

# Fossil Free Future

YOUR NEED TO KNOW FOR EUROPE  
AND THE LOCAL ELECTIONS



[www.notherenotanywhere.com/pledge](http://www.notherenotanywhere.com/pledge)

## Introduction to Not Here Not Anywhere (NHNA)

- Nationwide, grassroots, non-partisan group
- Campaigning to end fossil fuel exploration and the development of new fossil fuel infrastructure in Ireland
- We advocate for a just transition to renewable energy systems

Sign the Fossil Free Election Pledge at <https://notherenotanywhere.com/im-a-candidate/>

## Contact

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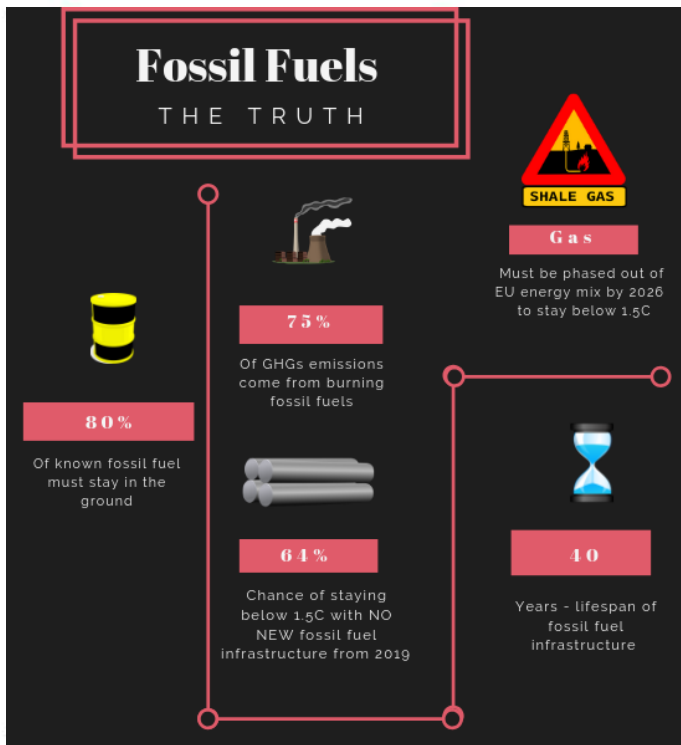
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## The Facts on Fossil Fuels

- The burning of fossil fuels such as gas, oil, peat and coal is responsible for more than [75% of developed nations](#) Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions
- To maintain global temperatures at less than 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, [80% of the known fossil fuels](#) must stay in the ground
- We have 64% chance of staying below 1.5C if [NO NEW fossil fuel infrastructure](#) is built from 2019 onwards
- Fossil fuel infrastructure has a lifespan of c. [40 years](#)
- [90% of Ireland's energy](#) comes from fossil fuels
- Gas must be [phased out of the energy mix by 2035](#) in Ireland and Europe to have any chance of staying under a 1.5C temperature rise

**FOSSIL FREE ELECTION PLEDGE**

FOSSIL FUELS ARE THE SINGLE BIGGEST CAUSE OF CLIMATE CHANGE.  
**CLIMATE ACTION NOW** MEANS COMMITTING TO A  
**FOSSIL FREE FUTURE, IN IRELAND, IN EUROPE, AND AROUND THE WORLD.**

SUPPORT THE **FOSSIL FREE** PRINCIPLES

**(1) JUST TRANSITION FOR WORKERS AND COMMUNITIES** 

 **(2) PROTECT OUR SEAS - END OFFSHORE DRILLING**

**(3) STOP BURNING COAL AND PEAT FOR ELECTRICITY** 

 **(4) NO NEW FOSSIL FUEL INFRASTRUCTURE**

**(5) BAN IMPORTING FRACKED GAS AND SUPPORT A FOSSIL FREE FUTURE GLOBALLY** 

<https://noherenotanywhere.com/pledge/>



## Fossil Free Election Pledge

To avoid the most severe impacts of a changing climate, we need to achieve [net-zero global greenhouse gas \(GHG\) emissions by 2050, with 45% of this reduction to be achieved by 2030](#). While many policy changes must be made to achieve this goal, to take substantive climate action it is fundamental to rapidly reduce the burning and use of fossil fuels. To maintain global temperatures at less than 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, [80% of the known fossil fuels must stay in the ground](#). We must not pursue any further fossil fuel exploration nor construct any new fossil fuel infrastructure.

