



Renewable Electricity Support Scheme for Communities

Supporting communities to
generate renewable electricity

The Renewable Electricity Support Scheme

The Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) aims to promote the generation of electricity from renewable sources by providing financial support to renewable electricity projects in Ireland. It is the main government support to help deliver Ireland's 80% renewable electricity target by 2030. It involves a series of regular auctions run by Eirgrid where developers of renewable electricity projects can bid in to the auction with a price for the electricity that is generated by their projects. Successful projects get a guaranteed contract for 15 years for the purchase of the electricity generated. There is a separate category within each auction that is for 100% community owned projects.

Why should your community generate its own energy?	
Revenue 	Generate revenues to spend on improving the environmental, economic and societal landscape of your community
Environment 	Reduce Ireland's collective dependence on imported fossil fuels and actively participate in the decarbonisation of Irish society
Be the change 	Build capacity within your own community and become part of a network of community developers leading the clean energy transition across Ireland.

Stages in your renewable energy generation project



SEAI can help you

The community enabling framework is a suite of complementary resources to support communities to develop their own projects.

Information Hub

SEAI has developed a number of useful information resources and guides that are the first reference point for any community group.

Trusted Advisors

Our specialist technical experts are there to guide you on every step of your development journey, from forming a community group, through to site identification, feasibility studies, designing a project, making grid and planning applications.

Financial Support

SEAI are here to help with grants for early, mid and late-stage development costs to help projects realise their ambitions. Grants are available to support, project design and planning, grid connection, submission costs and advice for project financing.

Is it for us?

Generating community renewable energy is a worthwhile undertaking but requires motivation and commitment. Projects of this scale can take a few years from inception to operation. Your community will need to get organised, source financing, navigate the planning and grid system. Reach out to local experienced individuals and garner as much collective knowledge as possible. You will also get support from SEAI's trusted advisors and may be eligible to apply for grants to support the projects development.

If your community is not at the stage where you can take on a project like this, then join the sustainable energy community network to start your journey.

- Your project must be 100% community owned
- Your community must form a renewable energy community, further details can be found in the RESS T&Cs
- The renewable project must be in the locality
- Your community group must be based on open and voluntary participation
- Your application must be made with a sustainable energy community
- The project size must be between 0.5 and 5MW



Find out more at seai.ie/RESS or contact communityress@seai.ie



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