

Nuclear for Ireland - need becoming clearer

Who sees nuclear is needed in Ireland?

[Call for nuclear debate in Ireland](#) and greater consideration of AI impact on workplace and energy needs - **AI Advisory Council**

[Call to consider nuclear energy](#) - **Fianna Fáil TD** on RTE Radio, acting on concerns from his constituents

[Ireland must consider SMRs](#) to achieve zero-carbon energy by 2050 - **Irish Academy of Engineering**

Poll shows **62% of Irish are positive towards nuclear energy**, with only **25% being negative** (a decrease of 14% from previous poll) - Poll results below

Why look at nuclear in Ireland?

This month, we're **advised to limit growth** to what Renewables can provide;

- **Renewables aren't growing** at the rate required;
- our green **energy policy is 'in a fog'**;
- we're **still installing fossil fuels**;
- **Grid Stability concerns may further delay Renewables** build-out;
- and **SMRs could become commercially available** by 2030.

Here are the links to these stories:

Ireland should [limit demand to suit the growth in renewables](#) - **Climate Change Advisory Council** report, Section 5.3.2 (p15)

Ireland's action for transition to [green power sector "headed into fog"](#) - devastating report from **National Economic and Social Council**

[Ireland's electricity supply faces ongoing pressure](#) due to increases in demand

[Wind supplied only 27.9% of our electricity last month](#), down from **33.6% in April 2024**. April averaged 30% between 2018 and 2024

CRU proposes to [allow fossil fuels to power data centres](#)

300MW [SMR construction approved in Canada](#) - GE-Hitachi BWRX-300 SMR

3 final tenders submitted in [Great British Nuclear SMR](#) competition, any of which could suit Ireland - GE-Hitachi, Rolls Royce and Holtec. Winners due to be announced around 11 June 2025

Although the cause of the **Iberian blackout** on Monday is not finally identified, "France's heavy reliance on [nuclear power provides another safeguard](#)" in the event of a major issue. EirGrid understands this issue well, thankfully

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Special Eurobarometer 557 Science and Technology

QA6a.8 The following is a list of areas where new technologies are currently being developed. For each of these, do you think it will have a positive, a negative or no effect on our way of life in the next 20 years?

Nuclear energy for energy production (%)

		Very positive effect		Fairly positive effect		Fairly negative effect		Very negative effect		No effect		Don't know		Total 'Positive'		Total 'Negative'	
		Sept/Oct 2024	Diff: Sept/Oct 2024 - Apr/May 2021	Sept/Oct 2024	Diff: Sept/Oct 2024 - Apr/May 2021	Sept/Oct 2024	Diff: Sept/Oct 2024 - Apr/May 2021	Sept/Oct 2024	Diff: Sept/Oct 2024 - Apr/May 2021	Sept/Oct 2024	Diff: Sept/Oct 2024 - Apr/May 2021	Sept/Oct 2024	Diff: Sept/Oct 2024 - Apr/May 2021	Sept/Oct 2024	Diff: Sept/Oct 2024 - Apr/May 2021	Sept/Oct 2024	Diff: Sept/Oct 2024 - Apr/May 2021
EU27		15	0	41	10	22	-6	13	-5	3	0	6	1	56	10	35	-11
BE		18	2	47	13	23	-9	8	-6	2	-2	2	2	65	15	31	-15
BG		21	-3	43	-2	16	2	7	3	2	1	11	-1	64	-5	23	5
CZ		29	-2	48	0	14	-2	3	0	4	2	2	2	77	-2	17	-2
DK		26	11	40	11	13	-13	10	-11	4	-1	7	3	66	22	23	-24
DE		8	2	36	17	28	-14	17	-10	4	1	7	4	44	19	45	-24
EE		18	-3	41	-2	17	-8	8	0	6	3	10	10	59	-5	25	-8
IE		24	3	38	0	16	-7	9	-7	4	2	9	9	62	3	25	-14
EL		8	-2	35	10	29	2	18	-9	2	-1	8	0	43	8	47	-7
ES		19	0	34	7	19	0	19	-2	2	-1	7	-4	53	7	38	-2
FR		17	8	49	13	19	-11	6	-9	5	1	4	-2	66	21	25	-20
HR		10	-5	43	6	25	1	14	-1	3	-2	5	1	53	1	39	0
IT		13	-9	39	7	25	1	16	0	2	0	5	1	52	-2	41	1
CY		18	-4	35	4	21	4	18	-3	2	0	6	-1	53	0	39	1
LV		12	-1	41	1	21	-6	8	-6	5	-1	13	13	53	0	29	-12
LT		13	-3	44	4	20	-8	10	-1	2	-3	11	11	57	1	30	-9
LU		15	4	37	7	27	-5	13	-10	5	1	3	3	52	11	40	-15
HU		19	-1	45	11	21	-3	11	-4	3	1	1	-4	64	10	32	-7
MT		14	-15	35	2	27	12	10	1	6	3	8	-3	49	-13	37	13
NL		22	3	42	5	21	-2	10	-4	2	-1	3	-1	64	8	31	-6
AT		4	-5	21	0	27	0	40	1	3	1	5	3	25	-5	67	1
PL		16	-2	53	11	16	-5	7	-3	3	1	5	-2	69	9	23	-8
PT		17	1	35	5	22	-10	11	-10	1	0	14	14	52	6	33	-20
RO		12	-6	36	2	22	-5	21	10	4	2	5	-3	48	-4	43	5
SI		21	6	43	5	19	-5	9	-7	4	-1	4	2	64	11	28	-12
SK		14	-6	50	3	20	3	6	-1	2	0	8	1	64	-3	26	2
FI		26	5	45	6	16	-10	5	-4	2	-2	6	5	71	11	21	-14
SE		24	-4	42	4	19	-1	7	-4	4	1	4	4	66	0	26	-5
UK		22	-1	41	0	20	-2	8	-3	3	0	6	6	63	-1	28	-5
TR		30	-12	48	20	15	0	6	-7	1	-1	0	0	78	8	21	-7
MK		11	-6	32	9	26	8	20	-2	6	-2	5	-7	43	3	46	6
ME		17	-6	45	1	20	0	10	-2	8	8	0	-1	62	-5	30	-2
RS		7	-4	31	4	27	1	28	-1	4	2	3	-2	38	0	55	0
AL		10	4	42	-3	18	0	12	0	4	-5	14	4	52	1	30	0
BA		15	-1	32	-6	22	-2	24	9	4	0	3	0	47	-7	46	7
XK		32	13	32	7	12	0	7	-2	5	0	12	-18	64	20	19	-2

