Cabinet Secretary for Transport Fiona Hyslop MSP

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Edward Mountain MSP Convener Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee Scottish Parliament By email: <u>netzero.committee@parliament.scot</u>

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Dear Edward

A9 Dualling Programme: Tomatin to Moy Project

Further to my letter of 16 August 2024, I am writing to provide an update on the construction programme for the Tomatin to Moy project, as I previously advised. I can confirm that the contractor's construction programme for this project has now been received and reviewed.

The contractor's confirmed programme plans for main construction work to start in Spring 2025.

Ahead of that time, the contractor, Balfour Beatty, will be undertaking a range of preparatory works commencing on 21 October 2024, including construction of temporary accesses to work areas, erection of boundary fencing, tree removal, installation of welfare units, surveying, and utility works. Balfour Beatty also plans to hold "Meet the Contractor" events for local residents, communities and businesses, with dates and venues for these events to be advertised in the coming weeks

The programme indicates that dualling is expected to become operational in Spring 2028, this date being potentially subject to change in the event of any extension of time being granted, such as due to the effects of exceptionally adverse weather. Whilst the expected dualling operational date is slightly later than the anticipated date of by the end of 2027, this will have no effect on either the expected overall completion date of the A9 Dualling programme of the end of 2035, or on the expected dates of commencement of any of the procurements within the A9 Dualling delivery plan.

Yours sincerely,

FIONA HYSLOP Cabinet Secretary for Transport

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