



Australian Government
Department of Defence
Estate and Infrastructure Group

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DGCFI/OUT/2017/AF27732296

Mr Scott Buchholz MP
Chair
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Buchholz,

**COMMUNITY CONSULTATION REPORT – AIR3024 WOOMERA RANGE
REMEDIAL FACILITIES PROJECT**

This letter is to inform the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works (PWC) of the nature and extent of community consultation undertaken as part of the AIR3024 Woomera Range Remediation Facilities Project (the Project).

The objectives of the community consultation undertaken by Defence were to ensure that the community:

- was well informed about the Project by using effective and proven communication channels to convey details of the proposed works; and
- had every opportunity to raise issues of concern or seek further information so that wherever feasible they could be addressed by Defence in its program of works.

The consultation activities undertaken included:

- Individual and group correspondence provided through existing relationships with the neighbouring property owners and managers;
- Correspondence sent by email to local groups, State and Federal members with individual briefings conducted where requested. A list of the members and groups consulted is at Annex A, with a short description of the outcomes of the consultation. An example of the correspondence sent to the members and respective groups is provided at Annex B;
- Advertisements in the local area, as detailed and listed at Annex C;
- A Public Information Forum, details listed at Annex D; and
- Promotion of the Project through the regional Defence liaison roles at RAAF Woomera, including the advertisement of the Project through the Annual Woomera Stakeholders and Open Day.

Key questions and issues raised by the Community through the Public Information Forum are listed at Annex E.

In general, the community feedback regarding the Project was positive. There was good support from the local communities as the Project provides the local residents, in particular Pastoral Lease Holders, clarity on the long term facilities planning to assist private development of pastoral land.

In conclusion, no significant issues have been identified during Defence's community consultation that will impact on the proposed works. Defence is satisfied that it has taken all reasonable steps to inform the Community about the Project and to provide opportunities for the Community to raise concerns.

Yours sincerely,

N. F. BEUTEL

Brigadier

Director General Capital Facilities and Infrastructure

11 January 2017

Annexes:

- A. List of Stakeholders Consulted
- B. Example Correspondence Sent to Key Stakeholders
- C. Advertisements
- D. Community Information Forum undertaken for AIR3024 Woomera Range Remediation Facilities Project
- E. Key Questions and Issues Raised During Community Information Forum

**ANNEX A TO
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**LIST OF STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTED
AIR3024 WOOMERA RANGE REMEDIATION FACILITIES PROJECT**

LEVEL OF CONSULTATION	ORGANISATION AND MEMBER	DATE OF CONSULTATION	COMMENTS
STATE GOVERNMENT	The Hon. Martin Hamilton-Smith, Member for Waite, Minister for Investment and Trade, Small Business, Defence Industries and Veterans Affairs	5/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 5/12/16. CFI Project Director spoke with a representative of the Minister on 9/01/17 and sent an email with information regarding the public hearing. No formal briefing was requested. A representative of the Minister will attend the public hearing.
	Mr Edward Hughes, Member for Giles	5/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 5/12/16. The office of Mr Hughes was contacted on 11/01/16, the office will contact the project team if Mr Hughes has any questions or would like a brief. Contact details were left.
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	Mr Rowan Ramsey MP, Member for Grey	5/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 5/12/16. The office of Mr Ramsey MP was contacted on 11/01/17, the office will contact the project team if Mr Ramsey has any questions or would like a one to one brief.

