

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Dep John Connolly welcomes progress on Connemara electricity network upgrade

Fianna Fáil Galway West TD, John Connolly, has welcomed the “vital progress” being made by the ESB on its electricity network upgrade works in Connemara.

Following contact from Dep Connolly, the ESB Head Office informed him that the €5 million upgrade works “continue to progress well”, with around 380 potential hazards on the electricity network cleared, and approximately 160 poles and 3,500 copper terminals replaced.

Much of the current work is taking place around the Clifden region, including in a Special Area of Conservation, meaning various guidelines and practices have to be followed to protect the unique characteristics of that environment.

The ESB informed Dep Connolly, that as a result, upgrade works here require “more time and resources than in other areas of the country”, and that a “full-time ecologist is on the ground assisting our crews and contractors”.

A further challenge is the Connemara landscape and weather, including the region’s often rocky and boggy terrain, which require “bespoke solutions” for the installation of various electrical equipment and components.

“I welcome the progress being made by the ESB on the upgrade for the Connemara network, which is vital for the connectivity of the region,” said Dep Connolly. “On completion, these works will result in a more resilient network for homes, farms and businesses in the area.”

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For more information or to arrange an interview with Dep John Connolly on this issue, contact: 087 - 9032345