

*Lobbyist*

*Date Published*

**Gas Networks Ireland**

**19 May, 2022**

*Public Policy Area*

*Relevant Matter*

*Period*

**1 Jan, 2022 to 30 Apr, 2022**

*Specific Details*

*Results you intend to secure*

*Name of person primarily responsible for lobbying on this activity*

*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**

*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?*

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**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

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

**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*

**Éamon Ó Cuív**

*TD*

*Dáil Éireann, the Oireachtas*

**Alan Farrell**

*TD*

*Dáil Éireann, the Oireachtas*

**Christopher O'Sullivan**

*TD*

*Dáil Éireann, the Oireachtas*

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

*Special Adviser*

*Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine*

**Matthew Collins**

*Assistant Secretary*

*Department of Environment, Climate and Communications*

**Brian Leddin**

*TD*

*Dáil Éireann, the Oireachtas*

**James O'Connor**

*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*

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

**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)**

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

**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

*Lobbyist*

*Date Published*

**Gas Networks Ireland**

**20 Jan, 2023**

*Public Policy Area*

*Relevant Matter*

*Period*

**Development and Zoning**

**Legislation**

**1 Sep, 2022 to 31 Dec, 2022**

*Specific Details*

*Results you intend to secure*

**Letter concerning Impediments to achieving Net Zero and other Government Priorities**

**Propose amendments to regulatory framework / consenting regime that impact on GNI in the delivery of its objectives, in particular in relation to the achievement of net zero and other government priorities.**

*Name of person primarily responsible for lobbying on this activity*

**Claire Madden**

*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 (1)**

**Letter concerning Impediments to achieving Net Zero and other Government Priorities sent to Fintan Towey via email on 14th October.**

*Designated public officials lobbied*

**Fintan Towey**

*Assistant Secretary*

*Department of Transport*

Lobbyist

Date Published

**Gas Networks Ireland**

**20 Jan, 2023**

Public Policy Area

Relevant Matter

Period

**Energy and Natural Resources Public policy or programme 1 Sep, 2022 to 31 Dec, 2022**

Specific Details

Results you intend to secure

1. Discussions on Gas Networks Ireland's ambition to introduce more biomethane into national gas network 2. Security of Supply. 3. Energy Transition (SEAI net-zero study, actions in support of the climate action plan, network preparedness for Hydrogen. 4) Obligations of GNI under the Climate Act.

Progress on a biomethane policy to provide a roadmap for producers and/or biomethane support mechanisms.

Support for Biomethane, Strategic Storage and Hydrogen policy.

An understanding of the need for investment in Gas Security of Supply and an understanding of how a Strategic Onshore Gas Storage facility would address these risks.

Support for GNI proposal in relation to a Strategic Onshore Gas Storage facility as optimum approach to address energy security of supply concerns.

Name of person primarily responsible for lobbying on this activity

**Jennifer Harte, Edwina Nyhan, David Kelly, Denis O'Sullivan, Padraig Fleming, Cathal Marley, Bobby Gleeson, Karen Doyle**

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?

**Yes**

Current or Former Designated Public Official(s)

**Joanne Lonergan**

**Special Advisor**

**Department of Education and Skills**

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)**

A request by Gas Networks Ireland for a meeting with Senator Lynn Boylan, Sinn Fein Senator from Dublin to provide an update on the opportunity for the agricultural sector to develop a biomethane industry in Ireland to support emission reduction for both agriculture and energy sectors. The meeting was held on 8th of September in Leinster House and was attended by Jennifer Harte and David Kelly.

**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 opportunity for the agricultural sector to develop a biomethane industry in Ireland to support emission reduction for both agriculture and energy sectors. The meeting was held on 14th of September, via zoom and was attended by Jennifer Harte.

**Meeting (1)**

A request by Gas Networks Ireland for a meeting with Minister Heather Humphries Fine Gael TD for Cavan-Monaghan, to provide an update on the opportunity for the agricultural sector to develop a biomethane industry in Ireland to support emission reduction for both agriculture and energy sectors. The meeting was held on 15th of September in the offices of Department of Community and Rural Affairs and was attended by Jennifer Harte and Edwina Nyhan from GNI and GNI and Minister Heather Humphries, Fintan O'Brien Assistant Secretary.

**Meeting (1)**

A request by Gas Networks Ireland for a meeting with Deputy Jennifer Whitmore, Social Democrats TD for Wicklow, to provide an update on

the opportunity for the agricultural sector to develop a biomethane industry in Ireland to support emission reduction for both agriculture and energy sectors. The meeting was held on 19th of September in Deputy Whitmore's constituency office in Greystone, Co Wicklow and was attended by Jennifer Harte and Edwina Nyhan.

