



GE Energy Promotes Smart Grid Development in Northern Ireland

IRELAND—June 23, 2011—GE Energy (NYSE: GE) is using its expertise and passion for grid modernization to promote the development of a smart grid pilot network in Northern Ireland. The pilot would allow for a greater number of renewable energy sources such as wind, wave and solar energy to be connected to the existing electrical network—reducing carbon emissions and ensuring energy security and reliability.

As chairman of SmartGridIreland, a group of international and local businesses facilitated by the Center for Competitiveness, GE's Paddy Turnbull participated in SGI's smart grid pilot proposal to Enterprise Minister Arlene Foster this March.

"Northern Ireland has many competitive advantages in early adoption of a smart grid pilot project," said Turnbull. "The region is rich in natural resources, and there is an abundance of ICT skills. This project would put Northern Ireland into a leadership position along with the Shetland Isles, Southeast England as well as internationally where similar trials were being advanced."

Nothing has changed much in the past 100 years on how electrical energy has been supplied and distributed, but society and energy consumption has changed. Today, countries are facing global energy challenges like never before. GE supports smart grid development for modernizing the electric infrastructure to meet the world's growing capacity, environmental and security needs. Using communications and advanced metering technologies, the proposed pilot project for Northern Ireland will demonstrate the benefits and opportunities of alternative supplies of energy while preparing consumers for the social changes taking place nationally.

The smart grid pilot plan, which was prepared after an extensive collaboration by the SGI network, sets out the case for the early local trial of smart grid technologies and was submitted to DETINI in November 2010. If adopted, this could help Northern Ireland achieve a leading position in this emerging technology sector and also accelerate progress towards the achievement of the European Union 20/20/20 targets.

About GE

GE (NYSE: GE) is an advanced technology, services and finance company taking on the world's toughest challenges. Dedicated to innovation in energy, health, transportation and infrastructure, GE operates in more than 100 countries and employs about 300,000 people worldwide. For more information, visit the company's Web site at www.ge.com.

GE also serves the energy sector by providing technology and service solutions that are based on a commitment to quality and innovation. The company continues to invest in new technology solutions and grow through strategic acquisitions to strengthen its local presence and better serve customers around the world. The businesses that comprise GE Energy www.ge.com/energy—GE Power & Water, GE Energy Services and GE Oil & Gas—work together with more than 90,000 global employees and 2010 revenues of \$38 billion, to provide integrated product and service solutions in all areas of the energy industry including coal, oil, natural gas and nuclear energy; renewable resources such as water, wind, solar and biogas; as well as other alternative fuels and new grid modernization technologies to meet 21st century energy needs.

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For more information, contact:

Neil Gazeley
GE Energy
+44 (0) 1223 449395
neil.gazeley@ge.com