

Special Projects
Major Transport Infrastructure Projects

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Jo Blewett
Head of Design Team 2
MTRIPS
Transport Scotland
Buchanan House
58 Port Dundas Road
Glasgow
G4 0HF



Your ref: Final A9 Kinraig to Dalraddy decision submission 11 June 2014

Our ref: A9 Dualling - Kinraig to Dalraddy

Date: 19th August 2014

Dear Mrs Blewett

A9 Dualling Kinraig to Dalraddy Scheme

**THE A9 TRUNK ROAD (KINCRAIG TO DALRADDY) (SIDE ROADS) ORDER 20[]
THE A9 TRUNK ROAD (KINCRAIG TO DALRADDY) COMPULSORY PURCHASE
ORDER 20[]**

Following consideration of your email in relation to the above draft Orders entitled Roads - Final A9 Kinraig to Dalraddy decision submission 11 June 201, it is hereby confirmed that that the decision of the Scottish Ministers is to :

- dispense with the holding of a Public Local Inquiry into the outstanding objections to the draft Orders;
- make the draft Orders and the associated draft Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) as published; and
- issue decision letters to the outstanding objectors

Attached for your information, are copies of the letters which will be issued today, 19th August 2014, to the objectors.

Yours Sincerely

Graham Porteous
Head of Special Projects

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Director Transport Policy

Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ
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G. Jones (Convener)
Badenoch & Strathspey Conservation Group
Fiodhag
Nethybridge
Inverness-shire
PH25 3DJ

Your ref:

Our ref: A9 Dualling - Kincaig to Dalraddy

Date: 19th August 2014

Dear Mr Jones,

A9 DUALLING - KINCRAIG TO DALRADDY

This letter contains the Scottish Ministers' decision on the draft Orders listed below in connection with the proposed A9 Dualling - Kincaig to Dalraddy Scheme.

Background

The Scottish Ministers published the undernoted draft Orders on 1st November 2013 for the proposed A9 Dualling - Kincaig to Dalraddy Scheme:

- The A9 Trunk Road (Kincaig To Dalraddy) (Side Roads) Order 20[]
- The A9 Trunk Road (Kincaig To Dalraddy) Compulsory Purchase Order 20[]

The above Orders notified the intention to dual a 7.5km section of the A9 Trunk Road lying broadly between Kincaig and Dalraddy, 11km south west of Aviemore. The proposed Scheme supports the Scottish Ministers policy for a programme to dual the A9 between Perth and Inverness by 2025, which will be designed to deliver economic growth through improvements to road safety and journey times as well as better links to pedestrian, cycling and public transport facilities.

Badenoch & Strathspey Conservation Group (BSCG) lodged a written objection to the draft Orders and to elements of the Environmental Statement on 13th December 2013. Notwithstanding subsequent correspondence and a site meeting with the Promoter on 11th March 2014 that objection has been maintained. Your objection has been referred to the Scottish Ministers, who have considered the reasons put forward, taking into account the nature and purpose of the proposals. They have concluded that a decision can be reached without recourse to a Public Local Inquiry. They have decided that each of the above draft Orders should be made.

Summary of objection

Your objection of 13th December 2013 centres on the following points.

- 1) Management of the project;
- 2) Implications for climate change targets;



- 3) Delivery of National Park aims, conformity with the aspirations of the Park Partnership Plan and CNP Local plan policies, including the possibility of upgrading improvements in the original road construction, the loss of stopping places and the quality of infrastructure for non-vehicle users;
- 4) Credibility of Surveys;
- 5) Deficiencies in wood ant translocation proposals and post construction monitoring;
- 6) Concern over the lack of green bridges specifically for mammals, amphibians and reptiles;
- 7) Concern that wild cats are "highly likely" to be killed crossing the road; and
- 8) The lack of crossing points for the potential viable reintroduction of lynx and other large mammals.

Response from the Promoter

The Promoter responded on 14th February 2014 addressing all of your points in detail. Issues such as laybys and provision of green bridges will be considered taking cognisance of the overall A9 dualling programme.

It is also noted that BSCG have been invited to participate in the A9 Environmental Forum.

