



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

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Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

Chair: Senator Dean Smith

Defence proposes High Voltage power upgrades at Puckapunyal Military Area

The Public Works Committee is conducting an inquiry into proposed works by the Department of Defence to upgrade the High Voltage (HV) power supply to the Puckapunyal Military Area (PMA), a major Defence training base located close to Seymour in Victoria.

Defence has told the Public Works Committee that the training regimes at Puckapunyal are considerably affected when power outages occur. The proposed facilities will improve reliability and redundancy of HV power supply for the Base and enable operations to proceed, without the disruption and inefficiency caused by electrical power interruptions or systemic shortages.

The works are expected to commence in late 2016 and reach completion approximately 12 months later in late 2017. The estimated cost of the project is \$32.7 million (excluding GST).

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

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

Submissions to the inquiry close on 24 March 2016.

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 Department of Defence.

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.