Climate action means urgently committing to and achieving a Fossil Free Future, in Ireland, in Europe, and around the world.

Not Here Not Anywhere, along with co-sponsors\*, calls for prospective democratic representatives of the Irish people to commit to a fossil free future by committing to support policies in line with the five Fossil Free principles.

*\*The Fossil Free Election Pledge is co-sponsored by [An Taisce Climate Committee](#), [Cork Climate Action](#), [Extinction Rebellion Ireland](#), [Feasta](#), [Friends of the Earth](#), [Friends of the Irish Environment](#), [Futureproof Clare](#), [Gluaiseacht for Global Justice](#), [Good Energies Alliance Ireland](#), [Latin America Solidarity Centre](#), [Love Leitrim](#), [School Strikes 4 Climate](#), [Shamrock Spring](#), [Young Friends of the Earth](#)*

# Fossil Free Principles

## 1. Just Transition for Workers and Communities

- It is essential to ensure that the just and sustainable transition to a 100% renewable energy supply is clean, affordable, supports community ownership and does not lead to energy poverty. High-quality jobs must be created which offer family-sustaining wages and benefits and hire local workers. Communities transitioning from carbon-intensive industries should receive priority public support for their own clean energy projects.

## 2. Protect our Seas – end Offshore Drilling

- Offshore drilling, which is ongoing off the Southwest coast of Ireland, has devastating impacts on local communities and marine health, producing toxic chemicals that accumulate in the seafood supply, and threatening Ireland's €7.8bn tourism industry and €1.1 seafood industry, which together employ over 230,000 people.

## 3. Stop burning coal and peat for electricity

- We must stop burning peat, coal and unsustainable biomass for electricity by 2025 at the latest and ensure that workers in carbon-intensive industries have new, quality employment and training opportunities in ecologically sound, low-carbon sectors. Furthermore, all peat extraction (including for horticulture) should end by 2025 with a just transition for workers and due regard for Turbary Rights.

## 4. No New Fossil Fuel Infrastructure

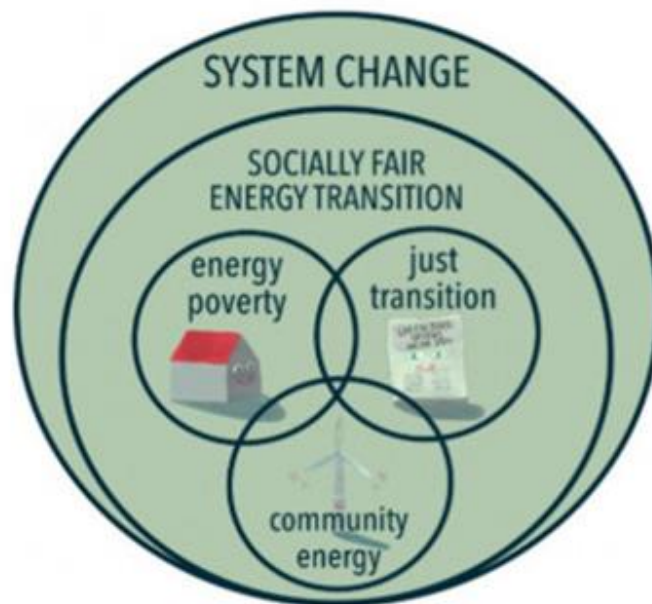
- To have any chance of limiting temperature rise to less than 1.5C, European countries must [get out of gas by 2035](#). Constructing new gas infrastructure such as new gas plants, extending the domestic gas grid or enabling Ireland to export gas for the first time is counterproductive to the transition to renewable energy. It is crucial that no Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminals are developed in Ireland. Continued investment in gas will result in fossil fuel "lock-in", where resources which could be invested in renewable energy are instead invested in unsustainable fossil energy.

