



# WIND ENERGY

IN IRELAND

Ireland has a worldwide reputation as a successful location for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). Almost 1,000 multinational corporations, in sectors including Life Sciences, ICT (Information Communication Technologies), Engineering and Financial Services, have chosen Ireland as their strategic European location.

We believe Ireland can be a **significant location for investors** in the exciting and rapidly developing Clean Technology sector. Our unique location on the edge of Europe is a major advantage, particularly for wind and ocean energy. This natural advantage is backed by a talented skilled workforce, a thriving research and development environment, and pro-business government policies.

*“We have such energy natural resources that could make us the Saudi Arabia of ocean & wind energy”*

**Eamon Ryan**

Minister for Energy & Natural Resources



**become leaders** not followers



## ENERGY POTENTIAL

Much of the wind that gathers force across the Atlantic Ocean meets first landfall on the West coast of Ireland, so winds on this island are stronger and more constant than in most parts of Continental Europe. As a result, there is enough onshore-accessible wind in Ireland to meet 100% of the country's electricity requirements.

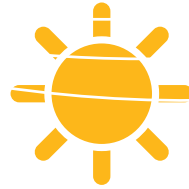
Ireland has installed wind turbines with a generation capacity of 1,000MW and wind park developers have already filed applications to put an additional 3,700MW of wind energy onto the grid. The potential of Ireland as a source of wind power is clear. The capacity factor for onshore wind turbines - the measure of the time the turbine is actually cranking out power - is 35% in Ireland. This compares to a European average of about 25%.

While most existing turbines are located on land, developers are also exploring the potential of offshore wind. Off the East coast of Ireland, GE Energy and Airtricity have developed the world's first commercial application of offshore wind turbines over three megawatts in size.

## GOVERNMENT COMMITMENT

The Irish Government is committed to reducing Ireland's dependence on fossil fuels. The Government target is for 40% of all electricity generated in 2020 to be derived from Renewable Energy sources (of which the majority will be wind power).

To encourage the development of the Wind Energy industry, a feed-in tariff of €63 per MW Hour for onshore wind was established in 2006. This was followed in 2008 by the establishment of a feed-in tariff for offshore wind of €140 per MW Hour.



*"We have built up a formidable base of technology expertise and knowledge, with over 450 engineers designing and launching over 90 new products to market every year. Perhaps because Ireland is a small country, the Irish tend to have a more global and outward-looking perspective. We know we're not the centre of the world, and so we're highly flexible and adaptable in our approach."*

**Dick Meaney**

Vice-President, Analog Devices, Limerick

## BUSINESS EXPERTISE

Ireland has the knowledge, expertise and infrastructure to support the wind industry across all segments of the value chain:

- RD&I – world-class research centres located throughout the country, working to a well-established model of industry/academia collaboration
- High Value Manufacturing expertise in both component manufacturing and large scale assembly in the power electronics and engineering sectors
- Longstanding expertise in running Global Business Service centres for multinational corporations
- Excellent project management and civil engineering capability
- Deep port infrastructure

There is significant Wind Energy expertise in Ireland, with research ongoing in the Dundalk Institute of Technology, University College Cork, Trinity College Dublin and University College Dublin.

## THE IRISH ADVANTAGE

Ireland's success is based on the unique combination of benefits we offer to global business:

- Stable political environment and respected regulatory regime
- Pro-business culture with a 12.5% corporate taxation rate, taxation credits for RD&I activities and an extensive double taxation treaty network with 46 countries
- Robust legal structure for the exploitation and protection of intellectual property rights
- Excellent research environment with highly productive alliances between industry and academia
- High-skilled, knowledge based economy delivering highly productive employees

with excellent technical, language, managerial and customer service capabilities

- Location for clusters of global leaders in key high-tech industries including Life Sciences and ICT
- Experienced and innovative leaders focused on proactively identifying and solving business challenges, with a proven ability to build close working relationships with global senior management
- Proximity to EU customer and revenue base
- Strong cultural integration with US multinational management practices
- Reputation for flexibility, responsiveness and innovation

## IDA IRELAND

IDA Ireland is Ireland's inward investment promotion agency. The agency works with foreign companies to secure investment and collaborates with existing foreign investors in Ireland to help expand and develop their business. Key areas of focus are High Value Manufacturing Operations, Global Business Service Centres and RD&I operations in Ireland.

For companies active in Energy and Environmental Technologies or considering expansion of their activities into this area, IDA Ireland offers information, advice and support on all aspects of the industry in Ireland.



Honeywell

LIEBHERR



SIEMENS

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