



Renewable Gas Forum Ireland

Charter

The Renewable Gas Forum Ireland (RGFI) is an industry forum representing the interests of those involved in the renewable gas supply chain across the island of Ireland, both north and south.

RGFI is committed to influencing, supporting and delivering policies and initiatives that promote the development of the renewable gas industry in Ireland as an economically viable and environmentally sustainable component of the overall energy mix.

RGFI is a not for profit company limited by guarantee.

Membership is open to all parties interested in renewable gas from both the public and private sectors.

RGFI affairs are managed to the highest standards of good governance and integrity, at all times representing the best interests of its membership.

Strategic Objectives

The core objective of RGFI is to bring together industry in the form of producers, consumers and supply chain participants to work together to inform, evaluate and promote policies that support the development of the renewable gas industry in Ireland.

The RGFI will:

- Promote the benefits of renewable gas to government, commercial institutions, academic institutions and corporate industry, both as a renewable heating fuel and a renewable transport fuel, replacing fossil fuel usage to influence policy decisions at EU, national and local levels;
- Promote energy policies that will improve national competitiveness helping to retain existing investments and attract future investments, both multinational and domestic, while addressing national targets in the reduction of emissions and the provision of renewable energy;
- Assist in achieving renewable gas production equivalent to 10% of the national gas grid requirement within 10 years in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland;
- Co-ordinate with other industry advocacy groups representing different aspects of the renewable energy sector with a view to advancing similar energy policies and subsidy regimes for the production, transportation and application of renewable gas as exist currently within other EU member States, particularly those of Great Britain, in Ireland and Northern Ireland;
- Secure widespread membership support from institutional, corporate and SME sectors as the representative voice of the renewable gas industry across all of Ireland;
- Secure affiliation to the Renewable Energy Association (REA) of UK and ensure close working relations on an ongoing basis to leverage from their knowledge and experience;
- Co-operate with similar industry bodies across the EU in the exchange of technical and policy information while also advocating participation in EU wide development projects as appropriate;
- Provide access to best available advice and practice on all aspects of renewable gas production, transportation and application – technical, regulatory and policy – to the membership;
- Develop and provide accreditation services to assure quality, traceability and credibility of the renewable gas products; e.g. Guarantees of Origin, Certification, Sustainability Rating, harmonisation with wider EU certification schemes, etc.;
- Provide a governance system for renewable gas certification and trading market arrangements;
- Provide guidance and access to available support programmes for renewable gas, both national and EU wide, to the membership;
- Promote innovation and collaborate on research and development for Renewable Gas across all sectors in the interest of developing the capabilities and efficiencies of the industry in Ireland.

What is renewable gas?

Renewable gas is an indigenous, renewable, sustainable, and carbon neutral source of energy, that can be produced from many organic waste materials and upgraded to a standard which is identical to natural gas. Renewable gas can be injected into the gas pipeline network or it can be used independently as a fuel for heating, transport or power generation. Renewable gas is also referred to as Biomethane, Biogas or Green Gas. Renewable gas will also be

produced with other emerging and carbon neutral technologies such as Power to Gas and Micro-Algae cultivation, which will provide a sustainable source of renewable gas into the future.

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Prospectus



This prospectus describes the organisational structure and classification of membership of the Renewable Gas Forum Ireland (“RGFI”). The aims and objectives of the RGFI are set out in the RGFI Charter, which can be found at www.renewablegasforumireland.com

Industry Forum

The RGFI seeks to obtain its objectives through the use of industry forums. The industry forum approach means that all market sectors are represented through the RGFI, from the consumer through to the producer. This approach marks a fundamental shift to the way in which energy has traditionally been developed in Ireland and is more common practice throughout Europe where the industry forum has proven to deliver credible, complete, cost-effective and quality market developments and services, particularly for new, developing and growing markets.

The RGFI believes that challenges and barriers for market development can be more effectively recognised, prioritised and overcome when all market sectors are involved in the development process. Whilst innovation and incentives are recognised as essential for the development of the renewable energy market, a broader industry forum approach will validate and prioritise sustainable and efficient solutions, in addition ensuring the long-term viability of the market and consequently, security of supply.

The RGFI Charter reflects this industry forum principle approach:

“The Renewable Gas Forum Ireland (RGFI) is an industry policy development forum representing the interests of all parties involved in the renewable gas supply chain across the island of Ireland, both north and south. RGFI is committed to policies that support the development of the renewable gas industry in Ireland as an economically viable and environmentally sustainable component of the overall energy mix”.

Benefits of Membership

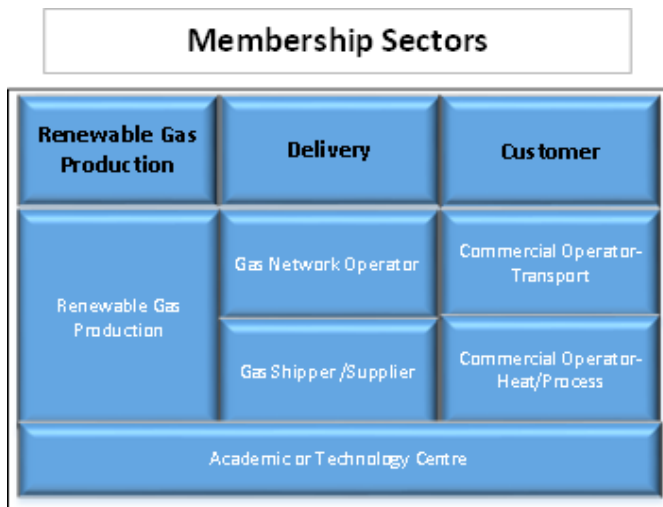
The principal function of the RGFI is to co-ordinate the renewable gas industry to work together cohesively to inform and promote policies that support the development of the renewable gas industry throughout Ireland.

