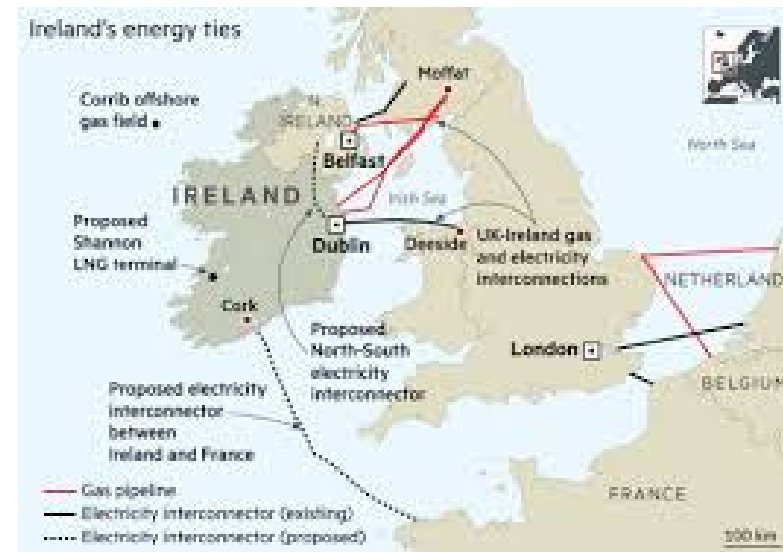


The launch of the All Ireland Sustainable Energy Forum – what we are about / Brexit – what does a ‘no deal’ mean for Irish energy policy?



Sean Morris
 UK & Ireland NFLA Secretary
 NFLA All Ireland Sustainable Energy Forum seminar,
 October 2019



Agenda

- **NFLA - 39 years of advocating a nuclear free, renewable rich vision**
- **NFLA structure**
- **The work of the All Ireland Forum 1998 - present**
- **The benefits of an All Ireland Forum on energy**
- **Your views matter!**
- **NFLA report on a no deal Brexit and Irish energy issues**
- **Brexit and renewables**
- **Conclusions**



NFLA - a long, rich history of campaigning

- **NFLA came out of concerns over Cold War & nuclear accidents**
- **Established November 5th, 1980 by Manchester & other Councils**
- **Chernobyl disaster changed many minds on nuclear safety**
- **Fukushima has done the same**
- **Consistently advocated renewable energy for over 30 years**
- **Climate emergency now concentrates the mind**
- **A best practice repository across UK & Irish energy policy**
- **Lobbying governments, Councils, industry and international bodies**
- **Links with CNFE, Alliance of Regions, KIMO and Mayors for Peace**





How NFLA works



- **UK & Ireland Secretariat & SC - Manchester**
- **4 National Forums – All Ireland, England, Scotland & Wales**
- **Secretariat engages on behalf of members and responds to / drives the nuclear & energy policy agenda**
- **Forums focus on specific issues – e.g. England new nuclear & waste, Scotland renewables & decommissioning, Wales the same, All Ireland renewables & threats from nuclear**
- **Secretariat produce original research & themed seminars**
- **Councillors drive our agenda**
- **Climate change will dictate much of our future**



The work of the All Ireland Forum since '98



- **UK & Ireland Conferences on Nuclear Hazards 1998 - 2006**
- **NFLA All Ireland Forum established in 2006**
- **Led by Newry, Mourne & Down and Louth County Council**
- **Identified risks to Ireland of UK nuclear developments**
- **Advocate the benefits of renewable / decentralised energy**
- **Met Ministers / officials on a regular basis**
- **Engaged (with KIMO) at OSPAR intergovernmental meetings**
- **Represented at EPA Radiation Issues Committee**
- **Look at All Ireland energy issues – like the single electricity market**



The benefits of an All Ireland Forum on sustainable energy



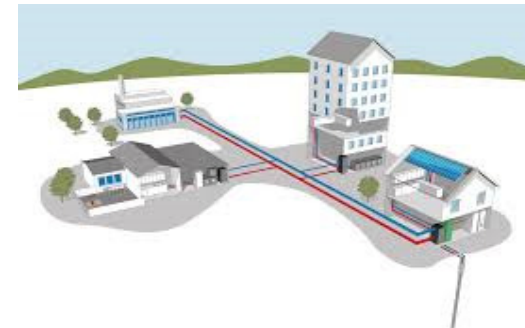
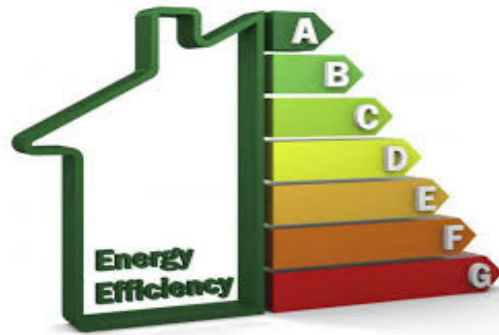
- We will still raise concerns with Sellafield and other nuclear hazards that would impact on Ireland
- We will continue to advocate renewable & decentralised energy solutions and best practice
- We advocate the common sense of an all-island energy system for the 4 million inhabitants
- We can call for greater LA powers and resource on energy
- We have to move much faster to decentralised energy solutions
- Councils are essential at promoting behavioural change with the climate emergency in energy, heat and transport
- Ireland has to go faster for zero carbon solutions – it needs advocates such as this Forum



Your views matter!



**A WIDE RENEWABLE ENERGY
MIX – YES!**



- **NFLA is a member-driven organisation – we actively respond to your views and you determine how we move forward**

NFLA report on 'no deal' Brexit

- **Brexit has profound issues for the British and Irish Isles**
- **We are concerned over potential dilution of environmental laws**
- **Could lead to big increase in NI fuel bills**
- **In UK £42bn per year required on climate emergency – Brexit will create a huge hole in such spending**
- **Reduce cooperation on tackling climate crisis**
- **Cross-border flows of electricity may no longer flow**
- **Operation Yellowhammer – interconnectors will still work but will lead to significant price increases (£2bn increase in fuel bills since 2016 vote)**
- **In a 'no deal' there would be rapid break-up of single electricity market**



Brexit and renewables

- **Brexit could impact on European grid connections**
- **Integrated supply chains in the EU are vital to utilities / investors**
- **A robust carbon price is essential to support investment**
- **Comprehensive carbon reduction plans**
- **Will the low carbon skilled labour move elsewhere?**
- **Diverging environmental standards could affect consistent products and a joint knowledge base, and trade between UK and Ireland**
- **A 'no deal' could also impact on UK nuclear safety regime despite contingency measures being in place if there is a deal**
- **This week we may know more what may happen**
- **Political change and economic stress is almost inevitable**





Conclusions

- **Our Forum comes out of almost 40 years high quality service to Councils**
- **Ireland has to move faster on low carbon developments**
- **Councils are essential to that and we offer a unique all-Ireland way to do that**
- **We can learn from each other and lobby Government for more powers / money**
- **We only cost around £800 / €820 - £1000 / €1030 a year for membership**
- **Work with us for a renewable, safe and peaceful future**
- **Work with us to understand the impact of Brexit on energy**
- **Work with us as it makes common sense to do so**

Conclusions?