COMMUNITY, INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS	Mr Stephen Loosely AM, Woomera Prohibited Area Advisory Board Chair	5/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 5/12/16. Mr Loosely confirmed receipt of the email and did not request further information or a brief.
	Mr and Mrs Whittlesea, Mt Eba Station	5/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 5/12/16. CFI called on 13/12/16 and was advised that Mr and Mrs Whittlesea are away until early January 2017, CFI will follow up when they return.
	Mr John Cooper, Ingomar Station	2/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 2/12/16. CFI called on 13/12/16 – left voice message and contact details.
	Mr and Mrs Henderson, Mt Vivian Station	2/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 2/12/16. CFI called 13/12/16 – spoke to Megan Henderson who confirmed that they received the email and have no further questions.
	Mr and Mrs Michael, Carriewerloo Station	2/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 2/12/16. CFI called on 13/12/16 – left voice message. Face to face Project Briefing provided on 11/01/17 in Port Augusta. No issues.
	Mr Rankin and Ms Moore, McDouall Peak and The Twins Station	2/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 2/12/16. CFI called 13/12/16 – spoke to Sharon Rankin who confirmed they received the email and have no further questions but would like to be kept informed on Project.

	Mr and Mrs Inglis, Inglewood Station	2/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 2/12/16. CFI called on 14/12/16 – spoke to Sam Inglis who confirmed they received the email and have no further questions, but would like a brief about the Project. Brief to be arranged for January 2017.
	Mr Chad Menzies, Roxby Downs Station	2/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 2/12/16. CFI called on 13/12/16 – left voice message and contact details.
	Mr Jumbuck and Mr Jock McLachlan, Jumbuck Pastoral	2/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 2/12/16. CFI called on 12/12/16 – spoke to Mr Jumbuck’s EA who confirmed receipt of the email and will respond if he has any questions.
	Mr and Mrs Nutt, Pandurra Station	2/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 2/12/16. No response to date. A follow up phone call will be made in January 2017.
	Mr and Mrs Davidson, Wirraminna Station	2/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 2/12/16. CFI called on 13/12/16 – spoke to Phillip Davidson, he will pass on the message and will respond if they have any questions.
	Natasha Masters, Mobella Station	2/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 2/12/16. CFI called 14/12/16 – left voice message and contact details.
	James and Jess Barry, Commonwealth Hill Station	2/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 2/12/16. CFI called on 14/12/16 – spoke to Jess Barry who confirmed receipt of email and have no questions.

	Mr Chris Larkin, Kokatha Uwankara Native Title Claimants	2/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 2/12/16. A follow up phone call will be made in January 2017.
	Mr Tim Wooley, Antakirinja Matu-Yankuntjatjara People	2/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 2/12/16. A follow up phone call will be made in January 2017.
	Kali Moschos, Maralinga Tjarutja Community	2/12/16	Email correspondence sent on 2/12/16. A follow up phone call will be made in January 2017.

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**EXAMPLE CORRESPONDENCE SENT TO KEY STAKEHOLDERS
AIR3024 WOOMERA RANGE REMEDIATION FACILITIES PROJECT**

An example of the email correspondence is as follows:

Dear Sir / Ma'am

As a community or business member of the Woomera region, I am writing to you on behalf of The Department of Defence regarding the Woomera Range Remediation Facilities Project. The Woomera Range Remediation Facilities Project will involve the replacement of ageing Aerospace Test and Evaluation and Research and Experimentation equipment at the Woomera Test Range (WTR) and provide Defence with a modern Safety and Control System capable of testing complex networked technologies and advanced weapons systems.

The total estimated cost of the works at the Woomera Test Range is \$48.640 million, excluding Goods and Services Tax.

Subject to Parliamentary approval of the Project, construction is expected to begin in the first half of 2017 and will be completed in mid 2018.

The Statement of Evidence, which provides detailed information on the Woomera Range Remediation Facilities Project, can be downloaded from the Parliamentary Works Committee website at

http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/Public_Works/WoomeraSA

The public hearing for the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works is scheduled for 23 January 2017, and a Public Consultation Forum is being held in the Woomera Theatre on 8 December 2016 – advertisement attached.

If you would like additional information or would like to organise a brief on the project please do not hesitate to contact me via the details listed below. Alternatively please contact the Project Officer for the Project, Mr Daniel Pogson on daniel.pogson@defence.gov.au.