Potential benefits of RGFI membership include:

- Customer demand focus for renewable gas aimed at fostering and developing initial key market sectors of commercial heat (including but not limited to process, CHP, tri-gen) and commercial / public transport as the most viable economic sectors in a young, renewable gas market. The RGFI will expand its remit to other viable market sectors over time;
- Identifying, adopting and championing best industry practice and optimum services to meet demand;
- Affiliation with forums and associations with similar objectives and interests across the EU with a view to accessing quality support services, training, accreditation, and to facilitate a harmonised approach across EU member states;
- Access to independent accreditation services to include guarantees of origin, certification, sustainability ratings;
- Participation in a recognised and trusted industry forum, high-level engagement with policy makers and regulators;
- Access to technical advice and support on entering the renewable gas industry;
- Access to the renewable gas ecosystem; and
- A voice and participation in a new energy direction for Ireland.

Organisational Structure

The proposed organisational structure of the RGFI is:



The RGFI intends to establish the following Committees (and associated Steering Groups):

- Management Committee
- Policy Development Committee
- Finance & Governance Committee
- Membership Committee
- Technical Committee
- Communications Committee

Directors of the RGFI may be nominated to committees by the Board of the RGFI.

Members of the RGFI may participate in steering groups when nominated to do so by a majority of the other members in their relevant industry sector. The Management Committee has ultimate veto over membership of any steering group.

It is important that committee and steering group members represent an appropriate and proportionate balance of all members' interests. For that reason, the Board of the RGFI and/or the Management Committee may elect to hold voting or election processes for any member(s) election to any steering group at any time at the absolute discretion of the RGFI board and/or Management Committee.

Industry Sector Membership

The industry sectors through which members can seek representation have been categorised by the RGFI as follows:

- Commercial Consumer – Transport
- Commercial Consumer – Heat or Process
- Gas Networks and/or Transport Operator
- Gas Energy Shipper/Supplier
- Renewable Gas Producer
- Academic/Technology Centre

All corporate members of the RGFI must nominate, from the categories listed above, the actual or intended primary industry sector in which they operate or intend to operate.

The Board of the RGFI may audit or validate that nomination or make a determination of a potential members' primary industry sector at the absolute discretion of the Board.

It is important that corporate members are allocated to the correct sector for a number reasons, including without limitation:

- Attendance at, and participation in, steering groups and/or policy meetings which are relevant to its primary industry sector;
- Entitlement to vote on matters concerning its principal industry sector, for example, appointment of Directors to the Board of the RGFI to represent the interests of that industry sector; and
- Access to relevant forum groups and/or training.

Potential and actual members of the RGFI must always be cognisant of, and take account, of the regulatory and legal framework in which it operates when nominating a primary sector (and when participating as an RGFI member). For



example, a Gas Networks and/or Transport Operator cannot have any business interest as a Gas Energy Shipper/Supplier and vice-versa.

Corporate members are entitled to nominate secondary interest in other sectors only with the approval of the Board of RGFI.

Membership Classifications

There are currently five classifications for members of the RGFI: Sustaining Members; Corporate Members; Associate Members; Academic Members; Corresponding Members.

All applications are subject to approval by the RGFI.

Sustaining Members

- Sustaining Members facilitate financial and governance supports in the interest of providing long-term stability and sustainability of the RGFI;
- Annual October to September subscription – €20,000*;
- May appoint a director to the Board of the RGFI;
- May receive notice of, attend and vote at any general meeting of the RGFI.

Corporate Members

Corporate Members are large companies and/or incorporated within the EU member states;

- Annual Subscription is subject to annual turnover as follows:
 - Large, > €50m; rate €8,000* pa
 - Enterprise, >€5m <€50m; rate €2,500* pa
 - SME, >€1m <€5m; rate €1,500* pa
 - Developing SME, <€1m; rate €800 pa
- Entitlement to vote on the appointment of a director to the RGFI board for their primary Industry Sector;
- May receive notice of, attend and vote at any general meeting of the RGFI.

Associate Members

- [Ordinary members are regional and local body stakeholders for example, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), academic institutes, research institutes, corresponding and trade associations.]
- Annual Subscription fee of €500 per annum*

Academic Members

- [Includes sole traders, interested individuals, and researchers.]
- Annual Subscription fee of €300 per annum*

Corresponding Members

- [Researchers, third-level students who should be enrolled on a full-time or part-time course registered within the EU member states.]
- Annual subscription fee of €50*;

Note: Associate Members, Academic Members and Corresponding Members have no right to receive notice of, attend and vote at any general meeting of the RGFI.

Application Process

Membership of the RGFI is open to any person, company or entity interested in supporting the aims and objectives of the RGFI.

Membership application forms are available from www.renewablegasforum.com