

**Bypass Slane Campaign,  
Slane,  
Co. Meath.**

Teach Naomh Máirtín / Bóthar Waterloo / Baile Átha Cliath 4  
St. Martin's House / Waterloo Road / Dublin 4  
Teil: / Tel: + 353 1 660 2511 Facs: / Fax: + 353 1 668 0009

Dáta | Date 16 May 2011

Ár dTag. | Our Ref. NRA 11-81870

Bhur dTag. | Your Ref.

**Dear Ms. Power,**

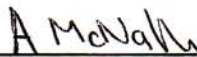
I refer to your correspondence to Mr. Leo Varadkar, T.D., Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport, regarding the N2 Slane Bypass. Your correspondence has recently been forwarded by the Department of Transport to the Authority for attention.

As you will be aware, the funding available to the Authority has been substantially reduced from the levels that were envisaged under the National Development Plan and Transport 21. As a consequence, it will only be possible for the Authority to commence a small number of major national road improvement schemes over the next few years. The funding available will also be directed towards the provision of safety measures, road pavement improvement and other minor works throughout the national road network.

The Authority has, however, provided an allocation of over €2m to Meath County Council for the N2 Slane Bypass this year. As you are aware, An Bord Pleanála's decision in respect of the scheme is awaited. Without pre-empting the Board's decision, Meath County Council is progressing with the preparation of tender documentation for the construction of the scheme. Approval to progress to the next phase of the project is subject to the availability of further funding.

I should also add that the Authority understands that the Government is to undertake a review of Capital Expenditure programmes. The Authority will consider possible implications for the national roads programme, including scheme priorities, in the light of the conclusions of that review.

**Yours sincerely,**

  
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**Annamarie McNally,  
Programme Administrator.**