

# Irish Renewable Energy Summit 2023

*Accelerating renewable energy for a secure and low carbon future*

CROKE PARK, DUBLIN • THURSDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2023

ORGANISED BY



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



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**Bord na Móna**



Gníomhaireacht Bainistíochta an Chisteáin Náisiúnt  
National Treasury Management Agency

Ciste Infheistíochta Straitéisí d'Éirinn  
Ireland Strategic Investment Fund



"Ireland remains heavily reliant on fossil fuel. We must radically reduce this dependence and make the transition to cleaner, indigenous renewable energy. Increased renewable energy will insulate Ireland from the volatility of international gas and carbon prices, which are near an all-time high."

— Minister Eamon Ryan TD

# Irish Renewable Energy Summit 2023

## Accelerating renewable energy development

Renewable energy is central to the Government's climate action ambitions. The current Programme for Government has set out specific targets and actions and renewable energy is also central to the Climate Action Plan 2021. Ireland's renewable energy ambition includes the following actions by 2030:

- 80% electricity from renewable sources
- Develop at least 500MW of renewables through local community-based projects
- Bring onstream 8GW onshore and 5GW of offshore wind energy
- Deliver 1.5–2.5GW solar PV
- Install 600,000 heat pumps in residential buildings
- Deploy zero-carbon heating in 50,000 commercial buildings
- Increase the fleet of EVs and LEVs on the road to 945,000
- Raise the blend of biofuels to B20 in diesel and E10 in petrol

## Securing Ireland's energy future

In addition to achieving the ambition set out in CAP21, the Russian invasion of Ukraine has moved the issue of energy security up the agenda. In order to decarbonise the energy system and enhance its security there will be the need to develop a range of renewables, and supporting technologies including offshore wind, solar, bioenergy, green hydrogen, interconnectors and storage. It will also entail using renewable sources across electricity, heat and transport and this will be reflected in the summit programme. The 2023 Summit will also look at supply chain development for the sector.

# This is why you need to be at the Irish Renewable Energy Summit 2023

## Key themes covered:

- ✓ Future **electricity grid** to facilitate 80% renewables
- ✓ Developing **biomethane** for sustainable heat
- ✓ Ireland's future **hydrogen** economy
- ✓ Developing Ireland's **offshore wind** resources
- ✓ **Electrification of transport**
- ✓ **Energy markets**; fit for purpose in 100% renewable world?
- ✓ Future energy: harnessing **ocean energy**



## Benefits of attending:

- Discuss the role of renewables in the energy transition
- Hear directly from developers of renewable energy
- Learn about innovative projects being implemented
- Network with other professionals across the renewable energy sector

## 200+ attendees: Who you can expect to meet

The summit is attended by senior managers and decision-makers in the renewable energy sector. Delegates come from right across the sector and the wider energy community with a contingent from overseas.

Delegates will include:

- Chief Executives, directors and senior managers in the energy sector
- Policy makers and regulators
- Renewable energy developers
- Engineering and technical consultants
- Legal and financial advisors
- Planning and environmental professionals
- Equipment suppliers
- Large energy users

The Renewable Energy Summit will provide a valuable opportunity to bring together the key stakeholders from across the energy sector, and those who interact with the energy sector to discuss how the contribution from renewable energy can be maximised and implemented most effectively.

**The objective is to create a genuine in-depth understanding of the alternative paths open to Ireland in increasing the contribution from renewable energy.**



# Conference plenary

- 08:30 Registration and morning coffee
- 09:00 Chair's welcome and introduction



MINISTERIAL ADDRESS:

*Renewable energy: Delivering Ireland's climate ambition*

Eamon Ryan TD

Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications

*Delivering secure, clean and affordable energy for Europe*

Catharina Sikow-Magny, Director, Green Transition and Energy System Integration, **European Commission**

*Creating a clean energy future for Ireland*

Margie McCarthy, Director of Research and Policy Insights  
**Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland**

*Powering the grid with renewable energy*

John Reilly, Head of Renewable Energy, **Bord na Móna**

*Achieving Ireland's offshore wind ambitions*

Maria Ryan, Director of Development, **SSE Renewables**

QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION • PANEL DISCUSSION

- 10:45 COFFEE AND NETWORKING BREAK

- 11:15 *The role of renewable energy in decarbonising and securing Ireland's energy networks*

