



Energy for  
generations



Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
**2040**

# **ESBN PR6 (2026 – 2030) Distribution Work Programme OPR Webinar Introduction Sean Mulvey (Engineering and Major Projects)**





- **ESB Networks is the Distribution System Operator**
- **All Transmission, Distribution, Medium Voltage and Low Voltage assets are owned by ESBN**
- **ESBN is responsible for the maintenance of assets on the system**



# ESB Networks is Responsible for the construction of all new assets (Under ground Cables)



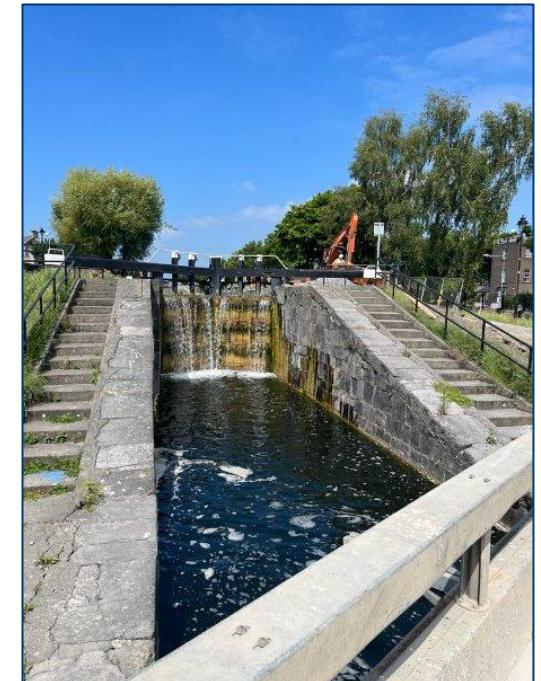
Dodder Road During Construction



Dodder Road After Construction



Whitworth Road



Royal Canal

# ESB Networks Responsible for the construction of all new assets (Transmission Substations)



Killonan During Construction

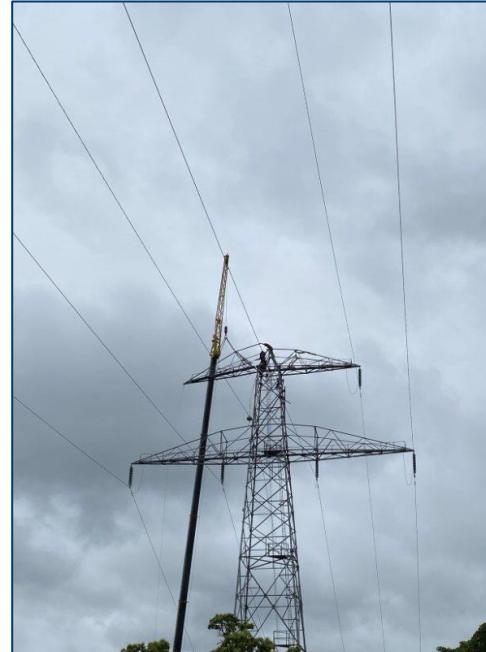


Killonan After Construction

# ESB Networks Responsible for the construction of all new assets (Overhead Line Maintenance)



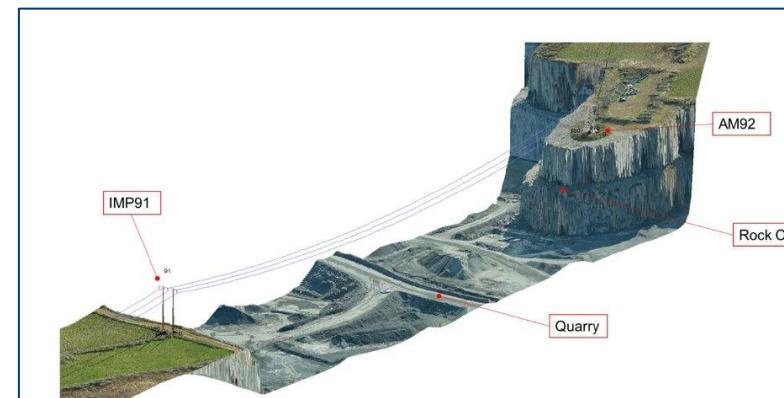
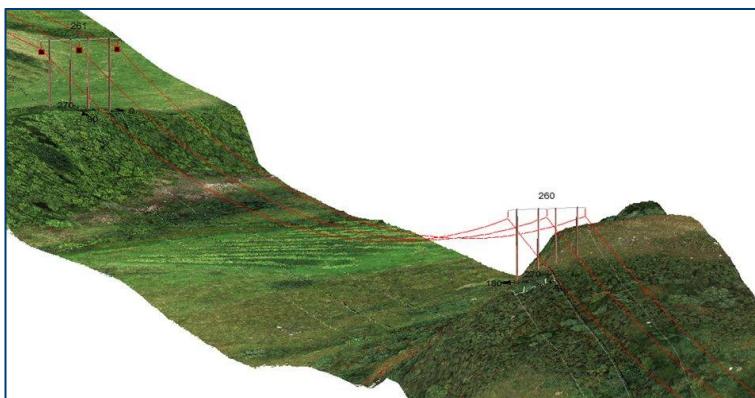
Kilbarry During Construction



