



**AUSTRALIAN
COMPUTER
SOCIETY**

Australian Computer Society Inc.

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A member of the
Australian Council of Professions

Committee Secretary
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
Department of House of Representatives
P.O. Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Submission No. 005

(Pawsey Centre)

Date: 07/04/2010

SL

Dear Sir/Madam

The Australian Computer Society (ACS) would like to lend its support for the proposal to develop the Pawsey High Performance Computing Centre for SKA Science. We believe that this is a much needed facility that will boost Australia's ICT capabilities, our international reputation in ICT and the industry sectors that depend on significant computational ability for their development.

The ACS is the representative body for Information & Communications Technology (ICT) professionals, attracting a large and active membership from all levels of the ICT industry. As a member of the Australian Council of Professions, the ACS is the public voice of the ICT profession and the guardian of professional ethics and standards in the ICT industry, with a commitment to the wider community to ensure the beneficial use of ICT and to support and develop the local ICT sector.

Pawsey Centre will provide significant benefits to Australia's digital economy through:

- the collaborative efforts of some of Australia's major research organisations and universities via the iVEC venture;
- creating opportunities for industry to collaborate with iVEC on world leading ventures and innovation;
- creating "new ICTs", improving and finding better uses for current ICT and associated commercial spin offs; and
- creating new high value employment within Australia's ICT sector.

ICT now underpins all sectors of our economy and while the initial use of the Pawsey Centre will be across research disciplines that require supercomputing infrastructures, the practical results of this innovation and research will flow on throughout the Australian economy over time, improving productivity, creating new methods of analysis and new products and jobs. The proposal supports a recent statement by the Minister for Finance

ICT Professionals Shaping Our Future

and Deregulation that Australia needs to broaden its economic base beyond its current over-reliance on resources.

The Pawsey Centre will also provide inspiration to a new generation of school leavers looking towards ICT as a career and those who want to be involved in cutting edge research. By its nature, it will create and strengthen international linkages, spark innovation and boost R&D.

The ACS looks forward to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works' support for the Pawsey Proposal. Should you have any questions, I can be contacted on (02) 9299 3666.

My regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'BL', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Bruce Lakin
Chief Executive Officer