Nuclear: Europe

[World Bank policy to soon allow nuclear energy?](#) World Bank President to seek "all-of-the-above" policy, including nuclear

[A Roadmap to successfully develop nuclear](#) energy - incisive, short presentation from **Fortum**

[France targets AI powered by nuclear](#) - wants leadership role

[Nuclear Alliance of EU Member States](#) - 15 EU nations declare that there is no net zero without nuclear, large and small

[European Nuclear Alliance to strengthen nuclear](#) formed by 14 business federations to provide decarbonized, economic power.

[20MW SMR licensing begins in Britain](#) - Last Energy targets 2028 operation

[300MW SMR plan advances in Britain](#) - GE Hitachi BWRX-300 SMR

[Increase EU focus on nuclear energy](#) and energy security - Sweden

[Italy may revert to nuclear](#) for energy security and self-sufficiency

[Spain to reverse its nuclear phase-out](#) - Congress approves proposal

[Germany considers nuclear power again](#) after recent election

[Christian Democrats advocate for German nuclear](#) revival

[Slovenia nuclear plant example](#) - the reactor Ireland could have had!

[Clean energy funding should be technology-neutral](#) - call in Denmark

Nuclear: USA, Canada & Global

[Triple nuclear energy by 2050](#) - call from Google, Meta, Amazon, 14 financial institutions and 31 countries

[Top 10 SMRs to watch in 2025](#) - Reuters update

[345 MW SMR gets federal, union backing](#) - TerraPower's Natrium

[300 MW SMR fleet plans expanded](#) - Holtec and Hyundai

[No observable cancer impact after Fukushima](#) - United Nations

["Large Modular Reactors"](#) to be allowed - Illinois

[Hydrogen hub secures major funding](#) - Philadelphia Mid-Atlantic Clean Hydrogen Hub MACH2

Good summary from Béla Hanratty in Keeling Capital of [latest status of various nuclear technologies](#)

Outreach

The short-sighted, unhelpful and unnecessary **ban on building nuclear reactors in Ireland** in The Planning and Development Act 2024 has serious negative implications for the effectiveness and cost of Ireland's clean energy plans, and should be reversed.

Sensible energy policy and a credible decarbonisation plan must feature in Ireland's next general election. Excluding nuclear from our energy policy puts us at a significant disadvantage internationally and seriously jeopardises our chances of achieving Net Zero by 2050. Meanwhile, support for nuclear energy is growing steadily here.

Please email [TDs and Senators](#) - start with this [sample letter](#) - if you **disagree with the bans on Irish nuclear energy and want a more inclusive and credible Irish energy policy.**

We can address your local club, village or extended group of friends. Please [get in touch](#) to arrange an event, either online or in person.

Have you ideas about how to engage more people in **our message of hope** for an affordable clean energy future? [Contact us here](#)

Helpful 18for0 Links

- [18for0 Objectives](#)
- [18for0 Publications](#)
- [Got questions? See our FAQ!](#)
- [Would you like to get involved? Reach out to us!](#)
- Got this newsletter via a forward? Subscribe [HERE](#)

18for0 - an Irish voluntary group of professionals - firmly believe that Ireland must assess every technology for its ability to assure our clean energy future. After all, if we haven't got all the information, how can we know that we're making the right decisions?

This newsletter is important to us, as it keeps you updated on relevant developments about nuclear energy suitable for Ireland, confirms your vital part in our community and lets you know what we've been up to.

We welcome any [ideas, help or feedback](#) that you might like to offer.