



Celtic Interconnector

La liaison électrique entre la France et l'Irlande
Connecting the electricity grids of Ireland and France

Project Overview

The Celtic Interconnector project will create an electrical interconnection between Ireland and France to allow the exchange of electricity between the two countries. The connection will link the existing electricity substation located in Knockraha (in east Cork) to the substation in La Martyre (Finistère, France). It will contribute to a more secure and a more sustainable electricity supply by providing Ireland's only direct energy connection to an EU member state. The project is being developed by EirGrid, the electricity transmission system operator in Ireland, and its French counterpart Réseau de Transport d'Électricité (RTE).

In this Issue



- Project Update
- What's Happening Now
- RTE (Réseau de Transport d'Électricité) Update
- Community Benefit Fund
- Sponsorship Highlights
- The Project in Numbers
- Did You Know

Project Update

Cable route

Onshore works at Claycastle Beach in east Cork have now been completed, with the final onshore cable installed from the landfall point, ready for the subsea cable from France to come ashore and connect into the underground cable on land.

Comprehensive testing of the onshore cables has been successfully completed, with 44km of high voltage alternating current (HVAC) and high voltage direct current (HVDC) cable installed and operationally ready.

All passing bays on the local and rural roads have now been reinstated with roads returned to normal traffic.

Final permanent road reinstatement has been completed on the HVAC and HVDC routes on all affected local, rural and national roads.

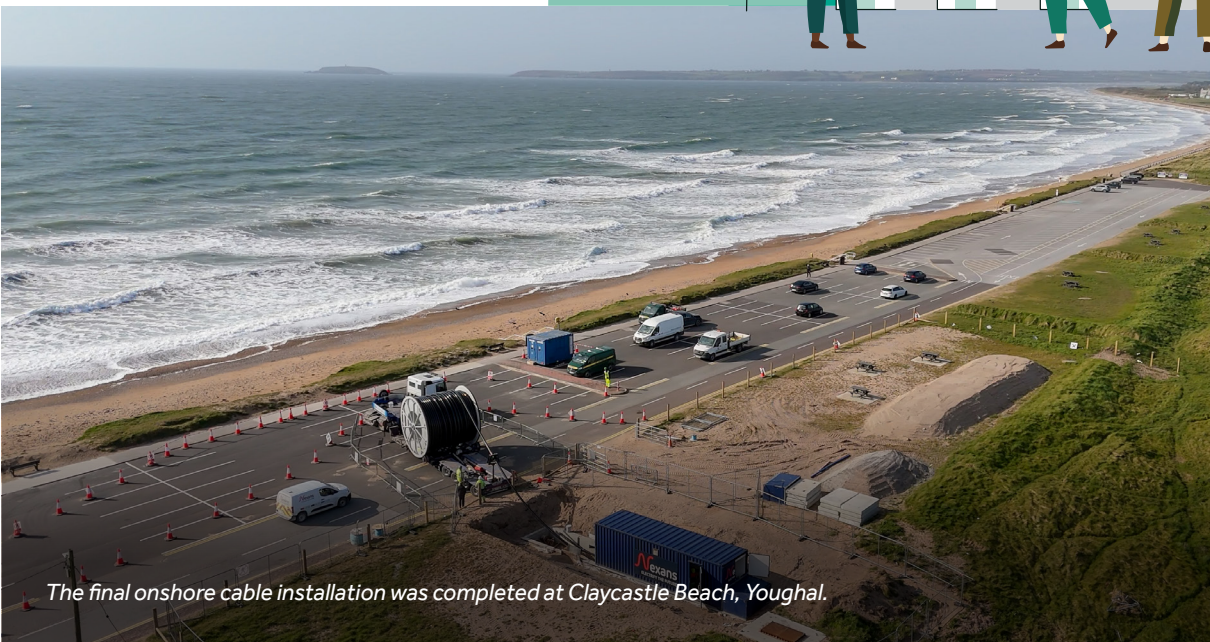


Converter station

All alternating and direct current terminations are now complete with civil works and electrical equipment installation close to completion.

The high voltage electrical equipment installation and control system installation are well advanced and will conclude shortly.

All required civil, structural and architectural works are substantially completed.



The final onshore cable installation was completed at Claycastle Beach, Youghal.



The onshore cable is now ready for the subsea cable from France to come ashore and connect into the underground cable on land.

What's Happening Now

Permanent road reinstatement works along the HVDC route are nearing completion, with removal of passing bays on local and rural roads along the route also close to completion. Final reinstatement of private lands, boundary walls and berms continue.

Commissioning and testing of electrical equipment at Ballyadam converter station is progressing, alongside testing of installed electrical equipment.



Restored stone wall along the Celtic Interconnector cable route.

