



Powering Up Dublin

Inchicore to Poolbeg



EirGrid is responsible for the electricity grid in Ireland. Our work provides reliable power for all users in Ireland, as we lead the way to a low carbon future. The grid supplies electricity for our homes, businesses, schools, hospitals and farms.

We are writing to you today to provide you with an update on the Best Performing Option for the Inchicore to Poolbeg underground cable replacement project, which is part of Powering Up Dublin.

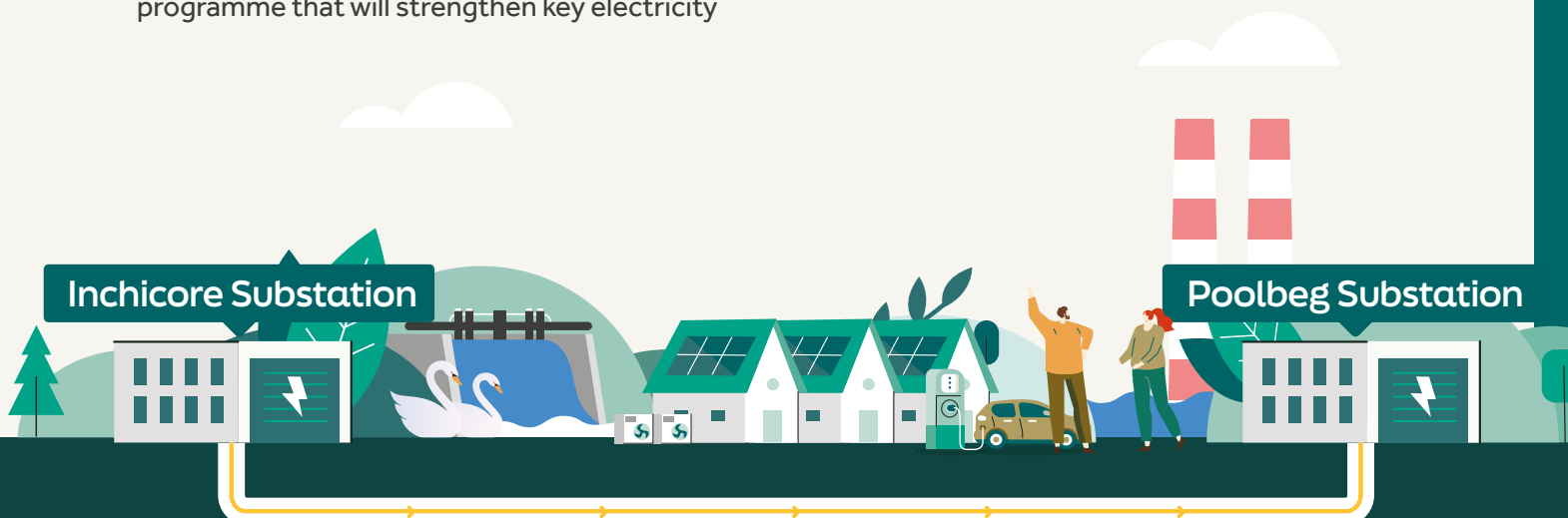
As Dublin's electricity infrastructure is ageing, work must be done now to transform and modernise the city's infrastructure so Dublin can continue to develop and thrive providing the necessary power for increased housing, new businesses and industry, electrification of our transport system and heating of our homes with cleaner energy solutions. This is a critical programme that will strengthen key electricity

infrastructure in Dublin and the surrounding areas, helping to make Ireland 'renewable ready'.

Powering Up Dublin involves the installation of 50km of high voltage underground cables to replace older cables across Dublin and reinforce the grid. These underground cables will link the following electricity substations to each other:

- › Finglas substation and Poolbeg substation (via North Wall)
- › Carrickmines substation and Poolbeg substation
- › Two cables linking Inchicore substation and Poolbeg substation

The project also involves substation upgrades and the construction of a new electricity transmission substation in central Dublin.



What has happened so far?

In 2024, EirGrid published the Best Performing Options for two of the routes – Finglas to Poolbeg and Carrickmines to Poolbeg. Feedback received during the consultation, along with engagement with local schools, public representatives, community groups, business groups, utilities providers, individuals and other stakeholders helped significantly to determine these routes.

Progress updates on both of these routes can be found on our website [EirGrid.ie/Dublin](https://eirgrid.ie/Dublin).

Progress update

Three options for the two cables required to connect the Inchicore substation with Poolbeg were presented for feedback as part of the public consultation. In 2024, we discounted one of the options due to the discovery of a number of significant technical, environmental and historical constraints.

Since then, EirGrid has been undertaking a series of assessments and site investigations on the other two proposed routes. These surveys identified areas on the routes that are not practically passable without major disruption to existing utilities, services and the local community.

What is happening now?

