

Lobbyist

Date Published

Gas Networks Ireland

21 Sep, 2022

Public Policy Area

Relevant Matter

Period

Energy and Natural Resources Public policy or programme 1 May, 2022 to 31 Aug, 2022

Specific Details

Results you intend to secure

Gas Networks Ireland Hydrogen Research

Sharing information regarding GNI's hydrogen research.

Name of person primarily responsible for lobbying on this activity

Andrea Ahern - Hydrogen Manager, Gas Networks Ireland

Is or was there any Designated Public Officials or former Designated Public Officials who carried out lobbying activities related to this return on your behalf?

No

Are you managing or directing a grass roots campaign?

What is the directive you gave to the grassroots campaigners?

No

Was this lobbying done on behalf of a client?

No

Lobbying activity

Meeting (1)

Andrea Ahern attended a meeting with John Finnegan DECC, John King DECC, Philip Connolly DECC and Eamon O'Halloran DECC to share and discuss information regarding GNI's Hydrogen research at the Networks Innovation Centre, City West, Co. Dublin

Designated public officials lobbied

John Finnegan

Professional Officer II

Department of Environment, Climate and Communications

Lobbyist

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Results you intend to secure

Biomethane Policy & Support Mechanisms Progress on a biomethane policy to provide a roadmap for producers and/or biomethane support mechanisms.

Name of person primarily responsible for lobbying on this activity

Jennifer Harte - Head of Public Affairs, Pdraig Fleming - Biomethane programme manager, Declan O Sullivan – Programme Delivery Manager, Gas Networks Ireland.

Is or was there any Designated Public Officials or former Designated Public Officials who carried out lobbying activities related to this return on your behalf?

No

Are you managing or directing a grass roots campaign?

What is the directive you gave to the grassroots campaigners?

No

Was this lobbying done on behalf of a client?

No

Lobbying activity

Email (2-5)

Biomethane Briefing note – Sent an email with an explanation of the capability of biomethane. This email was sent to Matt Collins (DECC), Paul Kenny (DECC), Eamon O’Cuiv (Finna Fail) and Brian Leddin (Green Party).

An additional email was sent to Paul Kenny (DECC) to give clarification about the difference between SEAL and the Devinish/KPMG Study. Pdraig was required to make a follow up call to Eamon O’Cuiv to talk him through the document.

Virtual Meeting (1)

Meeting to discuss biomethane and opportunity to present to FG policy group. Pdraig Fleming attended a Zoom meeting with Alan Farrell of Fine Gale to discuss the potential of presenting merits of biomethane to FG parliamentary policy group.

Virtual Meeting (1)

A request by Gas Networks Ireland for a meeting with Deputy James O’Connor, Fianna Fail TD for Cork East, to provide an update on the recently announced Central Grid Injection facility in Mitchelstown, Co.Cork and to provide a more general update on the opportunity of producing biomethane in Ireland. The meeting was held on 21st of June via Zoom and was attended by Jennifer Harte, Edwina Nyhan, Yvette Jones from GNI and Deputy James O’Connor TD and his parliamentary assistant Patrick Mulcahy.

Meeting (1)

A request by Gas Networks Ireland for a meeting with Deputy Christopher O’Sullivan, Fianna Fail TD for Cork West to provide an update on GNI’s progress with biomethane, following a dedicated Oireachtas committee on climate action which focused on Anaerobic Digestion from producer and environment perspective. The meeting took place on 12th of July and was attended by Jennifer Harte and Pdraig Fleming from GNI and Deputy Christopher O’Sullivan at Leinster House, Dublin 2.

Virtual Meeting (1)

5.A request by Gas Networks Ireland for a meeting with Dr Michelle Kearney from Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine to discuss opportunities to achieve sectoral emissions targets through the development of a biomethane industry. The meeting took place on 25th of August via Zoom and was attended by Jennifer Harte and Pdraig Fleming from GNI and Dr Michelle Kearney and Edwina Love from DAFM.

Meeting (1)

A request by Gas Networks Ireland for a meeting with Deputy Alan Farrell, Fine Gael TD for Dublin North, to discuss the opportunities for biomethane to decarbonise the gas network. The meeting took place on 30th of August and was attended by Jennifer Harte from GNI and Deputy Alan Farrell and his parliamentary assistant Jacob Whelan at Leinster House, Dublin 2.

Designated public officials lobbied

Paul Kenny

Special Adviser

Department of Environment, Climate and Communications

Matthew Collins

Assistant Secretary

Department of Environment, Climate and Communications

Éamon Ó Cuív

TD

Dáil Éireann, the Oireachtas

Brian Leddin

TD

Dáil Éireann, the Oireachtas

Alan Farrell

TD

Dáil Éireann, the Oireachtas

James O'Connor

TD

Dáil Éireann, the Oireachtas

Christopher O'Sullivan

TD

Dáil Éireann, the Oireachtas

Ms. Edwina Love – Head of Division, Climate Change & Bioenergy Policy Division

Special Adviser

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Dr. Michelle Kearney - Bioenergy Policy Lead, Climate Change & Bioenergy Policy Division

Special Adviser

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

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Discussion on GNI's Security of Supply proposal

The meeting held on 27th May was to update DECC on emerging risks relating to the capacity of the UK entry point and parallels between this and Security of Supply concerns

The meeting held on 6th July was a Security of Supply discussion with DECC about proposed solutions around Security of Gas Supply

The held on 22nd July meeting was to discuss Gas Networks Ireland's Energy Security Proposal.

Name of person primarily responsible for lobbying on this activity

Denis O'Sullivan (Chief Operating Officer, Gas Networks Ireland)

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What is the directive you gave to the grassroots campaigners?

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Virtual Meeting (1)

A request by Gas Networks Ireland for a meeting with Matt Collins, Assistant Secretary, Energy at the Department Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) to present on Network Capacity and Gas Security of Supply. The meeting on 27th May held over Zoom was to update DECC on emerging risks relating to the capacity of the UK entry point and parallels between this and Security of Supply concerns. The attendees were – Matt Collins (DECC), Denis O'Sullivan (GNI), Bobby Gleeson (GNI) and Paul Lennon (GNI)

Meeting (1)

A request by Gas Networks Ireland for a meeting with Mark Griffin, Secretary General, Energy at the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) and Matt Collins, Assistant Secretary (DECC). The meeting on 6th July was a Security of Supply discussion about proposed solutions around Security of Gas Supply. The attendees were – Mark Griffin (DECC), Matt Collins (DECC), Tony Collins (DECC), Denis O'Sullivan (GNI), Bobby Gleeson (GNI)

Virtual Meeting (1)

A request by Denis O'Sullivan, Gas Networks Ireland for a meeting with Paul Kenny, Special Advisor to Minister Eamon Ryan TD to discuss Gas Networks Ireland's Energy Security Proposal on 22nd July which was held over Zoom.

Designated public officials lobbied

Matthew Collins

Assistant Secretary

Department of Environment, Climate and Communications

Mark Griffin

Secretary General

Department of Environment, Climate and Communications

Paul Kenny

Special Adviser

Department of Environment, Climate and Communications