## 5. Ban importing fracked gas and support a fossil free future globally

- Climate change knows no borders. We must end support for new non-renewable energy exploration and infrastructure outside Ireland, including ESB financing of coal plants in the Philippines. Ireland banned fracking in 2016 due to health and environmental impacts; we should ban the importation fracked gas from abroad and support the global movement for a fossil free future. The new iron law of energy development and generation must be: if you wouldn't want it in your backyard, then it doesn't belong in anyone's backyard

# 1. Just Transition

- ▶ What is a just transition?
- ▶ Fossil → Renewable energy
- ▶ Energy Poverty
- ▶ Community energy



## 1. Just transition for Workers and Communities

*“A just transition is about protecting the workers and their communities currently dependent on jobs in high carbon sectors like oil, coal or gas. This means actively including workers and their unions in processes and decision-making linked to the energy transition and ensuring that the transition offers security and a quality life, decent, organised jobs as well as upskilling possibilities for workers” (FOE Europe)*

### What does this mean for Irish workers?

- [Bord na Mona](#) – 2,263 employees
- Moneypoint coal power station – 400 employees
- Oil heating – 37% of household heating is oil ([Irish Petroleum Industry Association](#))
- Gas Networks Ireland – 560 employees

### Energy poverty

- “Those who have to spend more than [10% of their disposable income](#) keeping themselves warm”
- Energy poverty effects [one in four households](#) in Ireland
- There are between [1,500 and 2,000 excess winter deaths](#) each year on the island of Ireland
- [Peat burning for heating](#)

### Community energy

- Microgeneration could meet 1/5<sup>th</sup> of demand (unpublished SEAI report cited [here](#))
- Energy citizens – [half the EU’s households](#) have the potential to produce energy

### Further reading

- Bord na Mona [report](#) 2019
- IMPACT [report](#) 2017
- [Spanish example](#)
- [Getting out of gas](#) in the Netherlands
- UK Housing [Fit for the Future](#) report
- [Energy poverty in the EU](#)
- [SVP Energy Poverty report 2015](#)
- [Potential of community energy](#)
- Renewable energy co-operatives [here](#)

## 2. Offshore drilling

- ▶ State of play
- ▶ Biodiversity impacts
- ▶ Economic impact



## 2. Protect our Seas – End Offshore Drilling

### State of play

- 35+ [existing licences](#), some valid until 2033
- [Climate Emergency Bill](#) will ban the issuing of new licences and leases
- Barryroe oil field (SEL 1/11)– rig mobilisation and drilling [expected to commence Q3 2019](#)
- EIA screenings are not independent, they are paid for by the oil company e.g. [Dunquin EIA](#)

### Biodiversity impacts

- Porcupine Bank is a [Special Area of Conservation](#)
- Rare deepwater [black coral](#) discovered off Irish coast July 2018
- Irish coral reefs are [changing dramatically](#)
- Oil and gas exploration in Marine Protected Areas was recently [banned in Canada](#)
- [Indefinite moratorium](#) in Belize due to coral reef
- Seismic surveys [seriously damage marine life](#) and [fish habitat](#)

### Economic impacts

- [The seafood industry has an estimated GDP of €1.25bn](#)
- Total [tourism revenue](#) for the Irish economy in 2016 was around €7.8 billion and overall employment in tourism is estimated to be in the region of 220,000
- After the 2010 BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, the Gulf coastal tourism industry lost about [\\$22.7 billion](#), and the area's commercial fishing industry lost \$247 million

### Further reading

- [Impact of oil spills on coral reefs](#)
- [Importance of coral reefs](#)
- [Sonic Sea](#) – documentary on seismic testing

# 3. Stop burning unsustainable fuels for electricity



Coal



Peat



Unsustainable biomass

## 3. Stop Burning Peat, Coal and Unsustainable Biomass for Electricity

### Coal

- Coal provided just [12% of our electricity](#) in 2017 but over 29% of our climate pollution from electricity
- Moneypoint – Project 2040 plan is to convert to gas in 2025
- Moneypoint was [offline](#) in 2018 for 3 months with no impact on the grid

### Peat

- Peat provides just [7% of our electricity](#) but produces 20% of our pollution
- Essential to stop [industrial peat production](#) for horticulture
- [Peatland biodiversity](#)
- Peatlands as a [carbon store](#)

### Unsustainable Biomass

- [Bord na Mona co-firing](#) - burning wood, palm oil husks (Edenderry, Lanesborough, Shannonbridge)
- Burning wood produces [more CO2 than coal](#)

### Further reading

- [Biofuelwatch](#)
- [Why burning waste is not sustainable](#)
- [Risky biomass business](#)

