

Energy

South Tipperary imports almost all of its energy needs. One of the main difficulties facing the county is that the unsuitability of the electricity system to take in generated capacity if windfarms were developed in the most suitable areas of the county. Energy conservation in the county is supported by the work of the Tipperary Energy Agency based in Cahir. The following consensus emerged from the Rural Development Review Group in relation to the County Energy Strategy:

- The primary focus is to increase the price paid to alternative energy suppliers
- There needs to be a community payback dimension
- Small can be beautiful, and the access issues preventing small scale developments must be targeted (including the use of net-metering technology)
- Farmers cannot realistically be expected to reduce stock numbers by 10% unless the alternatives (which support energy creation and decrease greenhouse emissions) are adequately resourced.