



Inquiry into the proposed refurbishment of air traffic control towers in Brisbane and Cairns

The Public Works Committee will inquire into Airservices Australia's proposed Brisbane and Cairns Control Tower Life Extensions.

Airservices Australia told the Committee that the works are required to prepare air traffic control towers for a forecast 60 per cent increase in aviation traffic across Australia's air space by 2030.

Plans incorporate the general renovation of the Brisbane tower, including roof repairs and electrical upgrades; as well as the modernisation of a radio equipment room and the installation of new spot lighting in the Cairns tower.

Airservices Australia said the refurbishment will extend the useful life of the tower buildings for an additional 15 years and ensure they are compatible with the installation of new technologies.

Construction work for the Cairns tower is scheduled to be commence early 2016 and completed by the end of the same year. Work on Brisbane tower will start in late 2016 and is expected to be completed by mid-2017. The estimated cost of the project is \$23.9 million (excluding GST).

The Committee Chair, Senator Dean Smith, said the Committee will conduct public and in-camera hearings for the inquiry in the coming months.

Full details on the project are available on the Committee's website: www.aph.gov.au/pwc

Submissions to the inquiry close on 24 September 2015.

Full details of the public hearing will be available soon.

NB the Public Works Committee is neither involved in the tendering process nor the awarding of contracts. Enquiries on those matters should be addressed to the Airservices Australia.

For interview: Contact the Chair's office on (08) 9481 0349.

For further information, including how to make a submission, the public hearing times, and copies of submissions when they become available, please visit the Committee website <http://www.aph.gov.au/pwc> or contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4636.