Karen Kavanagh, Director, **Commission for Regulation of Utilities**

[invited]

*Investing in Ireland's energy transition*

Speaker tbc, **Ireland Strategic Investment Fund**

*The role of renewable gas in decarbonising Ireland's energy system*

Prof Jerry Murphy, **University College Cork** and Director **MaREI**

*Ocean energy: the next big thing in energy*

Donagh Cagney, Policy Director, **Ocean Energy Europe**

*Planning delays in onshore wind development*

Muireann Lynch, Senior Research Officer

**Economic & Social Research Institute**

QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION • PANEL DISCUSSION

- 13:00 LUNCH BREAK



# Afternoon session



14:00 *Merchant models for renewables and financing emerging technologies*  
Lisa McDermott, Executive Director, Project Finance, **ABN AMRO Bank**

*REI strategy: Clean, secure and affordable energy for Ireland*  
Tanya Harrington, Chair, **Renewable Energy Ireland**

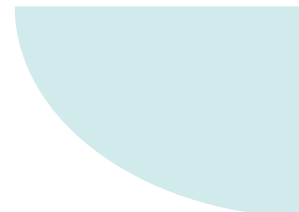
*Lessons from the UK offshore wind rollout*  
Phil McNally, Research Fellow, Electricity Markets  
**University College London**

*The role of geothermal in Irelands' energy transition*  
Simon Todd, Co-Founder, Managing Director and Chief Technologist  
**CausewayGT**

*Building the hydrogen economy in Scotland and beyond*  
Speaker tbc, **Scottish Government**

QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION • PANEL DISCUSSION

16.00 CHAIR'S CONCLUDING REMARKS AND CONFERENCE CLOSE



*Accelerating  
renewable  
energy for a  
secure and low  
carbon future*



## Ministerial address

**Eamon Ryan TD**

Minister for Environment,  
Climate and Communications

# RENEWABLE ENERGY SUMMIT 2023



## Creating a cleaner energy future

**Margie McCarthy**

Director of Research  
and Policy Insights  
**Sustainable Energy Authority  
of Ireland**



## Achieving Ireland's offshore wind ambitions

**Maria Ryan**

Director of Development  
**SSE Renewables**

## Powering the grid with renewable energy

**John Reilly**

Head of Renewable Energy  
**Bord na Móna**



## Planning delays and onshore wind development

**Muireann Lynch**

Senior Research Officer  
**Economic and Social Research  
Institute**



# Visiting experts for 2023



## **Renewable energy: Delivering secure, clean and affordable energy for Europe**

**Catharina Sikow-Magny**, Director  
of Green Transition and Energy

System Integration, **European Commission**

Catharina Sikow-Magny joined the European Commission in 1997 and is currently the Director responsible for Green Transition and Energy System Integration in the Directorate General for Energy. Before that, she was the Head of Unit in charge of Consumers, Local Initiatives, Just Transition. Before that she was the Head of Unit responsible for Networks and Regional Initiatives. She has as well worked on international transport, trans-European network policy and financing, internalisation of external costs, and strategic policy research. Before joining the Commission, Catharina was a team leader and chief economist in the private sector in Finland. She has also worked for the United Nations Development Programme in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. She holds a Master of Economics degree from the Aalto University, Finland.



## **Lessons from the UK offshore wind rollout**

**Phil McNally**, Research Fellow,  
Electricity Markets, **University  
College London**

Phil McNally, is a Research Fellow at University College London focusing on electricity markets. He previously led low-carbon power policy at Energy UK and Net Zero research at the Tony Blair Institute. He has sat on several government expert advisory groups and specialises on the policy and economic reform required to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon energy system.



