



***Energy Matters is a monthly email bulletin from Cavan Community Forum which will provide information about sustainable energy initiatives and ideas. It will promote local Cavan initiatives, whether they are from local communities, the private or public sectors. If you have any information relating to the environment that you think could be interesting or useful, please let me know at [kateennals@cavancoco.ie](mailto:kateennals@cavancoco.ie) .***

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#### **Cavan Land Audit for Possible Community Gardens or Allotments**

Cavan Community Forum and the Gardeners Group of Cavan Energy Team, with the support of funding from Cavan Peace III Partnership, are conducting a land audit across the county to identify potential sites for community gardening projects. If you know of a local piece of land which is not in use and which the landowner may be interested in allowing to be developed as an allotment or community garden, please contact Kate Ennals on 0863737847/0494378583 or [kateennals@cavancoco.ie](mailto:kateennals@cavancoco.ie) before 31 May 2010.

The audit, which will provide a map of possible community gardening sites across the county, will be launched by the Cavan Gardeners Group later in the year.

If any community is interested in setting up a community garden or allotment, please contact Kate as members of the Cavan Gardeners Group are happy to come out and advise!

#### **Cavan launch of Grow it Yourself – Tuesday 13 April Lavey Inn, Stradone 8pm**

Due to the snow two weeks ago, the launch of the Cavan branch of GIY on Tuesday 30 March was postponed until **Tuesday 13 April at 8pm at Lavey Inn**. The organisation takes the "self" out of "self-sufficiency" by getting amateur growers together so that they can learn skills from each other and connect with like-minded individuals. Nationally, **GIY are looking for passionate, committed volunteers** who have skills in coordinating community projects – apparently, you do not need green fingers to do this work!

Check out <http://www.giyireland.com/home.php>

### **Sustainable Energy on Display in Cavan**

The Open Day held at M&C Hybrid Energy Ltd premises at Mullamagavan, Stradone on Saturday 10 April was excellent. M&C Hybrid Energy Limited have installed a wind turbine, solar panels, and a woodchip burner and there was plenty of information and shared experiences. It was very exciting to see everything in action and have all the technologies explained. Congratulations and thanks to Carmel and Michael.

Check out [www.mchybridenergy.com](http://www.mchybridenergy.com)

### **Coillte to Invest in Renewable Energy**

[Coillte](#), is planning to become a “significant developer” of renewable energy projects, with investment in wind farms and biomass projects. The commercial semi-state firm is hiring corporate financiers to advise on funding the development of its energy projects, which already span ten counties.

“We are looking to hire advisors who will help us develop a financing strategy for wind farm opportunities which may require funding at a future date. We will take a project-by project view, and are looking to maximise the return,” said Tom Byrne, Coillte spokesman. He said that Coillte had a “development portfolio” of 1,300 megawatts of wind energy, and had grid connection offers for 410 megawatts from the Commission for Energy Regulation. It has now sought tenders from corporate financiers to “identify potential sources of finance for wind, and the related market requirements and potential investor interest”.

The ten Coillte projects that have grid connection offers are in Leitrim, Cork, Galway, Tipperary, Wicklow, Offaly, Roscommon, Donegal, Kerry and Mayo.

Source: [The Sunday Business Post](#)

### **Specification for Cavan Energy Audit Tenders to be Published**

Cavan Community Forum and Cavan Energy Team have finalised the specification for the Energy Audit it hopes to have carried out over the summer. The energy audit will look at

- **Current and potential business opportunities**
- **Resources available**
- **Markets**
- **Barriers to development**
- **Funding opportunities**
- **Policy guidelines**
- **Action plan for the County**

The implementation of this Audit is subject to a funding application submitted by Cavan Community Forum to Cavan Monaghan Leader.

### **UK adopt new Clean Energy Natural Feed In Tariffs**

UK - Feed-in Tariffs for renewable electricity generation are creating substantial interest from farmers and growers across a wide range of different technologies. The Clean Energy Cashback scheme, which came into effect on 1 April 2010, was introduced in response to lobbying by a coalition of stakeholders including the National Farmers' Union.