Regards

Mark Kimball

Project Director – SA Projects
Capital Facilities and Infrastructure | Infrastructure Division
Estate and Infrastructure Group

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NEWSPAPER AND MEDIA ADVERTISEMENTS AIR3024 WOOMERA RANGE REMEDIATION FACILITIES PROJECT

The Public Consultation Session for AIR3024 Woomera Range Remediation Facilities Project was advertised to all stakeholders involved in the Woomera Open Day and Woomera Annual Stakeholders Dinner through liaison with RAAF Woomera. Further, a significant number of hard copy flyers were distributed throughout the Woomera Village on 02 December 2016:

Example advertisements are shown below:



NOTICE OF COMMUNITY INFORMATION FORUM

The Department of Defence will conduct a community information forum to outline the proposed construction works associated with the Woomera Range Remediation Facilities Project, in Woomera, SA. These works are subject to Parliamentary approval.

The project involves three new facilities and the development of a number of remote target, camera, instrumentation and communication sites.

Information and displays outlining the proposed works will be available at the forum. Representatives from the Department of Defence will also be available to answer any questions. Further Project details can be found on Parliamentary Standing Committee for Public Works website at:

http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/Public_Works/WoomeraSA

When: Thursday 8th December 2016

Time: 3.00pm – 5.00pm

Where: Woomera Theatre, 675 Banool Ave, Woomera SA 5720

The flyer is for the 'WPA Stakeholder Open Day' on 08 December 2016. It lists activities from 12.00pm to 2.00pm, including displays of weapons, personnel vehicles, and a working dog. It also mentions a 3.00pm to 5.00pm public consultation session at the Woomera Theatre Foyer and a 6.30pm stakeholder dinner at the Eldo Hotel. A note mentions that the Woomera Pool will be open all day and evening meals are available. The flyer is signed off by the Air Force and the Government of South Australia, Department of State Development.

WPA Stakeholder Open Day
08 December 2016

12.00pm – 2.00pm
O'Donohue Oval (MAP), the following will be on display:

- 3SECFOR ADG* – Weapons Display (rifle, machine guns)
- 3SECFOR ADG* – Bushmaster Display (light armoured personnel vehicle)
- 3SECFOR* Military Working Dog Display
- Compliance Monitoring Team
- Woomera Emergency Services – Ambulance & Fire
- Country Fire Service
- BBQ – Proceeds to Woomera CFS

3.00pm – 5.00pm Woomera Range Remediation Facilities Project – Public Consultation
Woomera Theatre Foyer (Corner of Dewrang Ave and Banool Ave)

6.30pm Stakeholder Dinner for Invited Guests
Eldo Hotel (Woomera Village), Sponsored by Department of Defence and Department of State Development

- Gather in main bar from 6.30pm
- Dinner commences at 7.00pm
- Completion of formal activities concludes at 10.00pm

Note:

- Woomera Pool will be open all day
- Evening meals are available from the Bistro at the Eldo Hotel
- Woomera Heritage Centre and Museum will be open from 09.00am to 3.00pm

* 3 Security Forces, Airfield Defence Guard

AIR FORCE

The crest of the Australian Air Force, featuring a kangaroo and a shield with the words 'AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE' and '1914-1918'.

The logo of the Government of South Australia, Department of State Development, featuring a circular emblem with a kangaroo and the text 'Government of South Australia' and 'Department of State Development'.

