



**Richard Willcock**  
Group Company Secretary

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23 November 2012

ASX Market Announcements  
Australian Securities Exchange Limited  
Level 4  
20 Bridge Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

**RE: Thies Preferred Contractor on Pacific Highway Upgrade**

Please find attached a copy of a media release to be issued by Thies Pty Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Leighton Holdings Limited, and a copy of a joint release from the Federal and NSW Governments.

Yours faithfully,

R. Willcock  
Group Company Secretary



## MEDIA RELEASE

**Thiess Pty Ltd**  
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**23 November 2012**

### **Thiess Preferred Contractor on Pacific Highway Upgrade**

Thiess welcomes the announcement by the Federal and NSW State Governments today that the Thiess MacMahon joint venture (TMJV) has been selected as preferred contractor by the NSW Government to upgrade the Pacific Highway between the Frederickton Interchange and Eungai.

Thiess is a 60% partner in the joint venture which will design and construct a 26.5km four lane divided carriageway.

Thiess Managing Director Bruce Munro says the project is another great roads milestone for Thiess in New South Wales.

“We are currently in an alliance delivering the Hunter Expressway near Newcastle and the Pacific Highway project is perfectly timed to benefit from the expertise gained on that project,” Mr Munro said.

“Thiess will celebrate 80 years of road building during the life of this project, an achievement of which all at Thiess are immensely proud.”

The contract will be signed in December and while the value is yet to be finalised, it is expected to be in the order of \$450 million.

Please see joint government release following.

ENDS

Media contact: Alex Smith 07 3002 9673, 0412 796 183 or email [asmith1@thiess.com.au](mailto:asmith1@thiess.com.au)

With an annual turnover of \$6.5 billion and 20,000 employees, Thiess is Australia's leading and most trusted construction, mining and services contractor, and a wholly owned subsidiary of Leighton Holdings Limited.



**Anthony Albanese**  
Federal Infrastructure and Transport Minister



**Duncan Gay**  
NSW Roads and Ports Minister

# Joint Media Statement

## PREFERRED BUILDERS SELECTED FOR FREDERICKTON TO EUNGAI

Thiess and McMahon Contractors have been selected to design and deliver the upgrade of the Pacific Highway between Frederickton and Eungai, with construction on this section expected to begin in the middle of next year.

Federal Infrastructure and Transport Minister Anthony Albanese said the project is part of the ongoing upgrade and full duplication of the Highway, the most expensive and complex road project ever undertaken in Australia.

“More than two decades since the horrific Clybucca bus crash and after three years of planning and community consultations, I’m extremely pleased work on fixing this notorious 26.5 kilometre section will finally be underway by this time next year,” said Mr Albanese.

“Once completed in 2016, this new, fully duplicated section will link up with the Kempsey Bypass which is currently under-construction and on track to be completed before Easter – more than 12 months early.”

The \$762 million project will be funded on a 50-50 basis by both the Federal and NSW governments, with the new section to be built to the west of the Highway’s existing alignment – see attached map.

NSW Roads and Ports Minister Duncan Gay said the Frederickton to Eungai upgrade will save lives and further reduce journey times.

“The project will also build a major new interchange at Stuarts Point Road, install additional rest areas on both sides of the Highway south of Barraganyatti near Cooks Lane, and ensure local farmers can move equipment and livestock into and out of their properties,” said Mr Gay.

“Lastly, it will prevent the Highway from being cut by all but a once in a century flooding event.”

As at 30 June 2012, 346 kilometres – or almost 52 per cent – of the Pacific Highway had been upgraded to ‘motorway standard’. Compared to the mid-90s, the duplication that’s already been completed has reduced the time it takes to drive from Sydney to Brisbane by up to 90 minutes. Annual fatalities have been cut in half.

**Friday, 23 November 2012**

### Media Contacts

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