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INNOVATION IN THE ENERGY SECTOR Profitably meeting the demands of a low-carbon world

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Presentation overview

- Introduction
- Climate Change / GHG Emissions
- Market and Demand for Sustainable Gas
- The Renewable Gas Solution
- Collaboration Project Overview & Industry Support
- Sustainable Gas Network Vision



Gas Networks Ireland



- Gas Networks Ireland owns, operates, develops and maintains the natural gas network in Ireland.
- World-class Modern Gas Network
- Over 13,500Km:
 - 2,422Km Transmission Network
 - 11,288Km Distribution Network
- More than 675,000 gas consumers
 - 650,000 homes
 - 25,000 businesses
- Over 160 population centres
- 19 counties



National GHG Emissions 1990 - 2015



Source: EPA

GHG Emissions – Energy & Non-Energy Emissions



- Electricity
 - the main focus of National Policy to date.
- **Heat** Space & Water Heating, Industrial processes, & CHP.
 - significant savings achieved with High Efficiency measures.
- **Transport** predominantly Diesel & Petrol.
 - Biofuel blending measures.
- Non-Energy Agriculture and Industrial emissions.
 - Strong demand from both sectors to decarbonise
 - FDI Corporate Obligations
 - Origin Green Compete on greener credentials



Data Source: EPA

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GHG Emissions – Demand & Economy

2015 GHG Emissions - focus on Agriculture & Manufacturing



- Ireland population ~ 4¹/₂ Million People.
- Agri' Food & Beverage produced for 33 Million.
 - Also significant Pharma' & other Mfg.
- >40% Workforce directly employed or in direct material supply chain.
 - Service sectors highly dependent.
- Trade / Exports critical to economy.
- Decarbonisation products, processes and energy
 - Essential for future growth and competitiveness.
 - FDI Corporate Obligations
 - Origin Green Compete on greener credentials
 - Solutions need to address needs of multiple sectors.



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Data Source: EPA & SEAI

Validation of market demand: Survey of Manufacturing Industry in Ireland

Coordinated through Energy Suppliers (natural gas & lpg)

- ~ Top 300 companies surveyed; 18% response rate
- 89% confirmed Thermal Energy is their primary energy demand and critical to their business
- 87% use gas (natural gas or lpg) as their primary fuel
- 75% confirmed corporate / company specific carbon footprint targets
 - & renewable gas would be instrumental in supporting them achieving these targets
- 62% of companies confirmed they are looking to expand their business in Ireland
- 28% had no plans to expand
- 10% plan to expand outside of Ireland
 - renewable gas supported and accessible in most other countries



Source : RGFI & Energy Suppliers

Renewable Gas Production



Renewable Gas (Biomethane)





Typical GHG emissions/savings from different sources

- Net Greenhouse gas (GHG) savings from manure biomethane ~140% relative to natural gas (i.e. carbon negative)
- This includes carbon saving from avoided GHG emissions from conventional manure storage as per IPCC guidelines
- Net GHG savings from biowaste biomethane (including agri-food processing residues) ~80% relative to natural gas
- Net GHG savings from grass biomethane ~ 75% relative to natural gas



Data sources for biowaste and manure taken from "Solid and Gaseous bioenergy pathways: input values and GHG emissions" JRC. p.162. Available at: <u>https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/publication/eur-scientific-and-technical-research-reports/solid-and-gaseous-bioenergy-pathways-input-values-and-ghg-emissions</u>

Data for grass biomethane emissions savings taken from Korres et al., 2010, *"Is grass biomethane a sustainable transport fuel?* Biofuels Bioprod, & Bioref. Vol. 4. pp. 310-325



Collaboration project – overview

- Feedstock receiving hall and store
 - Pig slurry, belly grass, spent silage / crop residues, expired supermarket food, and food industry waste.



• De-packaging and feed preparation



Collaboration project – overview

Anaerobic Digesters



- Other facilities on site:
 - Digestate pasteurisation & storage
 - Boilers and CHP
- Current phase development
 - Gas purification and separation
 - Thermal energy circulation
 - Gas grid injection facility
 - CO2 processing facility
- Several industry partners
- CH₄ for Manufacturing Industry Client and for use in CNG vehicle trials
- CO₂ for industry applications



Guidance for the industry



UCC ERI, MaREI, Teagasc. Funded by SFI & GNI Researchers: Richard O'Shea, David Wall, Prof' Jerry Murphy, Ian Kilgallon, & James Browne

- Optimisation study and modelling UCC MaREI/ERI
 - Assessment of the impact of incentives and of scale on the build order and location of biomethane facilities and the feedstock they utilise
 - Available feedstock's within economic reach of AD / injection facility
 - Over 40% of available feedstock either on or close to the gas network



Green Gas Certification





Sustainable Gas Network Vision



Our Vision for Renewable Gas

- Mitigating climate change needs collaboration across sectors; • but significant synergies and opportunities exist.
- Develop a clean, renewable and carbon neutral fuel
- Contributes to security and diversity of gas supply
- Provide a sustainable way of managing organic waste
- Reduce CO₂ emissions by over 900,000 tonnes •
- 20% of gas demand can be renewable by 2030
- Over 40% of biogas feedstock's are either on or close to the gas network
- We want to support a national roll out of renewable gas ٠ production and injection facilities
- Initial rollout phase ~ 8 grid injection points across Ireland •
- Meet the growing demand for renewable gas from • multinationals that have signed up to corporate responsibility obligations with regard to climate change
- Facilitate the use of renewable gas in transport through CNG • filling stations.



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Conclusion