Promoting Community Ownership
Renewable Energy Opportunities

Energy Co-operatives Ireland
Opportunity in Sustainability, and the Transition to the Low Carbon Society
energyco-ops.ie
The Network:

Aran Islands (Fuinneamh)
Claremorris and Western District Energy
Kerry Sustainable Energy Co-op
Galway Energy Co-operative

2-3 additional Oct 2019
ECI is an independent self-funded organisation

EU Funded Research Partnerships

• SEAFUEL (NUIG)
• GENCOMM (Belfast U)
• IDEAS (TCD)
Irish Co-operative Organisation Society (ICOS)

€14bn turnover

Agri food, Credit Unions, Water Schemes, Development Co-ops, Services Co-ops.
Co-operatives

• Regulated, Audited
• Democratic – one person one vote
• Consensus driven
• More than one hundred years in Irish communities
• Avoids dominance by one group
Co-ops advantages

• ICOS and ECI Network Support
• Clear Public Rules of Association
• Membership open to community
• Autonomous
• CRO oversight
• Open and accountable distribution of dividends
• Well established governance structures
Co-operatives

• SEAI SEC Benefits
• Guidance
• Energy Master Plan
• Financial Support
• Confidence and Skills Building
• Stand on their own feet
Thank You!
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