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**Second Lisbon vote strategy designed to deceive voters that Ireland
has obtained concessions on treaty**

Patricia McKenna, chairperson of the People's Movement, one of the leading No groups, said: 'declarations on tax, abortion and neutrality are a devious ploy designed to dupe Irish voters into believing that our government have somehow obtained concessions from other EU states on the Lisbon Treaty. But nothing could be further from the truth. Declarations, unlike protocols are not a legal part of a treaty and thus holding a second referendum on Lisbon will in legal terms mean voting on the exact same treaty rejected by the voters in June. The government parties, supported by the main opposition parties, are displaying utter contempt for the decision of the voters. This whole approach is clearly designed to deceive enough Irish voters into believing that they will not be voting on the exact same thing a second time.'

The former Green Party MEP went on to say: 'Declarations on tax, abortion and neutrality are also ignoring the main reasons people campaigned for a No vote on the Lisbon Treaty and will provide no guarantees on the key issues of our campaign including the privatisation of public services and increases in military spending which the treaty commits us to.'

In relation to today's opinion poll McKenna said: 'Of course you will get people to say they will support something if their concerns are being addressed and that is why the poll results show an increase in support, but the reality of the situation is very different. Plans to hold a second referendum without any changes to the Lisbon Treaty are an affront to the democratic process.'

'The challenge for those on the No side will be to counter the false impression that modifications will have been made to the Lisbon Treaty that address voters concerns. It is

patently clear that the purpose of any second referendum will be to reverse the result of the first vote without the substantive issues of concern being addressed. The most democratic course of action would be to consult all the peoples of the EU to see what kind of EU people really want but the political establishment both here and in Brussels fear the voice of their voters' McKenna concluded.

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