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Key benefit: Energy Security

Ireland's energy system is extremely vulnerable

- 1 35% of Ireland's energy needs come from Natural Gas and by 2025, 90% of that gas will come from the UK

National Energy & Climate Plan (NECP) 2021-2030

"Given Ireland's high and increasing reliance on gas for electricity, our low import route diversity, Ireland's relatively high dependence on imported gas, which is likely to increase as the Corrib gas field progressively depletes, and the potential increasing role of gas in the energy mix for heat, transport and power generation including as a back-up for intermittent power generation, our objectives are to: Ensure the resilience of the gas network to a long-duration supply disruption, in the context of EU and national climate objectives."

- 2 In addition, Ireland is facing a **power deficit up to 570 MW** of baseload generation by as early as 2026

Eirgrid's Generation Capacity Statement (2020)

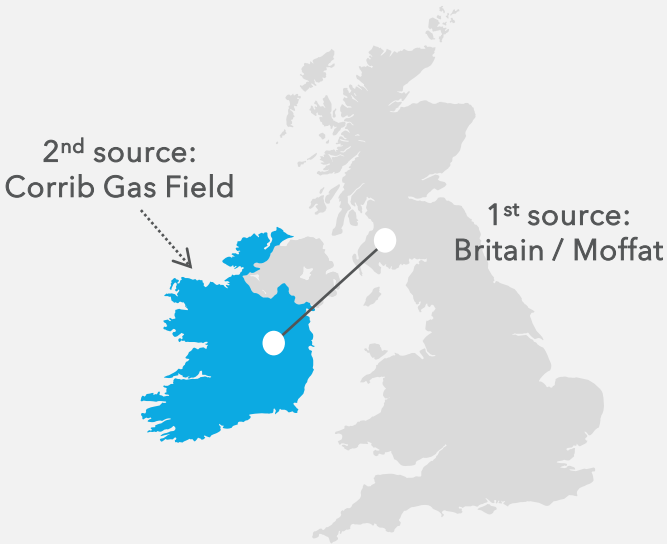
"Analysis shows that for the Median demand level there may not be adequate generation capacity to meet demand from 2026 for Ireland should Moneypoint close and long term demand continue to rise. Should any other plant of equivalent capacity close then this could also give rise to earlier deficits."

Dependence on UK gas makes Ireland vulnerable

Ireland's entire gas demand faces reliance on a single source of supply before 2030

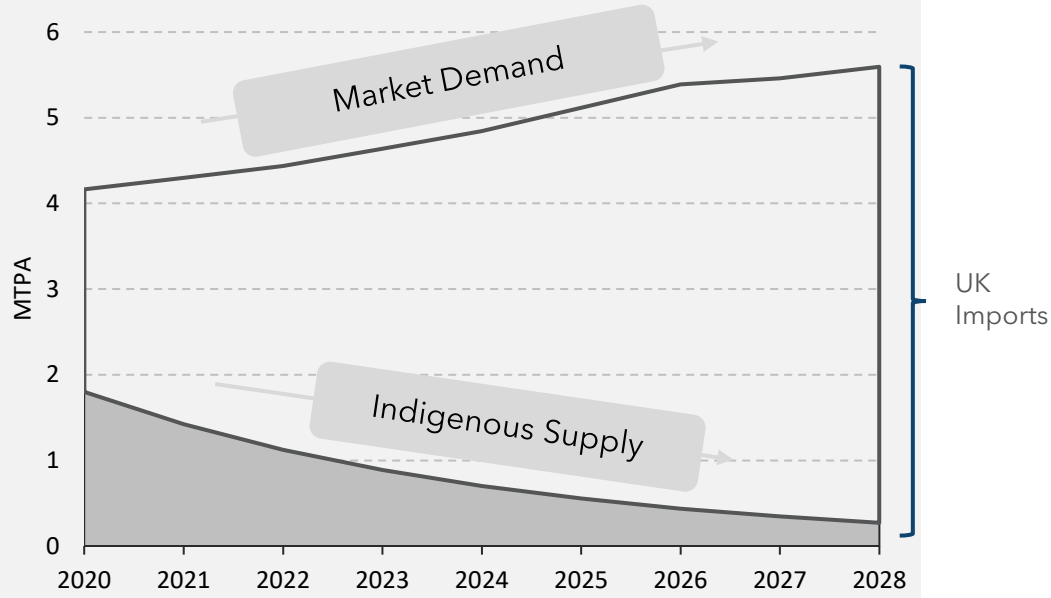
Today

- 2 sources of gas supply today
 - Indigenous supply accounts for nearly half of the country's supply today but this is in rapid decline



