

## Hydroelectric power stations

In 2013 Ireland had 237 MW of hydropower from five main hydroelectric power plants and small-scale hydro capacity. The largest plant is the 85 MW hydro power plant Ardnacrusha, located on river Shannon and in operation since 1922. Hydro electric power generated about 750 GWh in 2013.

Ireland is currently utilising close to its maximum potential for hydroelectricity. Trajectory 1 assumes hydroelectric power is phased out of the electricity system from 2025 onwards. Trajectory 2, 3 and 4 assume hydroelectricity is maintained at current levels.

### *Trajectory 1*

Trajectory 1 assumes that total hydropower capacity is maintained at the 2013 level of 237 MW up to 2025, and gradually phased out thereafter.

### *Trajectory 2*

Trajectory 1 assumes that total hydropower capacity is maintained at the 2013 level of 237 MW up to 2050, typically producing around 750 GWh/y of electricity output.

### *Trajectory 3*

Same as Trajectory 2

### *Trajectory 4*

Same as Trajectory 3

Figure 28: The Ardnacrusha hydroelectric power plant on the Shannon, 1929.

Figure 29: Electricity produced under 4 trajectories (TWh/yr)

