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Royal Australian Engineers
School of Military Engineering
Steele Barracks, Liverpool Military Area NSW 2170

SME AN2366845

The Hon Janelle Saffin MP
Chair
Public Works Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

	Submission No. 02 (Defence MUR) Date: 23/08/12
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Dear Madam Chair,

The Moorebank Unit Relocation (MUR) Project will see the end of the Royal Australian Engineers (RAE) 72 year tenancy at Moorebank and the construction of new facilities for the School of Military Engineering at Holsworthy Barracks. This project has the full support of the Engineer community, serving and ex-serving, and is a tremendous opportunity for the RAE and Army to develop facilities that will enable their training into the future.

The project continues to address heritage issues related to the RAE and significant consultation has occurred to ensure the preservation of heritage items currently on Steele Barracks at Moorebank. Items of particular importance include:

- All Saints Chapel – built by Sappers, this Chapel has been the location for many weddings, christenings and funerals of those serving but also for others in the local community. Sandstone from this building will be incorporated into the new Chapel at Holsworthy.
- The RAE Memorial – also built by Sappers, the Memorial commemorates the sacrifice of all Sappers who have served in all conflicts. The concrete obelisk is to be relocated to Holsworthy with the new memorial to be located between the Chapel and SME Headquarters.

I am impressed with the Project team's efforts to ensure that items of heritage are addressed and believe that this approach has been instrumental in gaining support for the move from ex-service people in particular.

F.J. HICKLING AO, CSC
Lieutenant General
Representative Colonel Commandant
Royal Australian Engineers

30 July 2012