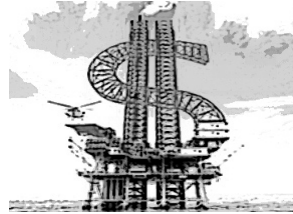


Stop the Great Oil & Gas Giveaway & send Shell 2 Sea

"No other country in the world has given the oil companies such favourable terms."

– Mike Cunningham, former Statoil director



Ireland has 100s of billions worth of gas & oil but oil multinationals will get it all. The global financial crisis has hit Ireland particularly hard. With these billions we could weather the economic storm; build more schools and hospitals; introduce free health-care and education; and our gas and ESB bills would be slashed. Cutbacks, pay freezes and the pension levy would be things of the past.

Ireland does have some of the biggest reserves of gas and oil in Europe €540 billion (€540,000,000,000). Unfortunately Ireland will not benefit from this wealth. Why not?

THE GREAT OIL & GAS GIVEAWAY

In 1987 and 1992, ministers Ray Burke and Bertie Ahern made bizarre changes to the law governing Irish gas and oil exploration. They reduced the state's share in these resources from 50% to 0%, abolished royalties and slashed the tax rates.

As it now stands:

- The gas and oil is 100% owned by the oil companies who find it and bring it ashore.
- The state receives no royalties.
- The oil companies will pay only 25% corporation tax. (In Norway it's up to 78%) ...
- But 100% of costs can be written off against tax. Remarkably, this includes costs incurred outside Ireland – all the company's accountants have to do is link these costs to the project in question.

Take the Corrib Gas field. The government says it contains around €10 billion worth

of gas. Shell can sell this gas to Irish consumers, via Bord Gais, at full international market price. (Or it can sell it abroad if it wishes.) Either way, the proceeds will go to the shareholders. Bear this in mind the next time you hear a politician mention Ireland's "national interest" to explain why an experimental inland gas refinery and dangerous high-pressure pipeline is being forced on a small rural community in Rossport.

WHY THE URGENCY?

New exploration licences are being issued to oil multinationals all the time. Over the next couple of years, the government will give away hundreds of billions of euro worth of Ireland's gas and oil... unless we stop them. We must take control of our resources. Act now!

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Find out more, read the articles at www.dublins2s.com
- Get involved with your local Shell 2 Sea group.
- Write letters to local and national papers.
- Go to Erris and see for yourself what's going on around Shell's refinery & pipeline.

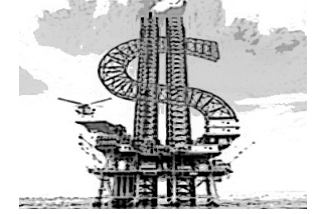
Contact your local Shell 2 Sea at:

Contact Dublin S2S:
dublins2s@gmail.com Tel: 087 8141580

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