

PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

Public hearing into Counter Improvised Explosive Device Capability at Nurrungar, South Australia

The Public Works Committee is conducting a public hearing into Defence's Counter Improvised Explosive Device Capability at Nurrungar in South Australia.

The project will enhance Counter Improvised Explosive Device (IED) capabilities into the future.

Counter IED capabilities, primarily in the form of Force Protection Electronic Counter Measures (FPECM) systems have been acquired to protect deployed forces. However, it has been seen that threat elements are embracing radio frequency consumer products with frequencies extending beyond those that can be countered by current FPECM systems.

To effectively counter the emerging and future IED threats, a continuous technology refresh program is required. Facilities for testing, storage and training for the FPECM systems are required to support this capability at Nurrungar.

The proposed works are expected to begin at Nurrungar by April 2015, with completion by late 2015. Associated works at multiple bases around the nation and previously approved by the Public Works Committee commenced in 2013. The estimated cost of the project is \$24.6 million, excluding GST.

Hearing Venue:	Woomera Theatre Centre
	Banool Avenue, Woomera, South Australia
Date:	Thursday, 20 November 2014
Time:	8.30 – 9.30 am

Members of the public are welcome to attend.

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

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 Defence.

For interview: Contact the Chair's office on (07) 5580 9111.

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 <u>http://www.aph.gov.au/pwc</u> or contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4636.