

## M7/M8 PORTLAOISE MOTORWAY SCHEME



### Construction Progress

The slight improvement in weather conditions has brought with it increased activity and productivity in many parts of the Site. The import of materials to the Site is progressing well and many of the high embankments are nearing completion. Works on all of the 47 main bridges are now either under construction or nearing completion with some already open to traffic. There has been a major concentration of Work in the past couple of months on the realigned new section of R435 Borris-in-Ossory to Rathdowney road and this new road is opening this Summer.

### Earthworks

As outlined in our last Newsletter a very large quantity of 'fill' material was required to make up the shortfall on site to construct the embankments. The importation of this shortfall of material is proceeding well. We again wish to

thank the local community, residents and landowners for their continued co-operation in this matter.

The areas of 'cut' are also nearing completion. Blasting in the rock cut areas has been successfully completed and final trimming to level and profile of side slopes is now being finalised. The quality of the excavated rock from the cut locations has facilitated the processing of this material onsite. This has allowed us to reduce the amount of trucks on the public road and minimise the disturbance to the public. One product that is manufactured on site is the CBGM (cement bound granular material). The rock is first crushed on site in crushing plants in order to achieve a certain size/grading of stone. The stone is then added to an on site batching plant where the cement and water are added under strict quality procedures to make the CBGM material.

*Continued overleaf*

### MILESTONES FOR THE PPP SCHEME

Contract Award . . . . .14th June 2007

Contract Signature . .14th June 2007

Contract Duration . . . . .48 months

Road Open . . . . .Autumn 2010



## Drainage

Improved weather conditions in the past few months have helped greatly in the construction of drainage networks. We now have completed approximately 60% of the drainage works on the Project. All piped culverts including their associated headwalls and all but two of the 29 no. Box-culverts are complete. Recently a number of stream and river diversions have been successfully completed under the supervision of the Southern Regional Fisheries Board. The target for the coming months of hopefully good weather will be to complete as much of the motorway roadside drainage as possible.



The effectiveness of our Environmental Operating Plan can be seen in the photograph above showing a family of swans taking up residence in one of the many Attenuation Ponds shortly after its completion.

## Pavement

The realignment and paving of many of the Regional and Local county roads are in progress and some have already been opened to traffic. It is our intention to complete these roads as quickly as possible and transfer local traffic onto these improved road surfaces and Overbridges. This will also provide continuity for 'mainline' paving works which has commenced recently.

The mainline paving consists of a number of layers namely CBGM layer, bitumen basecourse, bitumen binder course and wearing course in varying thicknesses depending on site conditions and predicted traffic volumes. The aggregates for the CBGM layer have been either processed on site from site won material or sourced in local pits/quarries and the stone for the asphalt layers has also been sourced in local quarries.

## Structures

Good progress continues to be made on all 47 structures of the Project. There are now fourteen bridges substantially completed, some of which are open to traffic. Work has commenced recently on the last three structures over the busy Dublin-Cork railway line. This follows a period of consultation and agreement with Irish Rail and Railway Safety Commission involving detailed bridge design, construction methods and construction programme. Some work will be carried out at night to avoid disruption to train timetables.



## Liaison with Public

In recent months PJV staff have visited a number of local primary schools to give a presentation on Site Safety and construction progress on the M7M8 Motorway Scheme. These presentations were a great success and proved to be very popular with the pupils and teachers at each school. The focus of these visits was to highlight the many dangers that can be found on a construction site and to advise all to keep away from the motorway construction site at all times. Some progress photos were also shown and this was followed by an enthusiastic 'questions and answers' session. Apart from a few tricky queries, the questions were very relevant which confirms how well educated and informed our younger generation are. PJV would like to take this opportunity to thank each of the school principals and teachers for their assistance during each visit and all the pupils for their exemplary behaviour.



*pupils from Scoil Bhríde Mountrath with Siobhan Flannery (PJV Safety Officer) and JP Kelly (PJV Site Agent).*



# Traffic Management

## Road Closure Information

Diversion/ Closure	Details	Diversion/ Closure Start Date	Closure Finish Date	Comment
D	Lismore - Ardvamey	8-Jul-'08		
C	Corraun to Coolbally	16-Jun-'08	13-Mar'09	Open under Traffic Management
D	Aghaboe - Clogh	16-Jun-'08		
D	Aghaboe -Gortnaclea	16-Jun-'08		
C	Derrybeg	28-Jul-'08	17-Apr-'09	Open under traffic management
C	Cullahill - Aghmacart	04-Nov-'08	31-July-'09	
D	Ballacolla - Rathdowney	30-Sep-'08		
C	Apple Road	14-Apr-'09	14-Oct-'09	
D	Four Roads to Clogh	16-Sep-'08		Open under traffic management
D	Ballacolla - Aghaboe	30-Jun-'08		
C	Fourteen Bridge - Clonenagh	20-Apr-'09	20-Oct-'09	

## The Team

### The Authority



### The PPP Company



CELTIC ROADS GROUP  
PORTLAOISE LTD.

### The Construction



As from the 31st October 2008  
Ascon Contractors Ltd. Became  
Bam Contractors Ltd



PORTLAOISE JOINT VENTURE

### The Design



## WHERE YOU CAN CONTACT US

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