## **Merchant models for solar and onshore/offshore wind and financing emerging technologies including floating wind, green hydrogen, giga factories for batteries, carbon capture and storage**

**Lisa McDermott**, Executive Director, Project  
Finance, **ABN AMRO Bank**

Lisa McDermott is Executive Director at ABN AMRO Bank N.V. She has over 24 years' experience in structured finance and a decade of experience within renewable energy. Since 2013, she has been part of the Project Finance team of ABN AMRO, where she leads the bank's renewable and energy transition project financing activities. During that time Lisa has spearheaded ABN AMRO's growth in the wind, solar, geothermal and merchant renewables sectors in Europe and is actively engaged in the development and financing of emerging technologies to support the energy transition such as floating wind, green hydrogen, PtX, energy storage pathways and advanced biofuels. Lisa started her career as a lawyer with Clifford Chance before going on to hold several senior origination, structuring and management roles within the financial industry. She holds a joint first class honours degree in Common and Civil Law with French from Queen's University, Belfast and Sciences Politiques, Bordeaux and a postgraduate diploma in law from the Nottingham Trent University. Lisa is listed amongst the 100 most influential women working globally in the wind industry in the Women's Power List published by A Word About Wind.



## **Ocean energy: the next big thing in energy!**

**Donagh Cagney**, Policy Director,  
**Ocean Energy Europe**

Donagh Cagney is Policy Director at Ocean Energy Europe. He oversees OEE's policy work, and covers topics such as funding, innovation, State aid, EU offshore policy and finance. He previously worked at energy regulator Ofgem - where he focused on the Clean Energy Package and security of supply issues. Before entering the energy sector, Donagh worked on economic issues at Dublin Airport Authority and the European industry body for airport operators. Here his work centred on competition, economic regulation and State aid. He holds an MSc in Economics from Trinity College Dublin.



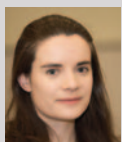
# Speaker profiles



**Donagh Cagney** is Policy Director at **Ocean Energy Europe**. He oversees OEE's policy work, and covers topics such as funding, innovation, State aid, EU offshore policy and finance. He previously worked at energy regulator Ofgem - where he focused on the Clean Energy Package and security of supply issues. Before entering the energy sector, Donagh worked on economic issues at Dublin Airport Authority and the European industry body for airport operators. Here his work centred on competition, economic regulation and State aid. He holds an MSc in Economics from Trinity College Dublin.



**Tanya Harrington** is the Chairperson of **Renewable Energy Ireland**. Tanya is a public policy and regulatory affairs professional with over 20 years' experience in helping organisations drive the effectiveness and performance of their policy-focused teams. Tanya currently serves as An Post's Chief Regulatory Affairs Officer, leading the development of the Company's comprehensive and integrated regulatory strategy and leading An Post's engagement with government and regulatory authorities and stakeholders at international, European and domestic levels. Before joining An Post, Tanya spent six years in consultancy, advising a range of Ireland's largest companies on matters of public policy, government affairs and economic regulation across a range of economically regulated sectors.



**Muireann Lynch** is a Senior Research Officer in the Economic Analysis division of the **Economic and Social Research Institute**. She holds a degree in Mathematics and Economics from Trinity College Dublin and a PhD from the School of Electronic and Electrical Engineering in UCD. Muireann is Research Area Coordinator for Energy within the ESRI, is Deputy Director of the NexSys SFI-funded Partnership Programme and is a Funded Investigator with the MaREI SFI Centre. She has published numerous research articles in diverse areas of energy economics and has co-authored submissions to various public consultations and Government Departments and served on policy and Department Steering Committees. Muireann's research interests include electricity market regulation, power system economics and renewable generation integration and her research methodologies include stochastic mathematical programming, optimisation and game theory.



**Margie McCarthy** is Director of Research and Policy Insights, with key responsibilities for analytical and research functions within **Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)** including the development and delivery of energy data and insights to support policy decisions, and investment in innovative energy research which contribute to Ireland's energy transition. She is a member of the Executive Leadership Team of SEAI contributing to the development and implementation of organisational strategy and operationalising that strategy for optimal delivery of results. Margie is a Chartered Engineer and Fellow of Engineers Ireland. She joined SEAI from Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), where she served as Head of Education and Public Engagement and as Interim Director of Science for Society. Margie has served on several national education and skills policy groups and is currently Chairperson of the Gender Balance in STEM Education Advisory Group to the Department of Education.