Consideration by the Scottish Ministers

The Scottish Ministers having reviewed the issues raised in your objection are of the view that apart from the lack of a green bridge for wild cats and other mammals within the footprint of the Scheme, there are no other major engineering design or environmental issues raised in your objection which has not been fully addressed by the Promoter in their respective responses and undertakings. In relation to the green bridge issue the Promoter has given an undertaking that provision of such crossings will be reviewed, where there is a need, through the A9 Dualling Environmental Forum and wider A9 Dualling Programme.

It is considered that the issues raised in your objection have been fully addressed by the Promoter in their respective responses and undertakings; and that there are no other major engineering design or environmental issues in your objection that would require the Scottish Ministers to modify or republish the draft Orders or Environmental Statement for the Scheme.

The Scottish Ministers are of the view that the issues raised in the Badenoch & Strathspey Conservation Group's objection are clear and well understood, and in the circumstances of this case, the holding of a Public Local Inquiry is not necessary.

Accordingly the Scottish Ministers have concluded that the undernoted draft Orders should be made as published, and without recourse to a Public Local Inquiry.

The A9 Trunk Road (Kincaig To Dalraddy) (Side Roads) Order 20[]

The A9 Trunk Road (Kincaig To Dalraddy) Compulsory Purchase Order 20[]

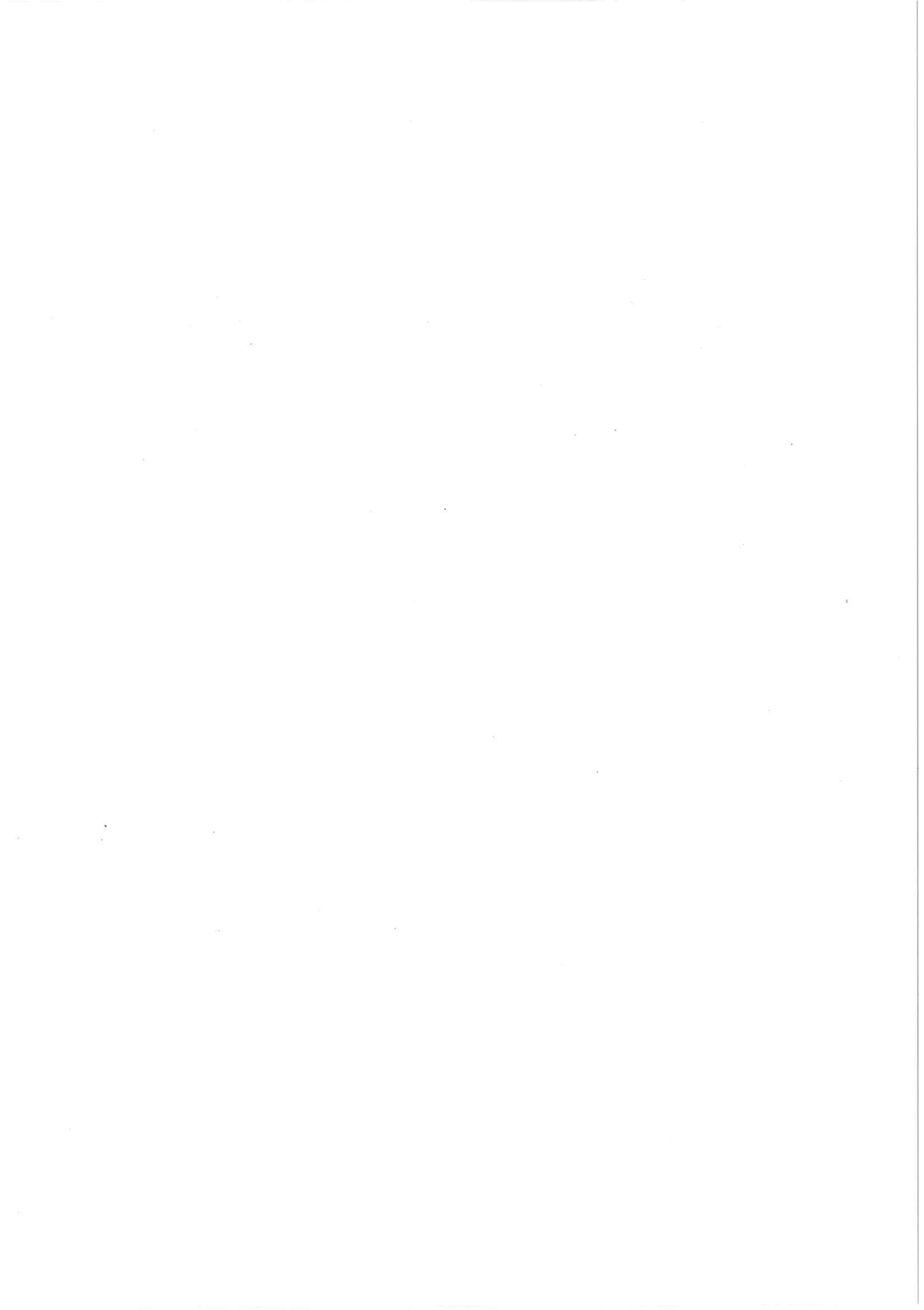
The forgoing decision of the Scottish Ministers is final but any person aggrieved who decides to question its validity may apply to the Court of Session within six weeks of the date on which the notice of the making of the Orders is first published.