## 4. Fossil Fuel Infrastructure

- ▶ Fossil fuel lock in
- ▶ Gas – a bridge to nowhere
  - ▶ Methane leaks
- ▶ Gas – domestic
- ▶ Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)



## 4. No New Fossil Fuel Infrastructure

### Fossil fuel lock-in

- [We cannot afford new infrastructure](#) if we want to stay under 1.5C
- [Gas is not a bridge fuel - Gas – a Bridge to Nowhere](#)
- Europe must [get out of gas by 2035](#)

### Gas – domestic

- [New gas-fired plants](#) in Ringsend, Poolbeg, Corduff and North Wall
- Extension of the gas grid - [€387m investment](#) to 2017, new investment under consideration
- [Reverse flow](#) on the Moffat (Scotland – Ireland) pipeline

### LNG

- The nature of LNG makes it [dirtier than coal](#) on a full life-cycle basis
- The processing of LNG results in significant [methane leakage](#), a greenhouse gas which over a 20year period is 86 times more powerful in terms of global warming potential than carbon dioxide
- [Shannon LNG](#) – [referred to European courts](#)
- [Cork LNG](#) – proposed, US company in Texas waiting for approval for LNG projects there
- [Plastic is boosting the gas industry](#) – it is cheaper to make plastic using fracked gas from the US than oil



## 5. Not Here Not Anywhere

- ▶ Dirty energy
- ▶ Europe's gas lock-in
- ▶ Importation of fracked gas



## 5. Not Here Not Anywhere – Ban the importation of fracked gas and support a fossil free future globally

### Dirty energy

- We are outsourcing fossil energy to vulnerable communities
- ESB International – [coal plant in the Philippines](#)
- Moneypoint importing from [Cerrejon coal mine Columbia](#) – Latin America Solidarity Centre
- [Environmental rights defenders](#) – in 2018, 321 human rights defenders were murdered, 247 (77%) of whom were working on land, indigenous peoples and environmental rights

### Europe's gas lock-in




- EU plans to [import LNG from the US](#)
- Forbes – [Europe's gas lock-in](#)
- At least [67% of gas produced in the US is fracked gas](#), and this number is expected to increase
- [Human rights issues](#) in relation to [Mozambique gas project](#)

### Fracking

- [Global resistance to fracking](#)
- [Risks and harms of fracking](#)
- [Impacts of fracking](#)

### Further reading

- [Environmental Justice Atlas](#)
- [Broken Lives, Stolen Future](#) – film on gas in Mozambique
- Dirty dealing by companies [in relation to fracking](#)
- Mariner East 2 pipeline for fracked gas in the US – [land grabs and safety risks](#)
- Fracking in New Brunswick – [indigenous lands](#)


-  Redirect all EU financing of fossil fuel projects to renewable energy projects
-  Ban the importation of fracked gas into EU countries
-  Rapid phase out of fossil fuel energy generation in EU countries with a just transition for workers and communities



MEP  
Candidates

## More fossil free policies

- EU-wide ban on fracking and offshore drilling
- Reform the Emission Trading System to reduce the number of emission certificates and include more industrial sectors and greenhouse gases
- Fair taxes on polluting corporations
- End fossil fuel lobbying in the EU
- Advocate for a fossil free Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)

- 
- 📍 Support communities and workers to transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy
  - 📍 Stipulate no new fossil fuel infrastructure in city and county development plans
  - 📍 Work with local groups to campaign against fossil fuel projects in your area, including:
    - Offshore drilling
    - Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminals
    - New gas power stations
    - Extending the domestic gas grid

## More fossil free policies

- Each local area to commit to a Greenhouse Gas emission reduction target of 45% by 2030 and net zero emissions by 2050
- Declare a state of climate emergency in each local area
- Create a Just Transition Taskforce in each local area affected by the transition from fossil energy
- Work with Public Participation Networks (PPNs) and other local organisations to establish town hall meetings to develop the transition from fossil fuels
- Establish at least one energy agency in each area to support the development of community renewable energy projects
- Reduce energy use by supporting home retrofit, with priority for social housing



# Local climate groups

[MAP OF IRISH ACTIVIST GROUPS](#)

[Link to map of Irish climate groups](#)

Not Here Not Anywhere

May 2019

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