Opening Statement, Coillte, 12-12-17





Joint Oireachtas Committee on Agriculture, Food and the Marine Coillte – Performance Update & Climate Change

12<sup>th</sup> December 2017

### **Our Business**



Coillte is a commercial forestry company, owned by the State, that manages c.7% of the country's land (440k hectares). From this land we run three strong businesses, all of which have significant future potential:

- Leadership position in forestry industry
- Contributes €2.3 billion to economy every year
- Supports 12,000 jobs
- 40,000 international truck movements each year
- Forecast to double in next 10 years

### **Core forestry business**



- 10 core forestry customers support growth
- Sell 1.7 million m<sup>3</sup> logs & plant 18 million trees
- Key role in addressing climate change
- Coillte Premium Partners
- Technology Forest Management System



### Major provider of Public Goods

- Flagship recreational sites
- Carbon sequestration
- Biodiversity / nature conservation



### **Medite Smartply**

- Manufactures sustainable, innovative MDF and OSB in two plants in south-east of Ireland and exports to over 30 countries
- Leader in market led MDF and OSB value-added products
- €59 million investment in Smartply manufacturing facility
- €68 million investment in world's first Tricoya wood chip plant

#### **Land Solutions**

- Lands suited to activities other than forestry value-added solutions that generate recurring cash flows
- Support national policy objectives across range of infrastructure sectors including renewable energy, housing and tourism
- Renewable energy targets strong wind farm portfolio

# Significant progress on transformation strategy to become the Best Forestry and Land Solutions Company in Europe





- Operating cash grown from €0 to €30m in 3 years
- EBITDA on track to deliver €85m move away from one-off sales
- Dividend will double from €4m in 2014 to €8m in 2017
- Restructured business annual savings of €20m
- Refinancing €260m annual interest savings €3m

#### Forestry at our core

- Plant 18 million trees
  - up 30% from 2014
- On track to sell 1.7million m<sup>3</sup> sawlogs
  - highest in over 10 years
- New Forest Management System
  - €10m investment
- Over 1,000 forestry contractors
- Strong working relationship with customers
- Timber Brexit Industry Forum
- Launched Coillte Premium Partners
- Continuous Forestry Cover initiative
- FSC / PEFC Certification
- Innovative biodiversity classification project
  - protect and manage more effectively



#### **Tourism & Recreation**

- National Outdoors Recreation Plan
- €550k partnership with Fáilte Ireland
- Avondale Forest Park development

### Sustainable wood panels products

- Value-added strategy for MDF and OSB
- €59m investment in new Smartply manufacturing plant
- €68m JV with BP and Accsys for Medite Tricoya
- Expansion into new markets
- Record MDF sales of 418,000m<sup>3</sup> in 2016

#### **Enabling National infrastructure**

- Strong Wind Farm Portfolio
  - €400m investment with partners
  - Community engagement
- Next Wind Strategy 1GW
- Robust forest mitigation strategy
- Sale of Telecoms business for €70m

### What will we look like in 2019?



Forestry at our core 5% cash yield

Next Horizon - Beyond 2020 Strategy

World class recreational & environmental services

Vision

Key role in Climate Change

2019

Significantly higher Dividend payment

The Best Forestry and Land Solutions Company in Europe fedite Smartply

number one player in value-added wood panel products in Europe

**Land Solutions** 

▲ Strong recurring cash

Key enabler of Renewable Energy

Strong financial performance

- ▲ Operating cash €60m
- ▲ EBITDA €120m
- ▲ Strong Revenue Growth
- ▲ Dividend multiple of today

### **Coillte & Climate Change**



Every year we plant more trees than we harvest



**Carbon Sequestration / Storage** 



- Forests & Land

Objective to work with Department on a sustainable Afforestation Plan

Renewable Energy
- Wind Farms & Solar



Low Carbon Wood Based Panel Products



Substitute Biomass for fossil fuels

Maximise Land Use
- Achieve carbon neutrality without compromising food production

Forest Biomass -Triple Carbon Benefit

### How do we sequester & store carbon?



### Coillte is well positioned to be a leader in the Irish Bioeconomy

### Planting Forests

- Plant 18 million trees every year
- Robust land mitigation strategy
- Afforestation –
   work with
   Department on a
   viable plan to grow
   Irish forestry cover
   from 11% to 14% in
   coming years

### Sustainable Forest Management

- Maximise carbon sequestered / stored in trees and land
- FSC / PEFC Certification
- 20% of land managed for biodiversity
  - Bogs / uplands / native forests / rare habitats

### Increased Forest Productivity

- Technology investment - new Forest Management System
- Private forestry initiative - Coillte Premium Partners
- Knowledge and expertise to sustainably manage supply & demand

#### Biomass

- Triple carbon benefit
  - Carbon sequestration when forest grows
  - Displace high embedded carbon products
  - Carbon neutral heat and energy



## Thank you