Following further design development and engagement of an experienced tunnelling experts, EirGrid has now identified the best performing technology solution for these two essential cables as a microtunnel. The project is currently in step 4 of EirGrid's six step process for grid development.

The microtunnel will be between 15 and 60 meters below the surface, and will travel under the Grand Canal and the public road network where possible. Both cables will be contained in a single microtunnel.

The introduction of a microtunnel for this essential public infrastructure is the first time a technology of this type has been proposed by EirGrid. The micro tunnel will facilitate the crossing of both cables together from the Inchicore substation to the Poolbeg substation. This solution significantly reduces traffic disruption and improves long-term resilience.

A detailed report on how this decision was reached can be viewed and downloaded on the project website [EirGrid.ie/Dublin](https://eirgrid.ie/Dublin).

What happens next?

The proposed route is still in development. It is envisioned that the microtunnel will travel from Inchicore under the Grand Canal where possible, and on towards Dublin Bay. The number of tunnel shafts and their locations will be determined as the design develops.

EirGrid and its partners will continue to assess the proposed route and engage with stakeholders and communities to determine a final proposal. We will then publish that route for consultation in early 2026, including more information on tunnel shaft locations, project timelines and details on the specifics of building a services microtunnel.

Please visit our website [EirGrid.ie/Dublin](https://eirgrid.ie/Dublin) to find out more.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns you can contact our dedicated Community Liaison Officers:



Liz Dillon

Community Liaison Officer

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Stephen Quinn

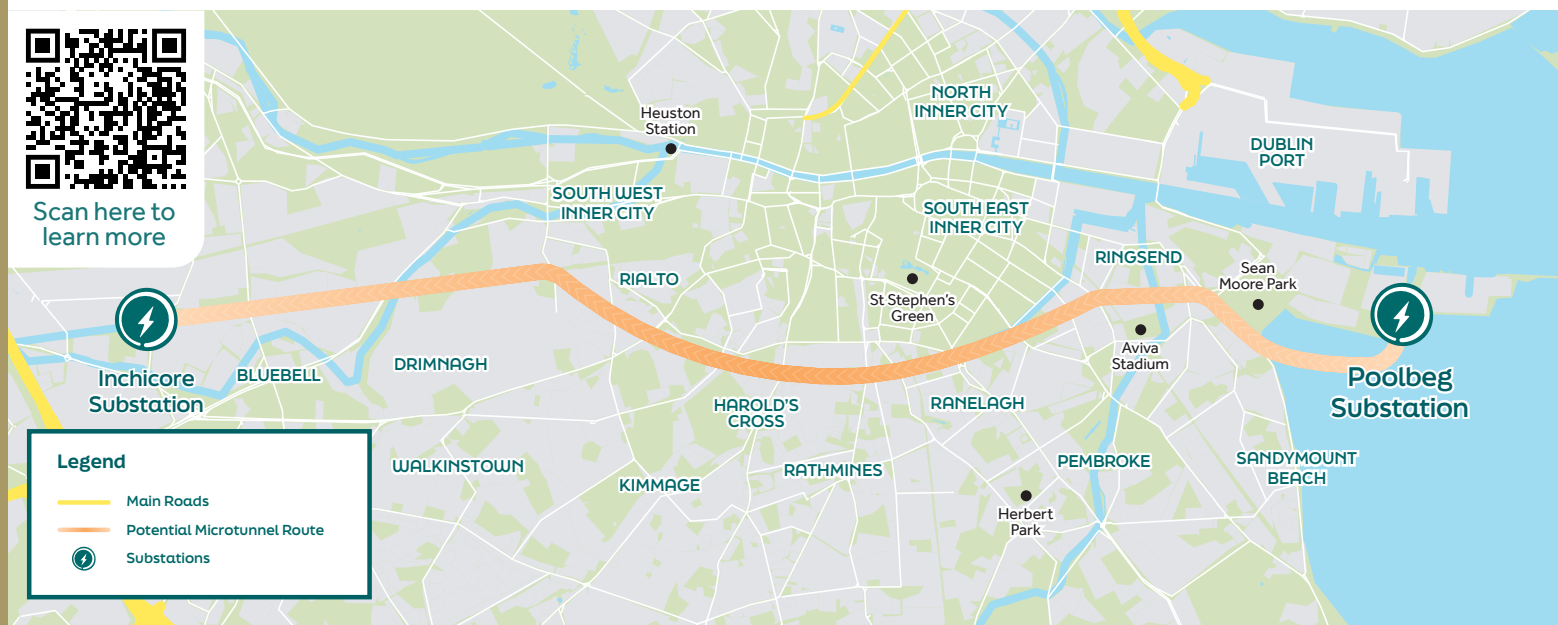
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Scan here to learn more



Legend

- Main Roads
- Potential Microtunnel Route
- Substations