



SUBMISSION 3



4 February 2005

The Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Public Works
Suite R1 - 119
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

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Re: New Housing for Defence Housing Authority at McDowall, Brisbane, Queensland

Dear Members

I refer to your letter of 18 January 2005 regarding the inquiry by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works into the above proposal at Rode Road, McDowall, Brisbane. Origin Energy Asset Management Ltd (OEAM) is pleased to provide a written submission advising the Committee of our interest in the matter.

In Brisbane, OEAM Ltd manages and operates the Natural Gas reticulation networks owned by Envestra Ltd north of the Brisbane River and throughout Ipswich. We are responsible for providing Natural Gas mains and services to new and existing homes and business on Envestra's networks.

Section 12.3 of the DHA submission notes that gas is not available in close proximity to the site and therefore the site will be serviced by electricity. Whilst we are unsure of how this information came about, on behalf of Envestra, we advise that this site can in fact be supplied with natural gas reticulation infrastructure to supply energy to hot water, cooking, heating and outdoor lifestyle appliances.

The significant role natural gas can play in improving Australia's Greenhouse and environmental performance has been recognised by the Commonwealth Government in its energy and greenhouse policies. Natural gas produces the least amount of carbon dioxide of all the fossil fuels and, when compared to electricity generated by coal-fired power stations, significantly reduces the impact of the Greenhouse Effect on our precious environment.

In Brisbane, using a standard electric off-peak water heater combined with an electric cooktop produces approximately 4 ton of carbon dioxide per annum.*

In Brisbane, using a standard natural gas continuous flow water heater combined with a natural gas cooktop produces approximately 1.1 ton of carbon dioxide per annum.*

* Reference: George Wilkenfeld & Associates NSW

The availability of natural gas to these homes also enables the DHA to provide Defence personnel and their families with quality lifestyle options including all the hot water they



will need, control with cooking, instant heating, and outdoor lifestyle solutions such as natural gas barbecues and outdoor heating.

OEAM representatives will be available to attend the public hearing on Thursday 24 February 2005 to advise the Committee if required. Should you need any further advice on the matter, please do not hesitate to contact me on 07 3267 9505.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Vogler', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrea Vogler
Qld Residential Business Development Manager
OEAM Limited