



Looking to our Future – Calling for Ambitious Energy Savers

SEAI's Sustainable Energy Awards 2014 open for applications

19th May 2014 - The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) wants ambitious and enthusiastic energy saving organisations to enter the 11th annual Sustainable Energy Awards. Over the last decade of the competition entrants have achieved energy savings in excess of €500 million. This year SEAI is seeking to reward organisations whose ambitions are pushing the boundaries of sustainable energy.

Sponsored by Electric Ireland, the Awards recognise excellence in energy management by individuals, communities, businesses and organisations in Ireland. This year the competition focuses on the future of sustainable energy with a new introduction to the ten categories; the Electric Ireland Ambition Award. This new Award is for those who have the potential to change and influence energy management over the next decade.

Dr Brian Motherway, Chief Executive SEAI, said: *"The last decade of Sustainable Energy Award winners have proven that significant energy savings and financial gains can be made. We are now looking to the future of sustainable energy in Ireland by bringing together and recognising those individuals and organisations that have a vision and will be truly influential in advancing Ireland's energy saving opportunities."*

Paul Stapleton, General Manager Electric Ireland, said: *"Year on year the Awards entries demonstrate ambitious energy saving goals and outstanding achievements within Irish businesses. We are once again delighted to partner with SEAI on the Sustainable Energy Awards, and the introduction of the Electric Ireland Ambition Award reflects our own ambition to support and advance energy performance improvements in organisations throughout Ireland."*

Further information on the 2014 Sustainable Energy Awards can be found on SEAI's website www.seai.ie/energyawards. Closing date for entries is Friday 20th June 2014. Overall winners will be announced at a gala event in Dublin in November 2014.

ENDS

For further information contact:

Morwenna Rice / Luke McDonnell

01 260 5000 / 086 194 0069 (MR) / 085 712 7243 (LMD)

Morwenna.rice@drurypn.ie / luke.mcdonnell@drurypn.ie

About SEAI:

The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) has a mission to play a leading role in the transformation of Ireland to a society based on sustainable energy structures, technologies and practices. SEAI is partly financed by Ireland's EU Structural Funds Programme co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Union.

Notes to editor:

Awards Categories

Category		Purpose and description
1.	Innovation	<p>The Sustainable Energy Innovation Award showcases innovation in action.</p> <p>Entry is open to organisations or individuals who are implementing innovative solutions or methodologies or creating new knowledge around energy demand management.</p>
2.	Collaboration	<p>The Sustainable Energy Collaboration Award promotes the sharing of energy management practices.</p> <p>This award goes beyond traditional energy awareness and seeks, through collaboration, to extend the reach and influence of shared energy management knowledge. Collaboration can be internal and/or external to an organisation. It promotes how new networks of interest are addressing the opportunities for knowledge sharing and energy awareness in the 21st century.</p>
3.	Research	<p>The Sustainable Energy Research Award rewards the potential for future energy demand reduction and energy management practices.</p>

		This award rewards research and innovation in the development of systems, services, products or approaches likely to impact future demand reduction rather than rewarding the demonstration of past energy efficiency savings.
4.	Built environment	<p>The Sustainable Energy Built Environment Award highlights how our environment should be built or rebuilt.</p> <p>This award addresses the use of natural resources for energy in buildings and also innovations in building fabric, design or operational systems to maximise energy efficiency and cost savings. The focus is on entrants going beyond established best practice.</p>
5.	Community	<p>The Sustainable Energy Community Award is for those groups and organisations engaged in sustainable energy practice at a local level.</p> <p>This award challenges entrants to promote themselves as community partnerships leveraging sustainable energy actions for increased efficiency and socio economic benefits.</p>
6.	Industry	<p>The Sustainable Energy Industry Award is for those organisations engaged in sustainable energy practice within industry or the large business sector.</p> <p>This award challenges entrants to promote themselves as going beyond best practice in energy demand reduction within industry or the large business sector</p>
7.	Public Sector	<p>The Sustainable Energy Public Sector Award is for those organisations engaged in sustainable energy practice within the public sector.</p> <p>This award challenges entrants to promote themselves as going beyond best practice in energy demand reduction within the public sector</p>
8.	Small Business	<p>The Sustainable Energy Small Business Award is for those organisations engaged in sustainable energy practice within the small business sector.</p> <p>This award challenges entrants to promote themselves as going beyond best practice in energy demand reduction within the small business sector</p>
9.	Leadership	<p>This award illuminates how energy management practices have been developed, disseminated and replicated by individuals, teams or organisations.</p> <p>Entry is open to individuals or teams who have demonstrated the ability to motivate energy users and decision-makers over time and to reach out and influence beyond their organisational boundaries</p>
10.	Electric Ireland Ambition Award	<p>This special award reflects the ambition and aspiration of the Sustainable Energy Awards and those individuals and organisations that have the potential to change and influence energy management practices over the next 10 years.</p> <p>Entry to this category is optional for those individuals and organisations entering the other categories in the 2014 Awards. Finalists will be selected from those who best articulate their ambition and aspirations for energy performance improvements.</p>

