



# Ireland energy storage for grid stability

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Game Changer - How Energy Storage is the key to a Secure, Sustainable, Clean ...

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Ireland finds itself in a similar situation to other countries now looking to advance progressive climate action targets and phase out coal while providing inexpensive energy and limiting their dependency on other nations.

This is what the World Energy Council coined the "energy trilemma" in 2015: How can we balance security, affordability and sustainability in our energy systems? Fortunately, Ireland has massive amounts of renewable energy just off its coast - wind, and more than enough of it to power their country many times over.

"Imagine your electricity grid as a motorway," says Katie Wall. "With conventional forms of generation, you won't fall off that motorway. But drop those forms in favor of renewables, and suddenly your grid is a tightrope. At some point you're going to lose your balance, right? And you'll need a safety net."

The synchronous condenser at Moneypoint may look unassuming, but inside the casing is a piece of advanced technology that provides enough mass and inertia to equal the grid stability of a giant turbine - with only a fraction of the carbon emissions.

I'm standing with Wall on a grassy hillock in front of the Moneypoint Power Station, run by Ireland's foremost energy company, the Electricity Supply Board (ESB), on the Mid-West Irish coast. The enormous blade of a wind turbine turns ponderously above us and the River Shannon is hardly a stone's throw away.

Wall is ESB's Lead Engineer for the first step in a visionary, multi-decade project called "Green Atlantic & Moneypoint" that will radically transform the station into the country's first green energy production hub.

Moneypoint will become the center for the construction and assembly of floating wind turbines, starting with 1,500-megawatt floating offshore wind farms (enough to power 1.6 million homes), and it will be converted into a station able to produce, store and provide power generation with carbon-free green hydrogen.



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