

Clean energy needs wind, solar and nuclear

Ireland's Energy Policy faces clear challenges. Our Offshore Wind strategy assumes that prices reduce substantially, but **UK just increased wind Strike Price** guarantees by 11% to [£81 / €93 \(offshore\) and £194 / €222 \(floating\) per MWh](#) (2012 figures)

Ireland has the poorest Solar PV potential of [230 countries assessed by World Bank \(Table 3.8\)](#).

The good news is that Irish people have [positive opinions towards nuclear energy](#).

Small and large nuclear progresses well in EU, Britain, USA and Canada to meet the increasing need for reliable clean energy

Britain [funds new reactors](#) **2 large reactors at Sizewell** and the **Rolls Royce SMR** (470MW)

Meta and [Microsoft](#) buy clean energy **directly from nuclear power** stations in USA

Ireland

"Nuclear is not even in the room" - [Minister O'Brien](#).

This policy is inconsistent with the 'transformational change' Government says it is leading to solve our clean energy crisis

18for0's **Denis Duff responds to Newstalk Breakfast's "[Is it ignorance?](#)". *Irrational fear driving conscious avoidance?***

EirGrid Chair suggests Ireland **makes informed decisions** and [seriously considers nuclear](#) to meet growing demand, cut

greenhouse gas emissions and remain competitive

Ian Guider explains why EirGrid chairman, Brendan Tuohy, said [nuclear power should be considered](#) - Business Post

John McManus reasons that Brendan Tuohy wouldn't float the idea of nuclear energy here unless the issue was important. Not [seriously considering alternatives such as nuclear](#) has left us heavily dependent on imported gas, the consequences of which became apparent following Russia's invasion of Ukraine - Irish Times

Matt Cooper follows with "[Hesitation over nuclear power could endanger investment](#)" - Business Post

Microsoft shifts investment away from Ireland due to [lack of power availability](#); Nordics are now the focus. "We are pretty closed in Dublin and have no new customers, so everything is being diverted to other European countries"

ESRI tells Oireachtas our electricity prices are EU's highest because "[Ireland has not diversified away from using gas](#) to generate electricity to the same extent as other EU countries"

IDA warns that [high energy costs hurting job creation](#)

Moneypoint switches [from coal to heavy oil](#) 40 years after it was built instead of nuclear in Wexford

Ireland joins CERN [nuclear research](#). *Why does only nuclear fission cause a mental block in Irish political leadership?*

International

Sizewell C Final Investment Decision announced. [UK takes initial equity of 47%](#) with the remainder from private funders. *Interesting that Centrica and EDF, two of the private sector funders, have significant Irish power generation assets*

Using nuclear energy is the safest option, according to a study of [risk perception versus reality](#)

EU opens door to nuclear [funding in next budget](#)

European Commissioner for Energy agrees: "Nuclear energy plays a [role in resilient and low-Carbon EU energy system](#)

USA Tennessee Valley Authority [receives a construction permit](#) for **GE Hitachi 300MW SMR** - the perfect size for Ireland's grid

Estonia agrees "[nuclear energy is a priority](#)"; abandons 100% domestic renewable energy target

Belgium scraps nuclear phaseout [plans](#)

Nuclear and hydro are fastest ways to [decarbonise over a 10-year period](#)

Irish people are surprisingly(?) pro-nuclear

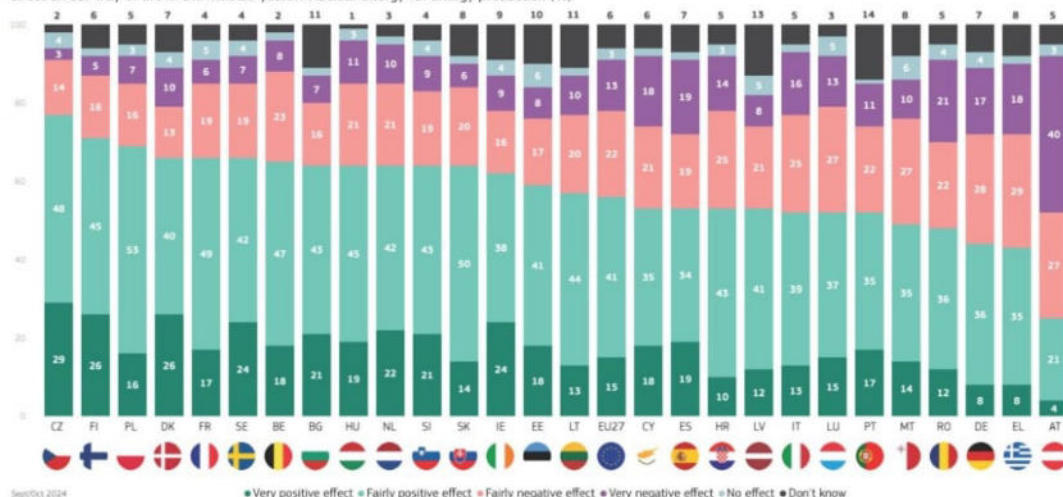
1,004 Irish respondents were **62% positive towards nuclear** energy (2024 Eurobarometer poll). Irish people had one of Europe's most positive responses to: "Do you think Nuclear energy for energy production will have a positive, a negative or no effect on our way of life in the next 20 years?"

25% were negative, a decrease of 14% from previous poll.

It's time for Ireland's leaders to consider nuclear energy.

As the image below is hard to read, it is also available [here](#).

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 (%)



Source: Oct 2024

Very positive effect Fairly positive effect Fairly negative effect Very negative effect No effect Don't know

Europe is clearly pro-nuclear

An 18for0 [summary of nuclear policies](#) and recent changes has been very well received. The extract below showing support for nuclear energy in Europe's 30 largest countries is impressive.

21 nations now operate or plan nuclear power plants, with **5 others considering** them. Ireland and the 3 other anti-nuclear countries only use nuclear energy that is imported - an odd attitude concerning Europe's largest source of clean energy.

It's time for Ireland's leaders to consider nuclear energy.

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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.

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