

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY



Australian Government
Department of Defence
Estate and Infrastructure Group

Brigadier M. J. Galton, DSC
Director General
Capital Facilities and Infrastructure

DGCFI-ID/OUT/2018/AF33480124

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

Dear Mr Buchholz,

RESPONSE TO STATEMENT BY MR WOODHOUSE REGARDING STAGE TWO OF THE GARDEN ISLAND (EAST) CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE RECOVERY PROGRAM (THE PROJECT)

During the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works Public Hearing into the Stage Two project on the 11 May 2018, Mr Andrew Woodhouse provided a statement to the Committee. Mr Woodhouse raised concerns regarding dockside generator noise, traffic including the use of barges, notification of the Public Hearing, effectiveness of proposed noise amelioration measures, and noise monitoring. Provided below is the detail to support the Committee's response to Mr. Woodhouse.

Dockside Generator Noise. As part of Defence's Stage One community consultation and during Stage One's hearing, Defence advised the community and the Committee that Stage One would not remove the need for dockside generators. It would, however, allow for the *Canberra Class* Landing Helicopter Dock (LHD) amphibious ships to be berthed at the new wharf further to the north, away from residents, thus reducing noise impacts. The completion of Stage Two would increase the shore power available to Garden Island, including the LHD *Canberra Class* berths, thus reduce the need for dockside generators, which would consequently reduce noise impacts to the community.

Vehicle Traffic. During Stage Two's hearing Defence advised that, based on the Traffic Study, there will be 46 light vehicles per hour during the morning and evening peak periods (0700-0800hrs and 1600-1700hrs). There will be a maximum of seven heavy vehicles per hour throughout the day using Cowper Wharf Road to the Base entrance. There are currently more than seven buses and 800 vehicles per hour on Cowper Wharf Road during the peak period. The project's additional construction traffic therefore equates to approximately 53 vehicles (including a maximum of seven heavy vehicles) during peak period.

Traffic and Barge Use. Mr Woodhouse's statement that "debris et cetera would be removed by barge" relates to Stage One. The rubble from the demolition of the Cruiser and Oil wharves as part of Stage One works will be mostly removed by barge. During Stage Two there is a minimal requirement for rubble removal relative to Stage One. This will be removed by truck, and is expected to be no more than one heavy truck per day.

Notification of PWC Hearing for Stage Two. In addition to the Committee advertising the Public Hearing date and venue, Defence had advised all attendees at the Public Information

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

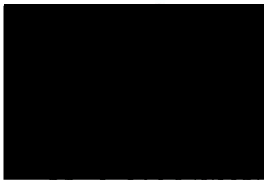
Sessions of the PWC's Public Hearing date and chosen venue. Mr Woodhouse was at the second Public Information Session and had joined a group that was being briefed by the Project Director, LTCOL Doug Fox.

Noise Amelioration Measures. In response to an earlier direct enquiry from Mr Woodhouse, Defence had advised him that noise curtains may be installed. He was provided with a photographic example of a noise curtain commonly used in Sydney. Industry advice to Defence is that such measures have proven effective in reducing construction noise and is in wide use across many sites across the country.

Noise Monitoring. Defence assesses its projects on Commonwealth Land against the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)*. The project procured the services of an expert Environmental Consultant to produce a Noise and Vibration Report. This report informed the production of an Environmental Assessment Report that detailed environmental compliance requirements, including three on noise. These noise compliance requirements included routine monitoring during construction to determine when noise levels are at unacceptable levels and work practices will need to be amended.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information.

Yours sincerely,



M. J. GALTON, DSC
Brigadier

22 May 2018

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Page 2 of 2