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AUCKLAND

## Leighton Contractors alliance to deliver Wellington Tunnels Refurbishment Project

Leighton Contractors has entered into an agreement with the New Zealand Transport Agency, AECOM and SKM to create the Wellington Tunnels Alliance which will deliver the NZ\$80 million Wellington Tunnels Refurbishment Project.

Located on State Highway 1, the Mt Victoria and Terrace Tunnels (together, the Wellington Tunnels) are a vital element in New Zealand's national road transport network. The planned refurbishments to the tunnel infrastructure – including improved fire control systems, ventilation systems, and drainage and seismic upgrades – are essential to the efficient functioning of the tunnels and will bring them into line with international best practice.

Robert Jones, NZ Manager, Construction Division of Leighton Contractors, said the company was very pleased to be working with the New Zealand Transport Agency and its alliance partners on this challenging project.

“Our recent experience of constructing and fitting out the Northern Gateway Toll Road tunnels in Auckland will enable the Wellington Tunnels Alliance to add significant value to this project,” Mr Jones said.

The Wellington Tunnels Alliance has commenced detailed investigation and evaluation of options for the Refurbishment Project, leading to the development of a target out-turn cost for the project by November 2010. Subject to New Zealand Transport Agency approval, construction will start in late 2010.

### ENDS

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### About Leighton Contractors

Leighton Contractors is one of Australia and New Zealand's leading contracting and project development groups with approximately \$8.8 billion work in hand, and employing more than 9,000 people across Australia and New Zealand. The company services clients across a range of industries and sectors including resources, construction, telecommunications, energy, and infrastructure and facility management.