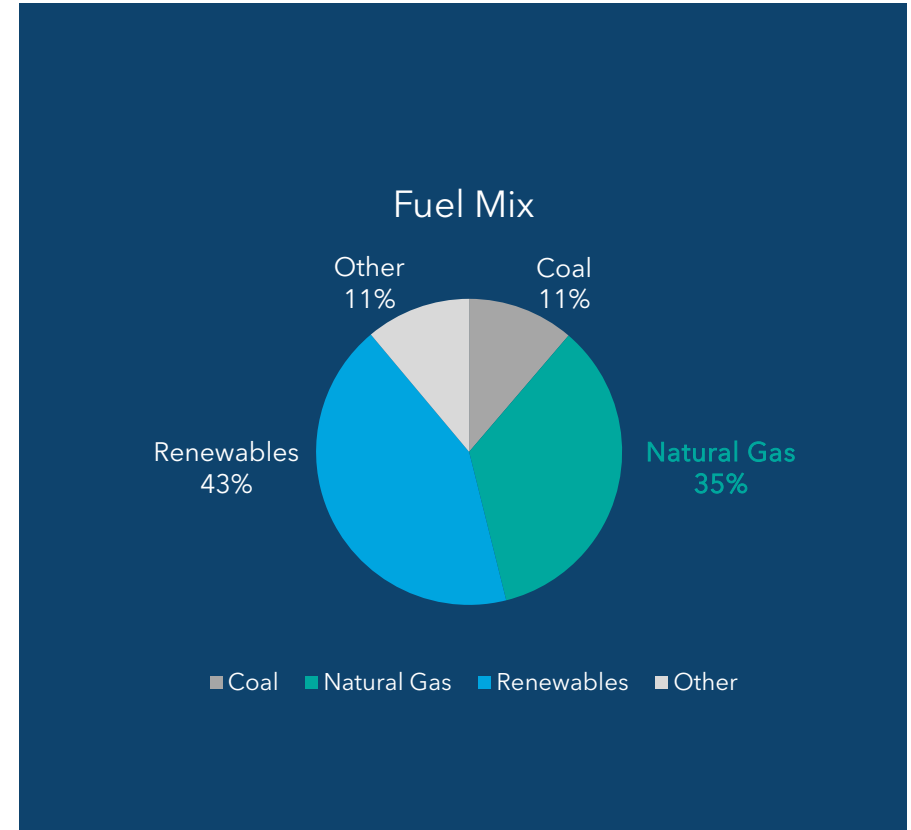
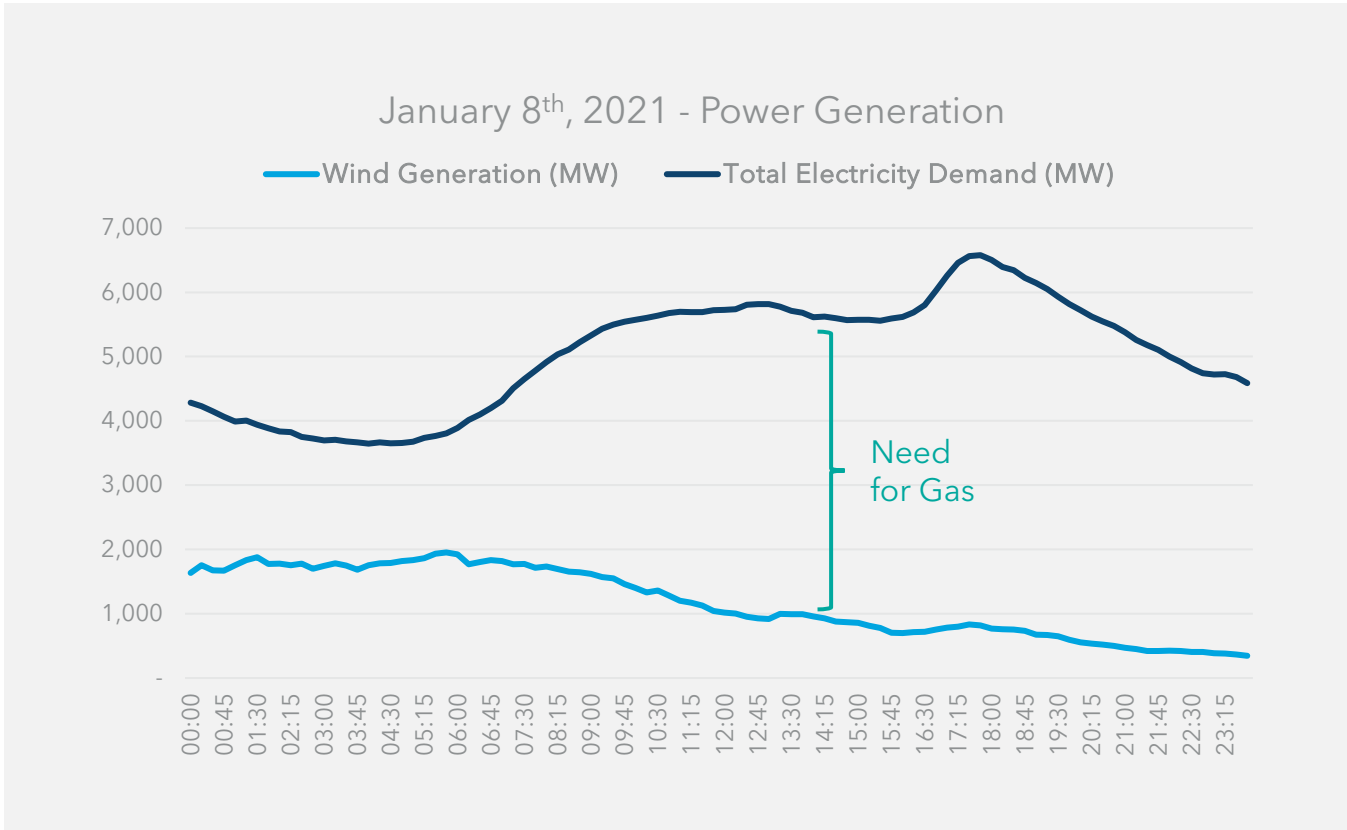
Tomorrow