**Lisa McDermott** is Executive Director at **ABN AMRO Bank N.V.** She has over 24 years' experience in structured finance and a decade of experience within renewable energy. Since 2013, she has been part of the Project Finance team of ABN AMRO, where she leads the bank's renewable and energy transition project financing activities. During that time Lisa has spearheaded ABN AMRO's growth in the wind, solar, geothermal and merchant renewables sectors in Europe and is actively engaged in the development and financing of emerging technologies to support the energy transition such as floating wind, green hydrogen, PtX, energy storage pathways and advanced biofuels. Lisa started her career as a lawyer with Clifford Chance before going on to hold several senior origination, structuring and management roles within the financial industry. She holds a joint first class honours degree in Common and Civil Law with French from Queen's University, Belfast and Sciences Politiques, Bordeaux and a postgraduate diploma in law from the Nottingham Trent University. Lisa is listed amongst the 100 most influential women working globally in the wind industry in the Women's Power List published by A Word About Wind.



**Professor Jerry Murphy** is the chair of civil engineering at **University College Cork**, the 12th person to hold this post since 1849. He serves as Director of the **SFI MaREI** Centre for energy, climate and marine (which has over 250 researchers). He led the Biogas Task of the International Energy Agency (IEA) Bioenergy from 2016 to 2021 and has edited and authored numerous IEA Bioenergy reports. He was awarded the Engineers Ireland Excellence Award (2015), The Marine Industry Award for Excellence in Marine Research (2017), an adjunct professorship in University of Southern Queensland (2018), a fellowship of the Irish Academy of Engineers in 2019 and was elected to the international advisory board of DBFZ (German Bioenergy Research Centre) in 2020.



**Eamon Ryan TD** is the **Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications**. He was appointed to this role in June 2020. Eamon Ryan was elected to represent Dublin Bay South in the 2020 general election. He was born in Dublin and raised in Dundrum and Dartry. He studied commerce in UCD before taking a job managing a marketing course in the university's School of Business. He went on to found a cycling tourism company, Irish Cycling Safaris, in the late 1980s and in 1996 won the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year award. He was the founding chairperson of the Dublin Cycling Campaign and began his political career as a Dublin City Councillor for the Rathgar-Rathmines ward. He then went on to serve both as a TD for Dublin South and as a Government Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources. In recent years he has worked for a European climate organisation and chaired the digital policy group in the Institute of International and European Affairs. He is currently leader of the Green Party/Comhaontas Glas.



**Phil McNally** is a Research Fellow at **UCL** focusing on electricity markets. He previously led low-carbon power policy at Energy UK and Net Zero research at the Tony Blair Institute. He has sat on several government expert advisory groups and specialises on the policy and economic reform required to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon energy system.



**John Reilly** is Head of Renewable Energy at **Bord na Móna**. He is a member of Bord na Móna's Senior Leadership team with specific responsibility for the operation and continued development of Bord na Móna's expanding portfolio in the Irish electricity market. His team is currently leading a €1.6 billion investment programme which will see the company add at least 1GW of new renewable assets to its fleet by 2030. John has over 20 years' experience in the energy sector and was previously part of the senior management team at Edenderry Power, prior to its acquisition by Bord na Móna. He has worked for a number of major international utility players in the sector, such as the German utility E.ON and Fortum, a Finnish utility company. John, who is currently on the Board of the Electricity Association of Ireland, also sits on a number of policy committees across the energy sector and holds a PhD in Chemistry from UCD.



**Maria Ryan** is Director of Development, Ireland at **SSE Renewables**, part of the FTSE-listed SSE plc and the leading developer, owner and operator of renewable energy across Ireland and the UK. Maria has responsibility for development and construction of SSE Renewables' 1GW-plus pipeline of offshore and onshore wind energy projects around the island of Ireland. Maria has extensive experience having worked in the wind energy industry for nearly 18 years, holding portfolio management roles across Aircricity, Mainstream Renewable Power and SSE Renewables. Maria is chartered engineer and a graduate of Mechanical Engineering from University College Dublin (UCD) with an MSc from UCD.