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PUBLIC CONSULTATION SESSION FOR AIR3024 WOOMERA RANGE REMEDIATION FACILITIES PROJECT

The following details the Public Consultation Session held for the Project:

LOCATION	DATE	TIME	ATTENDEES
Theatre, Woomera Village, SA	08 December 2016	1430 – 1730	50

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**KEY QUESTIONS AND ISSUES RAISED DURING COMMUNITY CONSULTATION
FOR AIR3024 WOOMERA RANGE REMEDIATION FACILITIES PROJECT**

A summary of the key issues and questions that were received during the community consultation, including the Defence responses provided, is indicated in the table below:

SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES		
ISSUE/QUESTION	RESPONSE / ANSWER	COMMUNITY MEMBER / GROUP Note: for privacy reasons personal information was not collected
PROJECT SPECIFIC		
Will the population of the Woomera Village increase?	No permanent increase in the Woomera Village population is anticipated. Workers may be accommodated at Woomera Village during construction. The number of workers and the duration of their stay will be determined by the construction contractor who is yet to be engaged.	Member of the Public
What will be the effect on mines?	The Project will not have a significant effect on mines. There are no Project sites on mining tenements.	Member of the Public
Will the rate of effort for the Woomera Test Range increase?	Yes, the Project will improve the Woomera Test Range Capability including by enabling faster trials and concurrent trials. Use of the Range will be in-line with the Woomera Prohibited Area Access Zones.	Peculiar Knob Mine
How do you access the Statement of Evidence?	The Statement of Evidence is available on the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works website. (Mark Kimball, Project Director, received permission to email the statement of evidence to the inquirer directly and has done so)	Mt Vivian Station

SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES		
ISSUE/QUESTION	RESPONSE / ANSWER	COMMUNITY MEMBER / GROUP Note: for privacy reasons personal information was not collected
What is the value of the Project?	The total Project value is \$48.6 million.	Member of the Public
What is going in the buildings?	<p>The main functions of the new Range Control Centre will be Range Control and Safety, Instrument Operation and Trials Monitoring. These functions will be contained in two rooms each to enable two separate trials to be run concurrently. The new Range Safety and Control System will be software based. Consequently the majority of equipment in the new Range Control Centre will be computers and displays. Other components of the new Range Control Centre include server rooms, plant room, conference room, kitchenette, bathroom and office space.</p> <p>The Maintenance and Storage Facility will include an office, a toilet, a storage area and a workshop.</p> <p>The Communications Interface Building will contain communications distribution equipment and service connections.</p>	
Are you upgrading the power?	The Project will not be upgrading the power supply to the WTR.	Oz Minerals
Will the new buildings increase power demand?	The new buildings will increase power demand; this will be partially offset by the decommissioning of old range communications equipment and instrumentation.	Oz Minerals
What does the Range Control Centre do?	The main functions of the new Range Control Centre will be Range Control and Safety, Instrument Operation and Trials Monitoring. It will be the location for management and control of trials.	Member of the Public
When is construction going to start and finish?	Construction is due to commence in mid 2017 and conclude in mid 2018.	Member of the Public

SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES		
ISSUE/QUESTION	RESPONSE / ANSWER	COMMUNITY MEMBER / GROUP Note: for privacy reasons personal information was not collected
What does the equipment do?	The project will support the acquisition of mobile communications equipment and mobile trials instruments to monitor, record and control trials. These will include mobile communications trailers, radars, and cameras.	Member of the Public
How long is the fibre line?	Approximately 55 kilometres of direct buried fibre is planned.	Member of the Public
How many sites are there?	There are 17 Instrumentation and Communication sites, 3 building sites at Range E, 6 target sites and 1 communications tower site at the Woomera Airfield.	Member of the Public
Are the target sites permanent?	Yes, the target sites are planned for permanent use, pending clearance from Indigenous Groups.	Member of the Public
MISCELLANEOUS		
Can we inspect the Instrumentation Building?	The Range E Instrumentation Building is in a secure, access controlled compound. It is not open to the public, however the request can be made directly to the RAAF WTR Liaison Officer for consideration by the appropriate authority.	Mt Eba Station
Where do you get your water from?	The Woomera Test Range water supply comes from the Port Augusta – Woomera Pipeline.	Oz Minerals
When is the Woomera Redevelopment Project Planned?	The Woomera Redevelopment Project is not yet approved. Funding for this project is currently programmed to commence in financial year 2020/21.	Member of the Public