

GENERAL DATA



Name of the Agency:

Kerry Energy Agency
(KEA)

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Corporate Nature:

Department of Environment

Creation Date: 1995

Nr of staff: 1

The Agency is a member of the following Networks:

AIEA

KEYWORDS

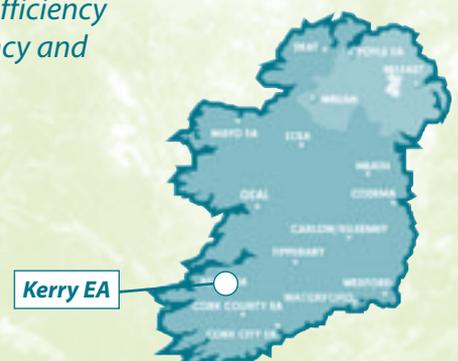
- Rational use of Energy
- Renewable Energy
- Local Authorities
- Wind
- Housing
- Energy Management

AIMS/OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES

To reduce energy costs within the Local Authority by increasing Energy Efficiency and Installing Renewable Energy technology. To promote Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy to the General Public.

Activities:

To reduce energy costs within the Local Authority



CASE STUDIES

CASE STUDY N.1

Title:

LOUGH GUITANE HYDRO ELECTRIC SCHEME 250KW

Description:

Situated at the scenic location of Lough Guitane, Co. Kerry, Ireland, this 250kW hydro turbine uses an existing old water pipeline to provide power to the water pumping station. The plant was commissioned in 2001.

Kerry County Council (KCC) commissioned, own and operate the hydro-power plant. The council also consumes the power produced in their adjacent water pumping station.

The 250kW Gilkes Turgo hydro turbine uses water supplied by an existing old pipeline from the Owgariffe river. The average flow is 630 litres/sec and gross head is 77m. Estimated annual electricity production is 1 to 1.4 GWh, depending on rainfall. A second phase is planned, consisting of another turbine located upstream of the first, will boost power output further.

Total installed capital cost for the project was approximately €760,000. KCC's average cost of electricity for the site is €0.075/kWh. Based on production of 1-1.4 GWh/year, expected savings will be €75,000 to €105,000 per annum.

The operation of the plant is still in its early stages. The hydro power project provides a valuable example of how local authorities can avail of their existing resources to develop renewable energy projects that both save money and have environmental benefits.

CASE STUDY N.2

Title:

NEW MOTOR TAX OFFICE, TRALEE

Description:

Built in 1998, the Motor Tax Office in Tralee, County Kerry, Ireland, is a low-energy building featuring a geothermal heat pump for space heating, solar collectors for hot water, natural ventilation, energy efficient lighting, an energy management system, and highly insulated building fabric.

The foreground area of the 1,200 m² Tralee office building consists of a comparable ground area with buried pipe which carries water, with a small percentage of anti-freeze. The water in the pipe is heated to 10 degC and a heat pump device transforms this heat into high temperature heat at 35 degC for heating. The system can operate in cooling mode and is also designed to remove heat from one side of the building and deliver it to a section of the building requiring heat.

For every 1 kW of energy the heat pump consumes, it delivers 3 kW of heat. It delivers approximately 108 kWh/m² per year.

An independent survey estimated that the annual running cost for space heating, cooling and hot water production was approximately €3,000 lower than for a "typical" building of similar type, reflecting the benefits of the various energy saving features employed.

Two and a half years into its operation, the heat pump space heating and cooling system and solar hot water system are found to be operating well, meeting the comfort requirements of the building's occupants and saving €3,000 in energy costs each year.

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.