The new approach is that every farmer and grower should have the opportunity to provide low-carbon energy services alongside traditional roles in food production. There's a natural fit between farming and renewable energy, whether you are looking at a wind turbine, solar electricity or a biogas plant. For some technologies, at the right scale and in the right place, these tariffs offer an excellent rate of return on investment.

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/news/5901/clean-energy-cashback-scheme-a-natural-fit>

Check out the following website for the new tariffs.

<http://www.bettergeneration.com/green-energy-factsheets/feed-in-tariffs.html>

### **New 'Feed In Tariffs' in Northern Ireland**

In NI there is also a new Feed In Tariff system. For energy unit generated by a micro wind turbine (<11kW) the owner will receive 26.7p/kWh => a 5kW wind turbine on an average site will generate 10,000kWh =£2,670, On top of that any energy exported to the grid will be paid at a rate of 3p/kWh. So if the dwelling house consumes say 7000kWh and exports 3000kWh it will receive £90 annually. On top of this there is a grant available from NIE against the capital cost of the turbine, for instance on a 5kW machine, the grant will be £4,500.

**Check out websites below:**

<http://www.nie-yourenergy.co.uk/renewablegrants.php#pvandwind>

<http://www.bettergeneration.com/green-energy-factsheets/feed-in-tariffs.html>

### **UK Moving towards Anaerobic Digestion**

The farming community and the renewable energy sector in the UK are making the move to catch up with other European countries in the development of a biogas industry. Backed by the National Farmers Union, there is a push to develop up to 1,000 anaerobic digesters creating biogas on-farm by 2020. The plan, which has also received the backing of the British government and the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, also includes the development of 100 larger commercial AD plants.

<http://www.thebioenergysite.com/articles/593/uk-moving-towards-anaerobic-digestion>

### **National Information Day - Intelligent Energy – Europe II (IEE) 2010 Call for Proposals**

The EU Intelligent Energy – Europe II (IEE) Programme has a budget of €55M and supports up to 75% of the eligible costs of non-R&D projects. To guide prospective applicants for the IEE II Calls for Proposals, the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) will hold an Information Seminar on 26th April. The seminar will take place at 10.00am, in the Crowne Plaza Dublin, Northwood Park, Santry, Dublin 9, with coffee served from 09:30am. The 2010 Intelligent Energy Europe call for Proposals seeks projects in the following areas:

- SAVE - Energy efficiency and rational use of resources: Energy-efficient buildings & consumer behaviour.

- ALTENER - New and renewable energy resources: Including RES electricity, RES in buildings, and Bioenergy.
- STEER - Energy-efficient transport: Including Capacity building and learning on aspects of transport.

Deadline for submission of proposals is 24th June 2010.

**To confirm your attendance at this event please email**

[clara.stack@seai.ie](mailto:clara.stack@seai.ie) before the 23<sup>rd</sup> April. For more information on the above calls for proposals please visit <http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/>

**Energy Show 2010, 14th April-15th April - RDS, Dublin**

Sustainable Energy Ireland presents the [Energy Show](#), the leading national business energy exhibition showcasing sustainable energy suppliers and their latest innovative products and services. In addition to the exhibition, the detailed seminar programme presents a range of topics detailing the latest energy saving and business opportunities available. The Energy Show 2010 seminars provide key learning points, analysis and examples of best practice supported by case studies.

For queries contact [energyshow@sei.ie](mailto:energyshow@sei.ie).

**Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in 2009 by Irelands Emissions Trading Companies**

Data submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to the EU Commission show that emissions of greenhouse gases in 2009, for companies in Ireland covered by the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS), are over 15% lower than in the previous year. This reduction probably also reflects the severity of the economic downturn, which began to have significant impact during 2008. However, it continues a well established downward trend in our recorded emissions since the ETS commenced in 2005. In the EU as a whole, results for 2009 - from almost 10,000 installations in the ETS - show an overall reduction of over 11% on 2008.

Source: [EPA](#)

**Getting there! Driving It Home!**

The link below shows how the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham promoted a shared driving service to the energy show on the 20-22 April.  
<http://viamerge.com/travel.html?lang=en-gb&eventid=m274875357>