

Hon. Anamero Sunday Dekeri

Media Office

MOTION MOVED ON THE 5TH of OCTOBER 2023

URGENT NEED TO STEM THE RISING CASES OF ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION IN ETSAKO FEDERAL CONSTITUENCY, EDO STATE.

The House:

Concerned at the increasing rate of environmental degradation in Etsako Federal Constituency, Edo State as a result of rainstorm disasters and gully erosion which has led to several deaths, destruction of properties including houses, and farms, and rendered some places inaccessible.

Aware of the recent rainstorm disaster affected Okpella in Etsako East Local Government Area, where the bridge connecting Iddo-Okugbe with Awuyemi leading to the Federal Highway was washed away, electricity poles and communication routes connecting parts of the State with other parts of the country were destroyed;

Also, aware that in Etsako West Local Government Area, there are several cases of gully erosion sites at different magnitudes posing significant danger to lives and properties. In Ogwokhai community, Aibotse Hitage Zone, Osomeke and Oshiomhole Village, and along Aviele-Auchi Federal Highway by Osokwili Axis (Etsako West, State Constituency 1), from one side and on the other side (State Constituency 2) the Auchi to Agenebode Federal Highway has been cut off by a large gully at the Ayogwiri-Ogbona axis of the road, rendering vehicular movement from the Northern to Southern parts of the country through the route impassable;

Realizing the need to stem this ugly trend where several communities and families affected by environmental degradation occasioned by rainstorm and gully erosion disasters have been forced to abandon their ancestral homes, and businesses and relocate for safety.

Resolves to:

1. Urge the Rural Electrification Agency to, as a matter of urgency, replace the damaged electricity poles, wires, and other components; and reconnect the affected communities to the national grid.
2. Also urge the Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to urgently intervene and reconstruct the bridge linking Iddo-Okugbe Communities with Awuyemi Community and Ayogwiri-Ogbona axis of the Auchi to Agencbode Federal Highway to allow immediate access by vehicles and commuters to other parts of the country;
3. Further, Urge, the Federal Ministry of Works, to direct the Contractor handling the Auchi to Agencbode Federal Highway project back to the site to amend works on the failed area and other emerging parts of the road;

4. Furthermore, urge the Federal Ministry of Environment and the Office of Ecological Fund to declare a state of emergency on Auchu and its environment to provide holistic remediation to safeguard lives and properties in Etsako Federal Constituency, Edo State.

5. Finally, Urge the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development and National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to affected communities across Etsako Federal Constituency, Edo State; and

6. Mandate the House Committees on FERMA, NEMA, Ecological Fund, and Rural Electrification to ensure compliance and report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action.