

Developing Electricity Market Seminar

The implications for the Irish energy sector



Sponsored by



Media partner

agendaNi

Thursday 22 March

Baby Grand
Grand Opera House, Belfast

Developing electricity markets seminar

The Department of Energy & Climate Change in GB published its Electricity Market Reform (EMR) White Paper in 2011 which set out key measures to attract investment, reduce the impact on consumer bills and create a secure mix of electricity sources including gas, new nuclear, renewables and carbon capture and storage. Many of the reforms set out in the package (eg carbon price floor) will have a significant impact on the operation of the energy sector in Ireland.

At a European level, the single European energy market poses many challenges for Ireland and the SEM with a number of significant disparities in the design of the two markets. The target date to achieve the single European electricity market is now just two years away in 2014, but Ireland has the option to implement transitional arrangements for the day-ahead and intra-day markets, as long as these don't extend beyond 2016, by which time enduring SEM market arrangements which comply with the European Commission's target model and network code must be in place. Work is ongoing by CER and the Utility Regulator, through the SEM Committee to meet the necessary obligations under the Framework Guidelines, with draft network codes to be complete by the first quarter of 2012, a timeline which is recognised as challenging.

It is expected that a high-level redesign of the SEM will be required to allow it to comply with the single European market arrangements, and clearly there will be governance and legal implications associated with this, in addition to the financial cost, estimated in 2011 at €100 million by the ESRI. In addition, a single European market will bring significant change in terms of the level of co-operation required with regulatory authorities across Europe.

This seminar will examine the implications of electricity market reform, both at a Great Britain and a European level, on the Irish energy sector.

It will feature both local speakers, considering the impact of the planned legislative changes on aspects of the energy system including generation and system operation. In addition, the seminar will be addressed by a number of visiting speakers, who will share their expertise in areas including market reform, the carbon floor price, market integration and the role of interconnectors and the challenges of accommodating renewables. Delegates will have opportunities to interact with the speakers, both during the plenary sessions and in the panel discussion / question and answer sessions and over the networking breaks.

Speaker panel



Robin McCormick is General Manager of the System Operator Northern Ireland (SONI Ltd) and also of SEMO, the single electricity market operator. He leads a professional team of staff to deliver system and market operation services. He has participated in the board to establish the transmission system operators regional association ENTSO-E. Robin is a fellow of the Institution of Engineering and Technology and Vice Chairman of the IET Engineering Policy Group – Northern Ireland. He holds an MBA from the University of Ulster, Jordanstown, and an MSc from Napier University, Edinburgh.



Richard Murphy is a Director in the corporate team at McGrigors LLP and is based in the firm's Belfast office. Richard's main areas of practice are in energy and corporate work. He has extensive experience advising on M&A, commercial contract and regulatory/competition issues in the energy sector. Richard is listed in Chambers UK and the Legal 500 as a leading lawyer in Northern Ireland for energy work. He is the current Chairman of the Company & Commercial Lawyers Group in Northern Ireland.



Rabindra Nepal is a James-Watt PhD Scholar in Energy Economics at Heriot-Watt University under the Scottish Graduate Program in Economics (SGPE). His PhD thesis is about the economic analysis of electricity sector reforms among countries experiencing market-driven economic and political transition with developing countries and often countries with small electricity systems such as Ireland the prime focus of this research. He has previously carried out research at Cambridge University, the University of Oklahoma (USA) and Jacobs University Bremen, Germany.



David Newbery, PhD, ScD, FBA, is an Emeritus Professor of Applied Economics, University of Cambridge and Director of the Cambridge Electricity Policy Research Group. He was educated at Cambridge with degrees in mathematics and economics. David was President of the European Economic Association in 1996 and is President-elect for the International Association for Energy Economics in 2012, to be President in 2013. He acts as an occasional economic advisor to Ofgem, Ofwat, and ORR and is a former member of the Competition Commission. He has recently advised DECC and the House of Commons on Electricity Market Reform.



Jean-Pierre Miura is a Senior Regulatory Analyst at the Utility Regulator and has extensive expertise of wholesale energy market issues. He is currently working on European electricity market integration and its impact on the Single Electricity Market. He is also supporting the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment on the viability of implementing the UK Government's Electricity Market Reform in Northern Ireland.



Reg Platt is a Research Fellow at the Institute for Public Policy Research where he specialises in energy and climate change policy. His expertise includes energy retail market reform, community based energy, public attitudes and sustainable consumption. Reg regularly publishes articles for major print publications and blogs and has appeared on various national broadcast media. Before joining IPPR in 2008 Reg co-founded Transition Town Brighton, a community-led initiative to reduce carbon emissions, and worked as an intern at the Royal Society for Arts Manufacture and Commerce.

09.00 Welcome and introduction: **Richard Murphy**,
Corporate Director, McGrigors LLP

*SEM and European market integration:
Regulatory update*

Jean-Pierre Miura, Principal Analyst
Utility Regulator

Transitional energy markets: Legal aspects

Richard Murphy, Corporate Director
McGrigors LLP

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Making electricity market reform work

Professor David Newbery

Electricity Policy Research Group
University of Cambridge

Questions and answers / Panel discussion

10.30 Morning coffee / networking break

11.00 *Integrating renewable electricity into electricity
markets: Lessons learnt and the way forward*
Cesar Martinez Villar, EurElectric

*Market integration, efficiency and
interconnectors*

Rabindra Nepal, Department of Economics
Heriot-Watt University

Market reform: The system operator's perspective

Robin McCormick, General Manager, SONI Ltd
and General Manager, SEMO

*Examining the impact of market reform on the
generation sector*

Bill Coyle, Plant Manager, Coolkeeragh ESB

*Carbon floor price: Is it effective? What will
be its impact?*

Reg Platt, Research Fellow, Institute for Public
Policy Research

Questions & answers / Panel discussion

13.00 Chairman's summary and seminar close followed
by networking lunch

"It is our priority to remove all barriers to the internal energy market so that energy can flow freely everywhere in the EU. The single European energy market must become a reality for all businesses and consumers by 2014."

Günther Oettinger, EU Energy Commissioner