Yours sincerely

Donald Carmichael

Donald Carmichael

Director Transport Policy
Transport Scotland



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A. Farr (Planning Manager)
Buglife Scotland
Balallan House
24 Allan Park
FK8 2QG

Your ref:

Our ref: A9 Dualling - Kincaig to Dalraddy

Date: 19th August 2014

Dear Mrs Farr,

A9 DUALLING - KINCRAIG TO DALRADDY

This letter contains the Scottish Ministers' decision on the draft Orders listed below in connection with the proposed A9 Dualling - Kincaig to Dalraddy Scheme.

Background

The Scottish Ministers published the undernoted draft Orders on 1st November 2013 for the proposed A9 Dualling - Kincaig to Dalraddy Scheme:

- The A9 Trunk Road (Kincaig To Dalraddy) (Side Roads) Order 20[]
- The A9 Trunk Road (Kincaig To Dalraddy) Compulsory Purchase Order 20[]

The above Orders notified the intention to dual a 7.5km section of the A9 Trunk Road lying broadly between Kincaig and Dalraddy, 11km south west of Aviemore. The proposed Scheme supports the Scottish Ministers policy for a programme to dual the A9 between Perth and Inverness by 2025, which will be designed to deliver economic growth through improvements to road safety and journey times as well as better links to pedestrian, cycling and public transport facilities.

Buglife (Scotland) lodged a written objection to the draft Orders and to elements of the Environmental Statement on 13th December 2013. Notwithstanding subsequent correspondence with the Promoter that objection has been maintained. Your objection has been referred to the Scottish Ministers, who have considered the reasons put forward, taking into account the nature and purpose of the proposals. They have concluded that a decision can be reached without recourse to a Public Local Inquiry. They have decided that each of the above draft Orders should be made.

Summary of objection

Your objection of 13th December 2013 centres on the following points.

- 1) No invertebrate assessment in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA);
- 2) Translocation of Hairy Wood Ant (*Formica lugubris*)



Response from the Promoter

The Promoter responded on 14th February 2014 addressing your concerns. It is noted that the Promoter has invited you to participate in the A9 Environmental Forum.

Consideration by the Scottish Ministers

The Scottish Ministers have reviewed your objection in relation to the assessment of invertebrate habitats and a strategy for the translocation of wood ants. It is noted the Promoter has responded by confirming that habitat surveys were undertaken as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment process and the mitigation measures for these habitats have been included within the Environmental Statement. The Promoter has further confirmed that they are currently planning to translocate the hairy wood ants in advance of the main works commencing, and surveys are currently underway to identify the areas for this work.

It is considered that the issues raised in your objection have been fully addressed by the Promoter in their respective responses and undertakings; and that there are no other major engineering design or environmental issues in your objection that would require the Scottish Ministers to modify or republish the draft Orders or Environmental Statement for the Scheme.

The Scottish Ministers are of the view that the issues raised in Buglife Scotland's objection are clear and well understood, and in the circumstances of this case, the holding of a Public Local Inquiry is not necessary.