- Meeting (1)** A request by Minister Eamon Ryan for a meeting with GNI on 4th of October, to provide an update on 1) Security of Supply - actions GNI could take to support Security of Supply 2) Connection of data centres to gas grid 3) Energy Transition (SEAI net-zero study, actions in support of the climate action plan, network preparedness for Hydrogen, update on Biomethane) 4) Obligations of GNI under the Climate Act. Attendees included Cathal Marley, Denis O'Sullivan, David Kelly and Edwina Nyhan from GNI. Attendees from DECC included Minister Eamon Ryan, Paul Kenny Special Advisor, Noel Regan Principal Officer, Kevin Brady Principal Officer, Tony Collins Principal Officer, John Finnegan Principal Officer and an assistant Principal officer.
- Virtual Meeting (1)** A request by Gas Networks Ireland for a meeting with policy Advisor to Minister for Agriculture, Patrick Donohue, to provide an update on the opportunity for the agricultural sector to develop a biomethane industry in Ireland to support emission reduction for both agriculture and energy sectors. The meeting was held on 25th of October via zoom and was attended by Jennifer Harte and Pdraig Fleming.
- Meeting (1)** A request by Gas Networks Ireland for a meeting with Matthew Lynch, Tánaiste's special advisor and representative of the Department of Enterprise Trade and Employment to provide an update on the opportunity for the agricultural sector to develop a biomethane industry in Ireland to support emission reduction for both agriculture and energy sectors. The meeting was held on 18th of November via zoom and was attended by Jennifer Harte and Edwina Nyhan from GNI and Joseph Cummins, Principal Officer Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Alan Dempsey, Assistant Principal, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment and Matthew Lynch, special advisor to the Tanaiste Leo Varadkar.
- Meeting (1)** A request by Gas Networks Ireland for a meeting with Minister Martin Heydon, Fine Gael TD for Kildare South, to provide an update on the opportunity for the agricultural sector to develop a biomethane industry in Ireland to support emission reduction for both agriculture and energy sectors. The meeting was held on 25th of November in the Heritage Hotel, Co Laois. and was attended by Jennifer Harte and Pdraig Fleming.
- Meeting (1)** A request by Gas Networks Ireland for a meeting with Deputy Barry Cowen, Fianna Fail TD for Laois-Offaly, to provide an update on the opportunity for the agricultural sector to develop a biomethane industry in Ireland to support emission reduction for both agriculture and energy sectors. The meeting was held on 6th of December in Leinster House and was attended by Jennifer Harte and Pdraig Fleming.
- Meeting (1)** A request by Gas Networks Ireland for a meeting with Deputy Matt Carthy, Sinn Fein TD for Cavan-Monaghan, to provide an update on the opportunity for the agricultural sector to develop a biomethane industry in Ireland to support emission reduction for both agriculture and energy sectors. The meeting was held on 7th of December in Leinster House and was attended by Jennifer Harte and Karen Doyle.
- Meeting (1)** A request by Gas Networks Ireland for a meeting with Deputy Jackie Cahill, Fianna Fail TD for Tipperary, to provide an update on the opportunity for the agricultural sector to develop a biomethane industry in Ireland to support emission reduction for both agriculture and energy sectors. The meeting was held on 14th of December in Leinster House and was attended by Jennifer Harte and Pdraig Fleming.
- Meeting (1)** A request by Gas Networks Ireland for a meeting with Deputy Darren O'Rourke, Sinn Fein TD for Meath East, to provide an update on the opportunity for the agricultural sector to develop a biomethane industry in Ireland to support emission reduction for both agriculture and energy sectors. The meeting was held on 14th of December in Leinster House and was attended by Jennifer Harte and David Kelly.
- Meeting (1)** Gas Networks Ireland Presentation on gas demand projections and security of supply risks, along with summary of scope and benefits of a Strategic Onshore Gas Storage facility to Paul Bolger, Assistant Secretary General, DEEC at the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications, Adelaide Road, Dublin 2. Attendees from GNI included Denis O'Sullivan and Bobby Gleeson.
- Email (1)** Gas Networks Ireland commercial proposal to deliver a Strategic Onshore Gas Storage project. Proposal sent by Bobby Gleeson via e-



mail on 21st December 2022 to Paul Bolger, Assistant Secretary, DECC. Meeting arranged with DECC on 10th January 2023. Attendees from DECC Paul Bolger, Noel Regan. Attendees from GNI Denis O'Sullivan, Ronan Galwey and Bobby Gleeson.

*Designated public officials lobbied*

**James O'Connor**

*TD*

*Dáil Éireann, the Oireachtas*

**Lynn Boylan**

*Senator*

*Seanad*

**Heather Humphreys**

*Minister*

*Department of Rural and Community  
Development*

**Fintan O'Brien**

*Assistant Secretary*

*Department of Rural and Community  
Development*

**Jennifer Whitmore**

*TD*

*Dáil Éireann, the Oireachtas*

**Eamon Ryan**

*Minister*

*Department of Environment, Climate and  
Communications*

**Paul Kenny**

*Special Adviser*

*Department of Environment, Climate and  
Communications*

**Patrick Donohoe**

*Special Adviser*

*Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine*

**Matthew Lynch**

*Special Adviser*

*Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment* *Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine*

**Martin Heydon**

*Minister of State*

**Barry Cowen**

*TD*

*Dáil Éireann, the Oireachtas*

**Matt Carthy**

*TD*

*Dáil Éireann, the Oireachtas*

**Jackie Cahill**

*TD*

*Dáil Éireann, the Oireachtas*

**Darren O'Rourke**

*TD*

*Dáil Éireann, the Oireachtas*

**Paul Bolger**

*Assistant Secretary*

*Department of Environment, Climate and Communications*