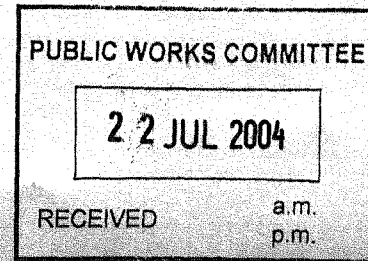




Ms Vivienne Courto
Inquiry Secretary
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Dear Ms Courto

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL - CONSTRUCTION OF EAST BUILDING

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed development of a new building for the Australian War Memorial to allow the relocation of some collection, staff and back of house functions which will, in turn, permit the expansion of gallery space in the main building.

The ACT Government is committed to implementing urban sustainability through water sensitive urban design (WSUD). To ensure that water resources management is consistent with the WSUD commitments in the ACT Water Resources Strategy 'Think water act water', Environment ACT requires developments to:

1. ensure that no contaminated water, including that containing sediments, is likely to leave the site during development and during the on-going operation of the site;
2. incorporate measures and/or operating procedures which ensure that stormwater runoff from the site reflects patterns, volumes and quality which exist prior to development as far as reasonably practicable; and
3. incorporate measures and/or operating procedures, which will minimise the demand of the facility on potable water supplies.

Environment ACT would agree that the objectives have been met if it is demonstrated that the excess runoff from the 1 in 3 month storm event will be retained on-site (retention capacity of 1.3 kL/100 sqm of hard impervious area). This requirement is reflected in the written document but retention tanks do not appear on the drawings provided. As the provision of retention tanks may influence design and/or cost, it is recommended that these be factored in at the planning stage.

Please contact me on 6207 2247 if further information is required.

Helen McKeown
Conservator Liaison and Environment Co-ordination

19 July 2004

ENVIRONMENT ACT **OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**