Public hearings into Cox Peninsula Remediation Project

The Public Works Committee is conducting public hearings into the Department of Finance's Cox Peninsula Remediation Project.

The Commonwealth has used 4,750 hectares of land on the Cox Peninsula for maritime, communications and Defence purposes for 70 years, resulting in extensive contamination across a wide area both below and at ground level.

The Cox Peninsula is subject to an Indigenous Land Claim by the Kenbi Aboriginal People and the Commonwealth has undertaken to relinquish sites covered by the claim. The Commonwealth has an obligation to remediate the land under the polluter pays principle, and to ensure people who access the site can do so without risk to their health.

The estimated cost of the project is $31.8 million.

The Committee's Chair, Senator Dean Smith said the Committee will meet with the traditional owners on the Cox Peninsula before hearing evidence from the Department of Finance and other interested parties in Darwin.

Public Hearing Venue:	**Litchfield Room, Level 3, Parliament House, Darwin**
Date:	**Wednesday, 22 April 2015**
Time:	**2.00pm – 4.00pm**

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

Members of the public are welcome to attend.

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 Department of Finance.

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.

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