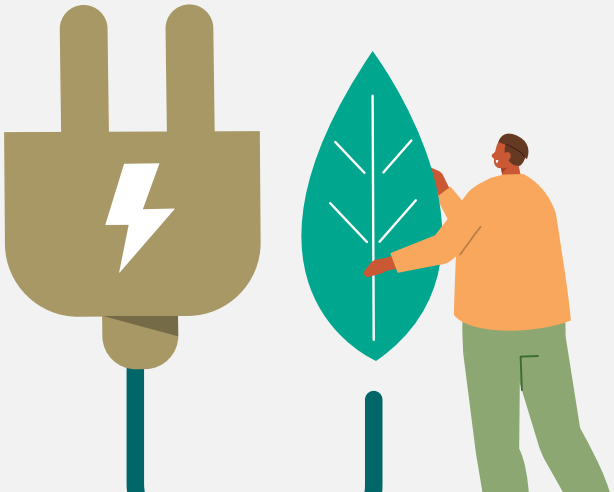
Building Back Better

In line with EirGrid's commitment to "building back better", recently, works concluded on the rebuilding of stone walls and the restoration of hedgerows with locally native species to support biodiversity efforts.

EirGrid's approach means going beyond replacing what was there before and looking for opportunities to improve biodiversity outcomes, strengthen ecosystem resilience and create lasting environmental benefits alongside this essential infrastructure.

In the Marine

There are currently 500 people working in French and Irish waters with cable protection and burial works taking place in Irish waters following the installation of 84km of cable last year.



RTE (Réseau de Transport d'Électricité) Update

The first cable-laying campaign in French waters was successfully completed in May. Offshore cable protection works commenced shortly afterwards and will continue through to the end of September.

Onshore, civil works in preparation for the installation of the underground cables are nearing completion. At the Ar Merzher Converter Station, installation works have now been completed, and commissioning activities are underway ahead of the first energisation, which is scheduled to take place this summer.



Cable laying vessel 'Calypso' in French waters.
Pic: Mathieu Le Gall

Community Benefit Fund

EirGrid representative Eoghan O'Sullivan was delighted to attend the recent community event to mark the blessing of the new community bus by Father Pat O'Donoghue.

Phase 1 of the Youghal Community Bus /The Youghal Community Transport Group received €70,000 funding from the Celtic Interconnector Community Benefit Fund towards the purchase of a wheelchair accessible adapted EV 6-seater bus.

Tommy Collins spoke of the importance of the community bus in Youghal and the great work that people within the community have done to ensure it remains operational for users.



Mayor of the County of Cork Mary Linehan Foley pictured with Noel McCarthy TD, Cllr Rory Cocking, Tommy Collins and EirGrid Community Liaison Officer Eoghan O'Sullivan at the blessing event.

Community Spotlight

The upward trajectory of Imokilly Comhaltas has continued unabated this year with a full U12 & U18 band at this year's Fleadh Cheoil Chorcaí. This was the culmination of months of hard work by both the students and their dedicated teachers.

Preparation for the Fleadh was also aided by several public performances in surroundings such as Cork City Hall and Cloyne Cathedral. In these performances, as well as the Fleadh, the bands not only played brilliantly, but also looked great, with new bench uniforms that were part funded by EirGrid.



The U12 & U18 Imokilly Comhaltas at this year's Fleadh Cheoil Chorcaí.

Enable Ireland Hub

Enable Ireland service owners, family members, staff and stakeholders gathered in Midleton, Co Cork recently to launch a fundraising campaign for a new Adult Services Hub called Mill View.

The charity, a disability services provider, purchased a property on the Cork Road in Midleton.

The new development will include modernisation of the existing building and the addition of purpose-built accessible features for individuals with disabilities and was a beneficiary of phase 2 of the Celtic Interconnector Community Benefit Fund receiving €23,700 towards the initial refurbishment costs.

“

EirGrid is proud to support the vital work being delivered by Enable Ireland through the Celtic Interconnector Community Benefit Fund. The Mill View Hub will have a meaningful and lasting impact on the lives of so many, and we wish the Enable Ireland team every success as they deliver this important and inspiring project.

Michelle Walsh,
Celtic Interconnector
Community Liaison Officer
EirGrid

”



Service owner Richard Fitzgerald with Enable Ireland CEO John O'Sullivan, Maria Desmond, Enable Ireland and Michelle Walsh, EirGrid.



The Project in Numbers



821,265

the number in thousands of euros shared from Phase 2 of the Celtic Interconnector Community Benefit Fund.



Did You Know?



There are currently **1,500 people** working on the Celtic Interconnector project.

Project Timeline

2026



Offshore cable installation continues.

Continuing of submarine cable protection campaigns.

Converter station compound construction complete.

Commissioning & testing phase commences.

2027



Continuation of offshore marine cable installation.

Continuation of submarine cable protection campaigns.

2028



Final marine installation and burial campaign.

Completion of converter station commissioning & testing.

Trial operation & commercial operation.

How to Contact Us

At EirGrid, we are committed to engaging with communities during all phases of project development. We remain grateful for the continued patience and support of communities, landowners, and stakeholders as we progress this work.



Michelle Walsh

EirGrid Community
Liaison Officer
085 870 4999



Suzanne Fox

Sorensen Liaison Officer
086 032 6171

To subscribe to project updates by email, register at celticinterconnector@eirgrid.com

You can unsubscribe from receiving updates at any time by emailing celticinterconnector@eirgrid.com



Scan here to stay up to date on project progress or visit www.eirgrid.ie/celticinterconnector



Co-financed by the Connecting Europe
Facility of the European Union

The Celtic interconnector project is being developed by EirGrid, the operator of the energy transfer system in Ireland, and its counterpart in France, RTE (Réseau de Transport d'Électricité).

Copyright © 2026 | EirGrid | All rights reserved.



Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040