Kilbarry During Construction



Kilbarry During Construction



# ESB Networks Distribution Programme

- Very strong commitment from ESB Networks to play a leading role in delivering National Development Plan and the Climate Action Plan 2050 targets

80 % RES by 2030

9 GW Onshore Wind

8 GW Solar

- Carbon Budgets- 3 budgets spanning 2021-2035 – Introduced Sectoral Emissions ceilings

2021-2025 - 40 MtCO2eq

2026-2030 - 20 MtCO2eq

- National Climate Objective- 51 % reduction in Greenhouse gas emission by 2030 relative to 2018 levels

- **Forecast 50 % growth in electricity demand by 2030**

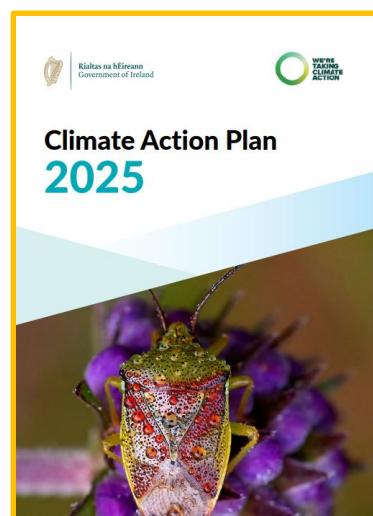
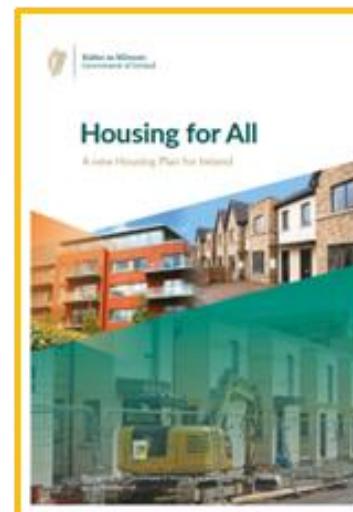
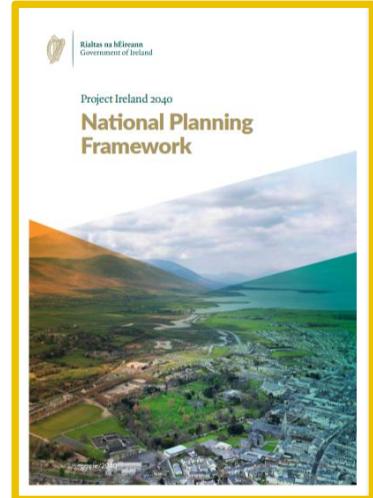
- **Industry growth, electrification of heat and transport,**

- **Housing For All - over 300,000 new homes**

- Energy Security In Ireland to 2030

- Ensure a fit for purpose electricity grid that supports Ireland's energy and climate ambition

- [Minister O'Brien welcomes historic €18.9 billion investment in energy infrastructure \(ESBN and EirGrid\)](#)



# HV Network and the Challenge Ahead



## Current State of the Dublin Network

- The Dublin Network is constrained, and Dublin Central is one of the worst affected areas:
  - Years of XLEU (Extra Large Energy User) growth
  - For scale one XLEU can be the equivalent of an entire city (e.g. Galway/Limerick) on the electricity system, there are multiples of these in the North County Dublin

## The Challenge Ahead

- The challenge ahead for my team is a combination of:
  - Electrification of Heat and Transport (People will be more reliant on a secure connection)
  - Housing growth (Housing crisis so we need to be able to connect these quickly)
  - Large Customers (Good for jobs and the economy-also looking to electrify their processes)
- The challenge ahead is not unique to Dublin or even Ireland
  - Ofgem in the UK are expecting a 5 fold increase in spend on the electrical infrastructure
- The change required is unprecedented in recent times, rural electrification is the only comparable event in recent history.

# How the county council can help enable ESBN



To enable housing, electrification, new customers etc. we need to move quicker, we need to have infrastructure in place ahead of these

➤ Our biggest challenges to building the infrastructure quicker:

- **Sites and Planning Permission**- Long lead time to find a suitable site and to get planning permission on the site
- **Need public acceptance of the Infrastructure**
- **Upfront investment is needed ahead of time to facilitate quicker connections and more reliable connections**
- **Improved communication and collaboration: with other utilities, county councils, government bodies as road space for example is limited and the recession/post-recession approach will no longer work**

**Challenge the County Council may be able to help with:**

➤ The challenge ahead for my team is a combination of:

- **Sites (40 - 50 sites required across Dublin)**
- **Planning Permission, timelines involved can be slow**
- **Advanced Notice: Large developments have been coming in with planning permission and no site allowed for a HV station (Belmayne, Grangegorman)**
- **Cable routes/advanced ducting: Getting all our future needs captured while a road is open**

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# Thank You