



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND REGIONAL SERVICES

Proposed Common Use Infrastructure on Christmas Island
(Airport Upgrade)

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

Response to Submission

Submission No 5
from:

Water Corporation of Western Australia

Date:

3 May 2002

Main Points of
Submission:

1. The proposed expansion of facilities at the airport may benefit from incorporating consideration of future requirements for potable water supply, water for fire fighting services for buildings, and wastewater disposal.
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Response:

1. Water: Water supply to the airport was upgraded in 1995 and makes adequate provision for fire fighting demands at the airport and fuel storage site. The proposed project principally affects airside facilities and does not affect the demand for landside water services. If, subsequently, hangars or warehouses were to be installed with very large demands for fire fighting water, it would be normal practice to install on-site tanks and pumps.

The airport upgrade will require the relocation of sections of the water main along Phosphate Hill Road to permit ground levels to be lowered.

2. Wastewater: At present, wastewater and sewage at the airport is collected in a tank. The tank is pumped out as necessary by a road tanker that disposes of the effluent through the Island wastewater system. Prior to the announcement of the construction of the Immigration Reception and Processing Centre, the twenty year forecast for growth in passenger numbers was only 50% above previous peaks. Passenger numbers can now be expected to rise further but forecasts are not available at present. Any future piped connection of the airport to the Island wastewater system would run via Irvine Hill Road and would be more effectively constructed in conjunction with the development of land on Irvine Hill Road. The proposed airport upgrade does not impact on the likely future wastewater services routes.
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