

SUBMISSION ..... 2 .....

# Australian Koala Foundation

A.C.N. 010 922 102 A.B.N. 90 010 922 102

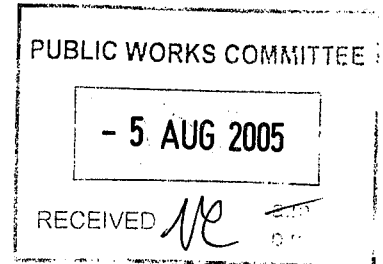
*The international organisation dedicated to saving the koala and its habitat.*

August 2, 2005

The Secretariat  
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Attention: Ms Vivienne Courto (Inquiry Secretary)

Dear Ms Courto,



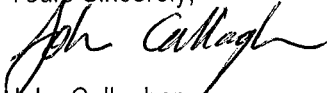
## Re: RAAF BASE AMBERLEY REDEVELOPMENT STAGE 2, QUEENSLAND

Thank you for your correspondence dated 27 July 2005, advising the Australian Koala Foundation (AKF) that the above proposal has been referred to the Parliamentary Joint Standing Committee on Public Works and inviting us to make a submission.

We have viewed the Statement of Evidence to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works as provided on the Committee's website. We note that a Preliminary Environment Study did not identify any significant environmental issue that would trigger the requirement for a referral under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999*. Unfortunately, the AKF has not undertaken any koala surveys or habitat assessments in the vicinity of the RAAF Base, and hence cannot provide detailed comment on the potential impacts of the proposed redevelopment on koalas. However, we are well aware of the existence of a local koala population at the base and surrounds and would be concerned about any proposals to remove areas of preferred koala habitat and/or forested connections at the RAAF Base. It may also be relevant to note that the federal Minister for the Environment and the Threatened Species Committee are currently considering a nomination for the koala to be listed as *Vulnerable* under the EPBC Act.

The AKF would be pleased to provide advice to the Department of Defence on koala issues at the Amberley RAAF Base on a fee for service basis if required.

Yours Sincerely,

  
John Callaghan  
Chief Ecologist

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