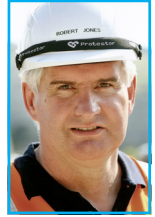


# Keeping safe and busy this holiday season



It's hard to believe we are already drawing to a close on what will surely be one of the most unusual years for us all.

I was proud of my team for their quick response to the COVID-19 lockdowns and I'm even prouder of the hard work they have put in to catch up on the time we lost and move towards our new planned opening date of mid-May 2022.

We've already moved huge amounts of earth this season and we will continue to do so over the coming summer, as we complete our bulk earthworks.

Another big focus for us, and one road users should be aware of this summer, is the major work happening at the Southern Connection. This is where State Highway 1 (SH1) will connect with the new motorway just north of the Johnstones Hill Tunnels.

Work is taking place over four construction stages and will enable the widening of SH1 north of the tunnels, where it will eventually connect to the section of new motorway still under construction.

You will notice significant road layout changes while work is being undertaken and traffic management will be in place while this happens.

As always, safety is our highest priority, and the reduced speed limit of 60km/h will remain in place for the duration of the works. We ask that drivers keep to the temporary speed limit, drive to the conditions and don't be distracted by work activity.

The new road layout and speed restrictions will remain in place over the holiday period, however we won't be carrying out any physical work on SH1 over Christmas (23 December - 5 January) and we'll be limiting the number of project vehicles, including trucks, on the highway.

As we make the most of the fine weather, some site activities (such as earthworks) will continue on select dates throughout the holidays. We'll be monitoring our community helpline 24/7 so please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Above all, we'd like to wish you and your families a safe and happy holiday season.

Ngā mihi

Robert



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