grid technologies and more recently hydrogen, with an annual financing volume of €1-1.5bn.

Karen Doyle



Jim Arigho



**Barry
Kilcline**



**Niels
Jakeman**



This panel will be chaired by Peter McLay

MASON
HAYES &
CURRAN

Financing Ireland's Energy Transition

Keynote Address

Pat Leahy

Political Editor, The Irish Times

Pat Leahy is the political editor of The Irish Times. His books include *Showtime: the Inside Story of Fianna Fáil in Government* and *the Price of Power: Inside Ireland's Crisis Coalition*, and he has made a number of television documentaries about Irish politics. He was previously political editor and deputy editor of The Sunday Business Post. A graduate in law from UCD, he was also Reuters fellow in journalism at Oxford University.

Pat Leahy



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our conference on
**Financing Ireland's
Energy Transition**

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