

GENERAL DATA

Name of the Agency:

Galway Energy Agency Limited
(GAEL)

Address:

City Hall
College Road

City and ZIP code:

Galway

Country:

Ireland

Tel. 091-566954

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Corporate Nature:

Limited Company by
Guarantee (not for profit)

Creation Date: 1997

Nr of staff: 1 Full time 2 Part time

The Agency is a member of the following Networks:

IWEA, AIEA, Institute of Energy (UK),
International Energy Efficiency
Training Network, Irish Solar
Energy Association

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KEYWORDS

- Rational use of Energy
- Local Authorities
- Geothermal
- Training
- Renewable Energy
- Wind
- Transport

AIMS/OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES

- To provide public information, awareness and training
- To provide and facilitate the development of renewable and sustainable energy technologies within the Galway region.
- To establish and maintain an energy resources and information centre in Galway
- To develop an Energy & Emissions Balance and Abatement Plan for the Galway Region.
- To establish and maintain Local, National, EU and International links and networks in the energy sector activities
- Public Energy Information and Awareness
- Energy Education and Training
- Local Authority Energy Management Services
- Private Energy Consultancy Services



CASE STUDIES**CASE STUDY N.1****Title:****GALWAY ENERGY & EMISSIONS STUDY****Description:**

The Galway Energy Agency Ltd (GEAL) has commissioned and completed a local study of the energy consumption and related emissions in line with the Kyoto Protocol. This was conducted to identify the energy and emissions by fuel type and sector and to compare with the targets of Kyoto. The conclusions of the study show that the local area exceeded its Kyoto targets in 1996 and will have exceeded that target by 660,000 tonnes of CO₂ by the year 2010. Based on current and predicted population figures this relates to an estimated 3.5 tonnes of CO₂ per person to be reduced in order to satisfy the Kyoto levels.

In principle this study identifies the individual responsibility of the energy impact of consumption and behaviour, and quantifies the level of personal effort required to reduce that impact. GEAL is currently preparing a "shopping list" of energy efficiency, transport and renewable energy measures that each individual and household can carry out to meet their 3.5 tonne requirement. GEAL has prepared a summary presentation of the study conclusions and provides a number of presentations/papers to local and regional conferences and workshops.

CASE STUDY N.2**Title:****ENERGY & ASSET MODERNISATION OF SOCIAL HOUSING****Description:**

GEAL in conjunction with the Local Authority (Galway City Council) have provided an energy upgrade within the refurbishment of 96No. Social Housing Units. The project received an award of financial support under the National Sustainable Energy Ireland, House of Tomorrow Programme.

The project consisted of upgrading the flats in general with particular attention given to the fabric insulation, glazing and heating system. The heating system includes gas condensing boilers by comparison to the existing electric underfloor distribution. The insulation upgrade of the 1970's flats improve the thermal performance by 25% better than current Building Regulations (Part L 2002) and reduces the overall CO₂ emissions by 1,800 tonnes per annum. The combined refurbishment provides an improved internal comfort level to the occupants at a much lower annual fuel and operational cost. The main objective of the project was to provide quality social housing units within a short time schedule with value for money to both the Local Authority and the tenants alike.

GEAL is currently conducting some energy monitoring on a selection of the units to provide an accurate measure of the annual heating and hot water costs.

**Supported by the European Union's
SAVE program Project SEANCE:**

Strengthening of Energy Agencies Networks in Countries of Europe Together with five other project partners the goal is to further strengthen the position of energy agencies and to contribute to a sustainable energy development across Europe.