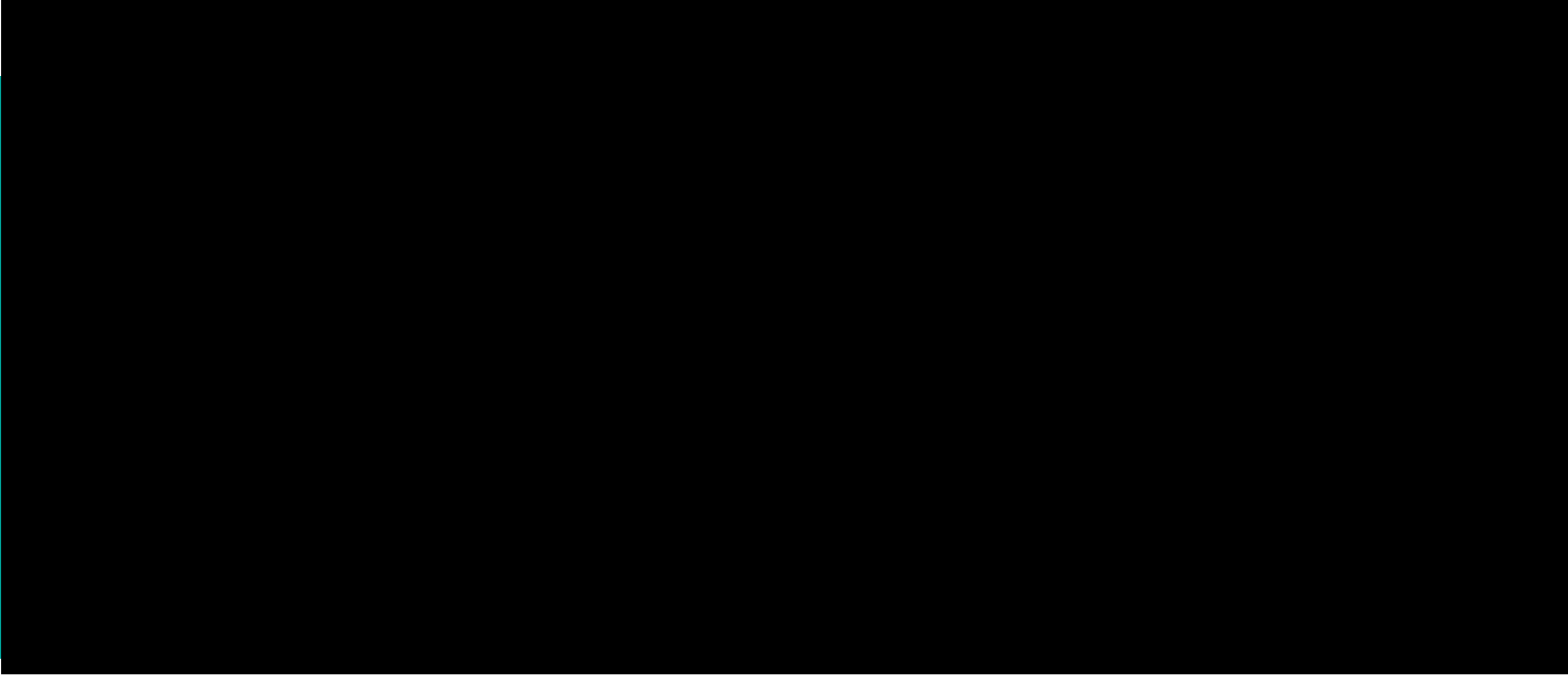
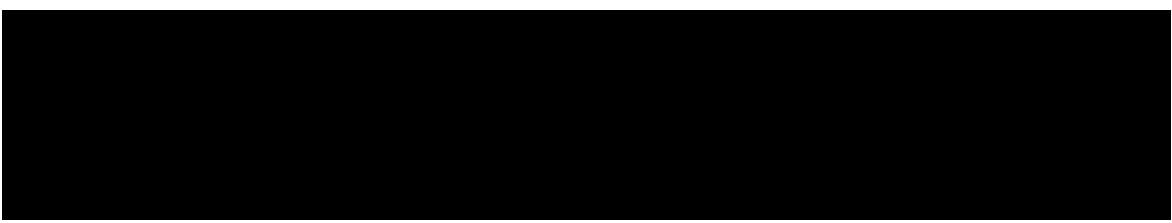
- Severe security of supply issue
 - Reliance on a single source of gas supply from Britain before 2030



