## Macquarie Infrastructure Investment Management Limited

ABN 67 072 609 271 AFS Licence No. 241405 A Member of the Macquarie Bank Group

No. 1 Martin Place SYDNEY NSW 2000 GPO Box 4294 SYDNEY NSW 1164 AUSTRALIA Telephone 612 8232 3333
Facsimile 612 8232 4713
Internet www.macquarie.com.au
DX 10287 SSE

24 May 2006

## **ASX RELEASE**



## Macquarie Infrastructure Group

## MIG announces M6 Toll Refinancing to proceed and Investment into West Midlands road network around M6 Toll

Macquarie Infrastructure Group (MIG) today advised that the UK Government has acknowledged the refinancing of the M6 Toll is to proceed as set out under the terms of the concession agreement. It is anticipated the refinancing will occur later this year.

In addition, MIG will sign an agreement with the UK Government to invest up to £112m into the West Midlands road network through a mix of capital, subject to a fixed escalator, and operating and maintenance costs. The investment will be funded through facilities established as part of the M6 Toll refinancing process.

The network enhancements include the construction, operation and maintenance of a planned road scheme from the West Midlands Area Multi Modal Study that will improve journey time reliability. Specifically, MIG will contribute to the cost of construction of the M54-M6-M6 Toll Link road (M54 Link Road) and enhancements to the M42 slip road access to the southern end of the M6 Toll. It is anticipated that the untolled M54 Link Road will be available for use after 2012.

Mr Stephen Allen, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of MIG said, "Our analysis shows that the development of the two road schemes, in particular the M54 Link Road, will increase traffic on the M6 Toll motorway. The projects will also deliver needed improvements to the accessibility of the M6 Toll within the greater road network in the Midlands. For MIG this strategic investment will enhance the value of the concession agreement."

"The construction of the M54 Link Road will provide direct access from the existing motorway to M6 Toll. That access does not currently exist. In addition, the improvements to the M42 slip road will prevent congestion problems anticipated to occur over the medium term."

"By assisting in the funding of these two road schemes we are accelerating the delivery of the much needed roads infrastructure to the West Midlands," Mr Allen said.

Macquarie Infrastructure Investment Management Limited is not an authorised deposit-taking institution for the purposes of the Banking Act (Commonwealth of Australia) 1959, and Macquarie Infrastructure Investment Management Limited's obligations do not represent deposits or other liabilities of Macquarie Bank Limited ABN 46 008 583 542 ("MBL"). MBL provides a limited AUD5 million guarantee to the Australian Securities and Investments Commission in respect of Corporations Act obligations of Macquarie Infrastructure Investment Management Limited as a responsible entity of managed investment schemes. MBL does not otherwise guarantee or provide assurance in respect of the obligations of Macquarie Infrastructure Investment Management Limited, the performance of funds managed by Macquarie Infrastructure Investment Management Limited or the repayment of capital.

The concession agreement to finance, build and operate the M6 Toll road was signed by the then Secretary of State for Transport in 1992. The full risks for all aspects of this contract are with the Concessionaire, including the full revenue risk, with no payments being made by Government. Recent measures in the HM Treasury Voluntary Code on PFI refinancing gain share are not applicable as the M6 Toll contract is not a risk shared PFI.

MIG is the 100% owner of Midland Expressway Ltd, the concessionaire of the M6 Toll Road which expires in 2054.

For further information, please contact:

Peter Johnston

Head of Investor Relations
Mob: +61 413 994 055

Email: peter.johnston@macquarie.com

Bianca Francis

Investor Relations Manager Mob: +61 413 279 523

Email: bianca.francis@macquarie.com

Jane Rotsey

Public Affairs Manager
Mob: +61 401 997 160

Email: jane.rotsey@macquarie.com

Sally McCann

Executive Assistant
Phone: +612 8232 7913

Email: sally.mccann@macquarie.com