



**Media Information**

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## **Sustainable Energy Ireland (SEI) Announces Response to Energy Green Paper**

Sustainable Energy Ireland (SEI) has today published its response to the DCMNR's Green Paper, "Towards a Sustainable Energy Future for Ireland". SEI's Green paper response focuses on energy efficiency and renewable energy production and provides some analysis of the implications of the energy efficiency and renewable energy targets posited in the Green Paper.

SEI is also adjusting its own programmes into three core areas to ensure that it is effectively positioned to address the issues and targets detailed in the Green Paper. These core areas are:

- Energy efficiency
- Renewable energy deployment
- Integration and innovation

The targets posed in the Green paper will require substantial effort, increased resources and co-operation across agencies and Departments of Government and SEI is fully committed to this approach. The Green Paper is a critical step in setting the necessary goals to create a sustainable, secure and competitive energy sector in Ireland.

David Taylor, CEO of SEI, welcomed the Green Paper and noted that, "Sustainable energy is no longer simply one facet of energy policy; achieving sustainability is set to become the primary goal of energy policy".

Over the period 2005-2010 economic growth, expressed as GNP, is predicted to be 4.9% per annum and to average 2.5% per annum for the following decade 2011 to 2020. This is likely to result in an average increase in energy demand growth of 1.7% per annum which projects energy demand for 2020 to be 30% greater than in 2005. This large increase in demand for energy services will require considerable focus on renewable energy and energy efficiency.

Sustainable Energy Ireland is a statutory authority charged with promoting and assisting the development of sustainable energy and is funded by the Irish Government under the National Development Plan 2000-2006 with programmes part financed by the European Union.

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