Wind Generation Needs Gas

Ireland's Climate Action Plan, sets a target of 70% of electricity to be generated from renewable sources by 2030. It also commits to an early and complete phase-out of coal and peat-fired electricity generation. This leaves natural gas as being the only back up for intermittent wind generation.





Key Policies and Statements

- National Energy & Climate Plan (NECP) 2021-2030:

- *"Given Ireland's high and increasing reliance on gas for electricity, our low import route diversity, Ireland's relatively high dependence on imported gas, which is likely to increase as the Corrib gas field progressively depletes, and the potential increasing role of gas in the energy mix for heat, transport and power generation including as a back-up for intermittent power generation, our objectives are to: Ensure the resilience of the gas network to a long-duration supply disruption, in the context of EU and national climate objectives."*

- Eirgrid's Generation Capacity Statement (2020):

- *"Analysis shows that for the Median demand level there may not be adequate generation capacity to meet demand from 2026 for Ireland should Moneypoint close and long term demand continue to rise. Should any other plant of equivalent capacity close then this could also give rise to earlier deficits."*

- Ministerial Brief - Energy - June 2020. Electricity & Natural Gas: Security of Supply:

- *"Energy policy seeks to balance three core priorities - namely sustainability, security of supply and competitiveness. Secure supplies of energy are critical to support society and the economy. Ensuring the security of energy supply of our gas and electricity networks is a therefore a key priority."*
- *"In 2019, 53% of the natural gas used in Ireland was imported from the UK. By the middle of this decade, in the absence of alternative sources of gas, Ireland's dependence on UK imports is expected to further increase to approximately 80% and to well over 90% by 2030. It should be noted that these imports come from a single source in Scotland (albeit via two pipelines)."*

- Review of the Security of Energy Supply of Ireland's Electricity and Natural Gas Systems, Request for Services.

- *"the UK has left the European Union which will lead, at the end of the withdrawal period, to difficulties for Ireland in meeting the requirements of EU law in relation to gas security of supply including potential challenges for future compliance with EU law including the "N-1" infrastructure standard and the supply standard"*



Proposed Development

