

Hi in relation to the above consultation, Topaz (Ireland's largest fuel supplier) are supporting the investment for a number of reasons;

1. It reduces Ireland's reliance on oil based products in transport fuels
2. CNG is a cleaner product and better for the environment. Compared to diesel , CNG contains less CO<sub>2</sub>, nitrogen oxide, sulphur dioxide & particulate matter. Topaz believe that we should be promoting these alternatives for the Irish consumer.
3. CNG costs significantly less for Irish consumers. This is good news for Irish business & again we should supporting initiatives that make our economy more competitive.
4. CNG is a proven form of fuel for transport. If other European countries have embraced this alternative fuel for the reasons mentioned above, then we should embrace this too. Our parent company (Couche-Tard) has a lot of experience selling CNG in the Scandinavian markets
5. Ireland has an extensive gas network infrastructure, and we should make full use of this network to sell CNG.
6. By raising the awareness of the benefits of using CNG, & by having a network of service stations selling CNG, more consumers will purchase CNG, & CNG vehicles more become cheaper to purchase. We need the investment in the Irish market to create this momentum
7. Topaz are delighted to be chosen as the partner to open the 1<sup>st</sup> CNG service station at Dublin Port. We will support future initiatives that reduce emissions & lower costs for Irish consumers

I would be more than happy to talk about these benefits at a future date. Let me know if I can be of assistance. Thanks

Regards,  
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