

Meeting Minutes – 13th Energy Security Emergency Group

14:00 21 September 2022

Attendees:

- Mark Griffin (Secretary General – DECC – Chair)
- Barry Quinlan (Assistant Secretary – DECC), Matt Collins (Assistant Secretary – DECC), Paul Bolger (Assistant Secretary – DECC), Sheena Denny (PO – DECC), Kevin Brady (PO – DECC), John Twamley (AP – DECC)
- Ronnie Downes (Assistant Secretary – D/ETE)
- James Burchill (Gas Networks Ireland)
- William Walsh (CEO – SEAI)
- Alan Barrett (Director – ESRI)
- Aoife MacEivilly (Chair – CRU),
- Rodney Doyle (COO – EIRGRID)
- Frank Bergin (CEO – NORA)

Apologies:

- Denis O’Sullivan (COO – Gas Networks Ireland)

1. Minutes of ESEG meeting of 31 August & actions arising

Meeting minutes were agreed by the Group. The action for DECC to submit a memo to Government was complete. The action in relation to the reduce your use campaign is ongoing. The remaining actions were addressed as part of the agenda.

2. [REDACTED], EU market interventions and other sectoral developments

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Matt Collins provided an update on European developments including an emergency intervention to address high energy prices which was discussed at a meeting of the Council of Energy Ministers on

14 September and includes measures to address windfall gains and for electricity demand reductions. This is expected to be finalised a meeting of the Council of Energy Ministers on 30 September.

3. Implementation of public sector energy savings measures

William Walsh presented on the implementation of the public sector energy savings measures which were approved by Government since the last ESEG meeting. There are now over 150 Public Bodies signed up to the campaign with a range of seminars taking place. The method by which progress could be tracked was discussed with this being a work in progress by the SEAI which will be brought to the ESEG for information once developed. It was highlighted that the contribution of this initiative should be included in the reductions in gas and electricity set out at EU level. In order to ensure all Public Bodies are fully aware of their responsibilities under the Government decision, a letter will be sent from the Secretary General to the Secretaries General of all Government Departments requesting them to inform the Public Bodies under their aegis of their responsibilities.

4. Oil outlook for winter 2022/23 & emergency planning

Frank Bergin and Barry Quinlan presented on the oil outlook for the coming winter and emergency planning. Short-term supply remains robust. However, there is uncertainty including the ending of the importation of Russian crude oil in December and oil products in February. While there is no Russian oil coming to Ireland, the impact across Europe could have implications as supply chains adjust. There is also limited refinery capacity for diesel and jet fuel putting pressure on supplies and prices. It is notable that refinery margins have increased Europe. These margins will be the subject of the solidarity provisions of the EU proposed regulation to address high energy prices. [REDACTED] A potential issue in relation to importing diesel from the United States which has been blended with biofuels (not from the United States) prior to delivery to Ireland has arisen. NORA are working with D/ETE to resolve.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

7. AOB

Next meeting 5 October

8. Actions

Details	Timeline	Owner
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Memorandum to Government updating on gas and electricity emergency planning	5.10	Matt Collins
Short list of options to achieve a 15% reduction in gas demand to be brought to the group for consideration	5.10	Matt Collins
Letter to be sent to the Secretaries General of all Government Departments requesting them to inform the Public Bodies under their aegis of their responsibilities in reducing energy use	5.10	Barry Quinlan
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