**Catharina Sikow-Magny** joined the **European Commission** in 1997 and is currently the Director responsible for Green Transition and Energy System Integration in the Directorate General for Energy. Before that, she was the Head of Unit in charge of Consumers, Local Initiatives, Just Transition. Before that she was the Head of Unit responsible for Networks and Regional Initiatives. She has as well worked on international transport, trans-European network policy and financing, internalisation of external costs, and strategic policy research. Before joining the Commission, Catharina was a team leader and chief economist in the private sector in Finland. She has also worked for the United Nations Development Programme in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. She holds a Master of Economics degree from the Aalto University, Finland.



**Dr Simon Todd**, is Co-Founder, Managing Director and Chief Technologist at **CausewayGT**. Simon is an energy industry executive with 30+ years of experience in leading businesses in energy exploration, development, and operations around the world with bp and other smaller ventures and projects. He has BSc and PhD degrees from the University of Bristol in geological science.



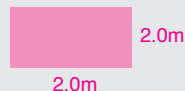
# Exhibition opportunities

There are a limited number of opportunities to become involved with this conference as an exhibitor. This is an excellent way for organisations to showcase their expertise and raise their profile with a key audience of senior decision makers from across Ireland's renewable energy sector. This interactive conference provides an excellent opportunity for making contacts and networking. For further information on how your organisation can benefit, contact **Jillian Wallace** on **+353 (0)1 661 3755** or email [jillian.wallace@energyireland.ie](mailto:jillian.wallace@energyireland.ie).

## Exhibition space

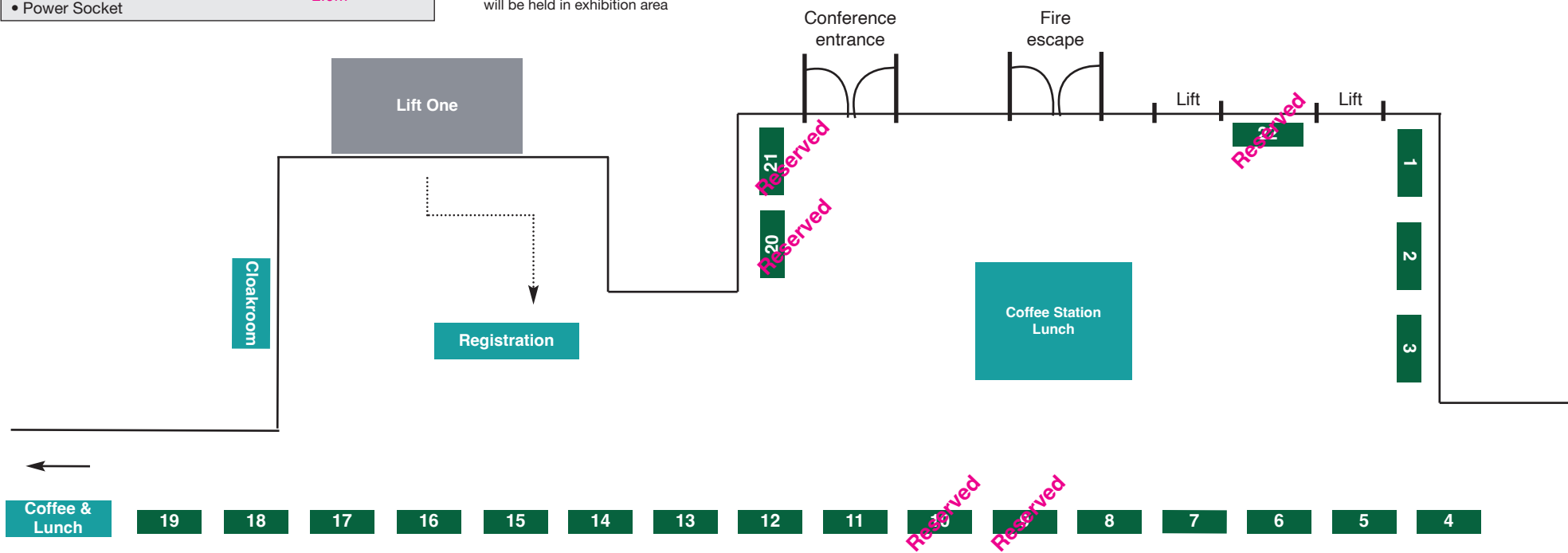
Each exhibition space will be provided with:

- Table
- Chair (if required)
- Power Socket



## Exhibition Information

- Exhibition area is main meeting place for all delegates.
- All refreshment/networking breaks will be held in exhibition area



## Sponsorship opportunities



There are a limited number of sponsorship opportunities remaining at this conference. For further information on the sponsorship packages remaining and speaking opportunities at the event call **Jillian Wallace** on **+353 (0)1 661 3755**.

