

Dept. Of Environment23rd January 2012**National Climate Policy****Programme for the development of national climate policy and legislation****2012**

January	Independent analysis by NESC Secretariat, for the purpose of informing further development of national climate policy, to commence.
Early February	In parallel with the independent analysis by the NESC Secretariat, Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government to launch a structured, open, and inclusive consultation on national policy and legislation following on from the review issued the Minister on 3 rd November 2011.
	The consultation process will run up to the end of April.
End June	NESC Secretariat to submit its interim report, which will focus on potential options for policies and measures to close the distance to Ireland's greenhouse gas emission reduction target under Decision 406/2009/EC in the compliance period 2013-2020.
	Minister to make an overview analysis of the responses to the consultation available on line.
Quarter 3	Minister to release the interim report from NESC Secretariat; views to be sought from Oireachtas Joint Committee on the Environment, Transport, Culture and the Gaeltacht.
Quarter 4	Minister to –
	a) announce the Government response to the interim report from NESC Secretariat, and
	b) issue heads of a climate Bill for consideration by the Oireachtas Joint Committee on the Environment, Transport, Culture and the Gaeltacht and stakeholders, following Government approval.
End 2012	NESC Secretariat to submit its final report.

2013

February	Minister to release final report from NESC Secretariat.
March – June	Oireachtas Joint Committee to consider the NESC reports and Heads of climate bill, consulting with stakeholders as determined by the Committee.
End June	Oireachtas Joint Committee to report on national climate policy development and appropriate legislation.
Quarter 3/4	Having regard to –

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• the National Climate Policy Review,• the reports from the NESC Secretariat and the Oireachtas Joint Committee on the Environment, Transport, Culture and the Gaeltacht, and• ongoing evolution of climate policy within EU level and at a wider-international level under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change,
	Government to adopt a national policy position on transition to a low-carbon future, including appropriate institutional arrangements, and finalise the introduction of climate legislation.