

ANNEX 1

The original scheme set out to underpin delivery of Ireland's 2010 renewable electricity directive target of 13.2%, which has been fully achieved. The scheme has been successful and the proportion of Ireland's renewable electricity has increased as follows;

Year	% of renewable electricity
2005	6.8
2006	8.6
2007	9.5
2008	11.9
2009(prov)	14.4

The planned expansion is to facilitate delivery of the renewable electricity component of Ireland's 2020 renewable energy target. It aims at protecting the environment and saving fossil fuel energy resources by increasing the contribution of RES -E. The scheme thereby seeks to contribute to Ireland's obligation under the Renewable Energy Directive 2009/28/EC through delivery of approx. 40% of electricity from renewable sources in Ireland by 2020.

The environmental objective of common interest pursued by the notified measure is to ensure that this measure will result in a higher deployment level of renewable generating capacity and thus a higher level of environmental protection than would occur without it being in place.

The European Commission climate and energy package, aiming to ensure a higher level of environmental protection in the EU, was agreed in December 2008. Increased use of renewable energy sources is a key part of the climate/energy package. Under Directive 2009/28/EC, an individual renewable energy target is addressed to each Member State. This notified measure is aimed at ensuring Ireland is able to deliver the renewable electricity capacity developments necessary for our national target to be achieved. The type of aid to be granted is 'aid for renewable energy sources.'

The notified measure has already been applied in the past. This application relates to continuation and capacity expansion of an existing scheme. The Case Number is N571/2006. The Commission decision was taken on 25/9/07 with the following number assigned: C(2007) 4317 final.

The results of the scheme have been very positive. As a consequence of the Refit scheme and earlier support schemes, Ireland is on track to meet its 2010 target under Directive 2001/77/EC which was the main objective of the original scheme. The 2001 RES -E Directive addressed a target to Ireland of a 13.2% contribution by RES -E to total gross national electricity consumption in 2010. The contribution by RES -E to electricity consumed is increasing year on year as demonstrated in the following table.

Year	% of renewable electricity
2005	6.8
2006	8.6
2007	9.5
2008	11.9
2009(prov)	14.4