

**Climate Change Advisory Council Adaptation Committee Meeting  
DRAFT MINUTES**

**Date:** 24<sup>th</sup> May 2017

**Start time:** 09:30

**Venue:** O'Callaghan Mont Clare Hotel, 1-4 Merrion Street Lower, Dublin 2

**Present:** Mark Adamson, OPW; Laura Burke, EPA; John FitzGerald, Chair; Jim Gannon, SEAI; Dr Ina Kelly, HSE; Eoin Moran, Met Éireann; Dr Conor Murphy, Maynooth University;

**Apologies:** Prof. Gerry Boyle, Teagasc, Ciarán Hayes, CCMA; Roger Street, UKCIP; Prof. Robert Devoy, UCC;

**Secretariat:** Dr. Frank McGovern, Gemma O'Reilly, Dr. Róisín Moriarty, Claire Camilleri, Rory Kelleher, Phillip O'Brien

**Presenters:** Dr Paul Nolan, Irish Centre for High-End Computing; Eamonn Confrey, Catherine McDonald and Bernie Comey, Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment; Declan O'Brien, ESB Generation; William Mongey, Eirgrid, Jim Casey, Office of Public Works

## **1. Opening of Meeting**

Prof. John FitzGerald opened the meeting.

### **1.1 Minutes of the Adaptation Committee Meeting 25.01.2017**

The minutes of the meeting 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017 were accepted.

### **1.2 Adoption of Agenda**

The agenda for the meeting was accepted.

### **1.3 Disclosure of Interests**

There were no disclosures of interests declared.

## **2. Climate Projections for Ireland**

Dr. Paul Nolan from the Irish Centre for High-End Computing presented the latest information regarding Climate Projections for Ireland, including simulations of long range forecasts of temperature, precipitation and storms/wind energy, with the mean temperature in Ireland expected to increase by 1-1.6° by mid-century. The Committee discussed the implications of the projections, and the importance of the projections in assisting decision making in Ireland. The Committee thanked Dr Nolan for an informative presentation and following discussion, noted that a tailored range of projections for each sector would be appropriate in their adaptation planning.

## **3. Energy Networks Sectoral Adaptation Plan**

Eamonn Confrey, Catherine McDonald and Bernie Comey from the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment presented the draft Energy Networks (Electricity and Gas) Climate Change Adaptation Plan and identified the sector's vulnerabilities and adaptation options to address these. The Committee acknowledged the work that has gone into the development of this plan, and discussed the importance of protecting our energy networks. It also discussed the infrastructure requirements needed to adapt to the effects of climate change. They noted that the next steps for the sector would be to launch the draft for consultation. The Committee thanked the presenters for their time and looked forward to seeing the finalised draft when issued for consultation.

#### **4. OPW Update**

Jim Casey from the OPW provided the Committee with an overview of the European Flood Awareness System, and the flood events of 2015/2016 in Ireland. He also outlined the use of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service, and its use in providing information for emergency responses to different disasters. The Committee heard that a national flood forecasting service is required and of the importance of flood forecasting technologies in not only responding to flooding events but also in their prediction and associated decision making. The Committee discussed the interactions of the national and local authorities, and the need for better coordination.

Mark Adamson from the OPW then provided a short update on the flood hazard and risk assessments for future scenarios in the CFRAM Programme, including the role of the programme in terms of preparing flood maps, the assessment of flood risk and the preparation of flood risk management plans. The Council discussed how these areas are identified, and what criteria were used to determine criticality.

#### **5. Update on National Planning Framework Consultation**

The Committee were informed about the presentation regarding the National Planning Framework that was provided at the previous Council meeting, and discussed the Council's initial response to the National Planning Framework (NPF) Consultation. It was agreed to invite the NPF team to present to the Committee at a future meeting.

#### **6. Periodic Review Report – Adaptation Content**

The Committee discussed the draft adaptation content for the upcoming Periodic Review Report, and provided feedback to be incorporated into the draft to be presented at the next Council Meeting.



24/5/2017