# Getting to the venue



## Directions to Croke Park

Croke Park Conference Centre is located in the north Dublin neighbourhood of Drumcondra, around 20 minutes by car from Dublin airport.

**By train:** The closest railway station is Drumcondra at the intersection of Drumcondra Road (N1) and Clonliffe Road, a 5 minute walk from Croke Park. The closest DART stations are Connolly (15-20 minute walk) and Clontarf (20-25 minute walk). The closest Luas and Intercity Rail stop is also at Connolly station.

**By bus:** From the city centre to Drumcondra Road: No 3, 11, 11A, 16, 16A and 41. From the city centre to Ballybough Road / Clonliffe Road: No 123.

**By bike:** There are bike rails situated outside the Hogan entrance to Croke Park (on Jones' Road) for secure cycle parking.

**By car:** From the city centre / O'Connell Street: Follow the signs for the N1 North onto Dorset Street and Drumcondra Road. At the railway bridge overpass on Drumcondra Road, turn right onto Clonliffe Road. At the next set of traffic lights, turn right onto Jones's Road for the Hogan stand entrance. (For car park continue to the end of Jones's Road into Russell Street turning left at the end of Russell Street onto the North Circular Road – follow directions below for parking).

From the airport / north: Follow directions for the city centre. Just before the railway overpass at the end of the Drumcondra Road Lower, turn left onto Clonliffe Road. At the next set of traffic lights, turn right onto Jones's Road for the Hogan Stand entrance. (For car park continue to the end of Jones's Road into Russell Street turning left at the end of Russell Street onto the North Circular Road – follow directions below for parking).

**Car parking:** There is limited free parking available for delegates attending the conference at the Davin Car Park. This is located off the North Circular Road and accessed via St Margaret's Avenue. There is pedestrian access from the car park onto Jones's Road for the main entrance to the Hogan Stand.

## Accommodation

There are a number of hotels located close to the venue, including: The Croke Park Hotel, Best Western Dublin Skylon Hotel, Gresham Hotel, Best Western Academy Plaza, Jurys Inn Parnell Street.

## I wish to:

- ☐ Reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places at the Irish Renewable Energy Summit  
Early Bird rate €295 + VAT @ 23% = **€362.85 (until 16th December)**  
Delegate fee €395 + VAT @ 23% = **€485.85 (after 16th December)**
- ☐ Receive details of sponsorship & exhibition opportunities at the summit
- ☐ Receive information on future Energy Ireland events and publications

## Delegate details

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr): \_\_\_\_\_

Job title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Eircode: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment options

☐ I enclose a cheque for € \_\_\_\_\_

Payable to 'bmf Business Services E&P Ltd'.

☐ Please invoice me

☐ Please debit my Visa / Mastercard

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Name of card holder: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Other ways to book...



By email

registration@energyireland.ie



Online

www.energyireland.ie



By telephone

+353 (0)1 661 3755

### Acknowledgement of registration

Confirmation of registration will be emailed to all delegates following receipt of registration details. If you have not received your acknowledgement within 48 hours of registering, please contact us at registration@energyireland.ie to confirm your booking.

### Terms and conditions

- Once booked places may not be cancelled and failure to attend requires full payment.
- If you are unable to attend, you can send a substitute participant instead, at no additional charge.
- Conference fees includes entry for one person per ticket.
- Confirmation of registration will be sent to all delegates. If you have not received your acknowledgement within 48 hours of submitting your registration, please contact registration@energyireland.ie.
- By agreeing to our terms and conditions this booking creates legally binding obligations for both parties, irrespective of attendance on the day.

You can unsubscribe from receiving information at any time. Please let us know if you wish to unsubscribe by emailing info@energyireland.ie or phoning +353 (0)1 661 3755.



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