

Cori Calvert GES Energy

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It seems fitting that Cori Calvert's business is an energy company as the Limerick-based American who visited Ireland on a girls' holiday in 2016 and decided on a life-changing move appears to have enough energy to fuel the Munster rugby team.

Her company, GES Energy, has adapted the business model of the government-backed energy efficiency company she worked for in California to target Irish firms with an offering of up to 60 per cent energy savings with no up-front costs.

Like many of the best stories, Cori's started in a pub during that holiday when she was surprised to see a turf stove being used to heat the premises. A chat with the publican revealed he was unaware of the savings he could make and follow-up research by Cori showed that there wasn't anybody in Ireland offering the service she could deliver, so she moved to Ireland in October 2017 and began trading in January.

Since then, GES Energy has hired four staff, tendered for energy consulting and LED installation projects, acquired multinationals and SMEs as clients and begun exporting to the UK. It plans to begin exporting to Italy and Spain in the near future.

As a newcomer to Irish business culture, Cori - who lives in Garryspillane, Co Limerick - found ACORNS to be a huge benefit in terms of knowledge sharing and making the experience of starting a business less lonely.

The company is a finalist in the upcoming Network Ireland Awards in the Best Emerging Business category. This year, GES Energy was a finalist for and All-Star award as Best New Business and took a Bronze Award at the National Start-up Awards.

