

PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 26 November 2015

Chair: Senator Dean Smith

New civil-military air traffic system to improve airspace management

A system that will enhance how Australian airspace is managed, enabling a new level of operational and cost efficiency, will be investigated at a public hearing tomorrow.

The Public Works Committee is conducting a hearing into new and upgraded infrastructure, proposed to support the introduction of a new air traffic management system at several Defence bases across Australia.

The works are required to support a new civil-military air traffic management system which has been developed by the Department of Defence and Airservices Australia.

Defence's submission states that the proposed works will deliver training, support and maintenance facilities associated with the new air traffic management system. Additionally, the works will upgrade air traffic control towers and airfield systems facilities that were constructed in the 1960s and are no longer fit for purpose.

The Department of Defence will provide evidence on the proposed works at the public hearing and the Hunter Water Corporation will provide evidence regarding management of contamination at RAAF Base Williamtown.

The project is expected to cost \$409.9 million (excluding GST).

Full details on the project are available on the committee's website: <u>www.aph.gov.au/pwc</u>

Public Hearing Venue:	Committee Room 2R2, Parliament House, Canberra
Date:	Friday, 27 November 2015
Time:	11.45 am – 1.15 pm

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 Defence.

For interview: Contact office of the Chair, Senator Dean Smith 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 <u>http://www.aph.gov.au/pwc</u> or contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4636.