Accordingly the Scottish Ministers have concluded that the undernoted draft Orders should be made as published, and without recourse to a Public Local Inquiry.

The A9 Trunk Road (Kincaig To Dalraddy) (Side Roads) Order 20[]

The A9 Trunk Road (Kincaig To Dalraddy) Compulsory Purchase Order 20[]

The forgoing decision of the Scottish Ministers is final but any person aggrieved who decides to question its validity may apply to the Court of Session within six weeks of the date on which the notice of the making of the Orders is first published.

Yours sincerely



Donald Carmichael

Director Transport Policy
Transport Scotland

Director Transport Policy

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Mr C Howden
Transform Scotland
5 Rose Street Edinburgh
EH2 2PR

Your ref:

Our ref: A9 Dualling – Kincaig to Dalraddy

Date: 19th August 2014

Dear Mr Howden,

A9 DUALLING - KINCRAIG TO DALRADDY

This letter contains the Scottish Ministers' decision on the draft Orders listed below in connection with the proposed A9 Dualling - Kincaig to Dalraddy Scheme.

Background

The Scottish Ministers published the undernoted draft Orders on 1st November 2013 for the proposed A9 Dualling - Kincaig to Dalraddy Scheme:

- The A9 Trunk Road (Kincaig To Dalraddy) (Side Roads) Order 20[]
- The A9 Trunk Road (Kincaig To Dalraddy) Compulsory Purchase Order 20[]

The above Orders notified the intention to dual a 7.5km section of the A9 Trunk Road lying broadly between Kincaig and Dalraddy, 11km south west of Aviemore. The proposed Scheme supports the Scottish Ministers policy for a programme to dual the A9 between Perth and Inverness by 2025, which will be designed to deliver economic growth through improvements to road safety and journey times as well as better links to pedestrian, cycling and public transport facilities.

Transform Scotland lodged a written objection to the draft Orders on 13th December 2013. Notwithstanding subsequent correspondence with the Promoter that objection has been maintained. Your objection has been referred to the Scottish Ministers, who have considered the reasons put forward, taking into account the nature and purpose of the proposals. They have concluded that a decision can be reached without recourse to a Public Local Inquiry. They have decided that each of the above draft Orders should be made.

Summary of objection

Your objection of 13th December 2013 centres on the following points.

- That no further expenditure should be outlaid on the A9 road from Perth to Inverness until a comprehensive multi-modal corridor study has been undertaken for the route;



- A STAG appraisal of the options for improving connectivity should be undertaken; and
- Options for improving the Highland Mainline should be considered alongside any options for the A9.

You also note in your objection that you have made previous submissions to the Promoter on these matters.

Response from the Promoter

The Promoter has responded to your concerns and on 14th February 2014 asked if you had any further representation to be taken into account. You responded on 15th February 2014 but did not provide any further information.

Consideration by the Scottish Ministers

The Scottish Ministers, having reviewed the issues surrounding your objection are of the view that the Promoter has fully addressed the contents of your objection in their responses throughout the consultation process. This included an offer to clarify anything in the STPR documentation.

It is considered that the issues raised in your objection have been fully addressed by the Promoter in their respective responses; and that there are no other major engineering design or environmental issues in your objection that would require the Scottish Ministers to modify or republish the draft Orders or Environmental Statement for the Scheme.

The Scottish Ministers are of the view that the issues raised in Transform Scotland's objection are clear and well understood, and in the circumstances of this case, the holding of a Public Local Inquiry is not necessary.

Accordingly the Scottish Ministers have concluded that the undernoted draft Orders should be made as published, and without recourse to a Public Local Inquiry.

The A9 Trunk Road (Kincraig To Dalraddy) (Side Roads) Order 20[]

The A9 Trunk Road (Kincraig To Dalraddy) Compulsory Purchase Order 20[]

The forgoing decision of the Scottish Ministers is final but any person aggrieved who decides to question its validity may apply to the Court of Session within six weeks of the date on which the notice of the making of the Orders is first published.

Yours sincerely



Donald Carmichael

Director Transport Policy
Transport Scotland