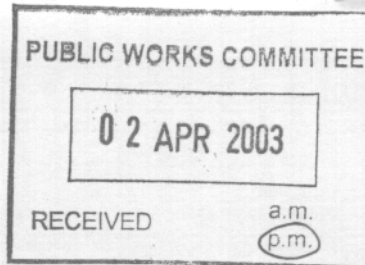


SUBMISSION .....14.....



Our reference : EXF26190  
Contact : Niall Johnston, 02-9995 5607

Ms Vivienne Courto  
Inquiry Secretary  
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Director General

25 MAR 2003

Dear Ms Courto

**SITE REMEDIATION AND CONSTRUCTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE DEFENCE  
SITE AT RANDWICK BARRACKS, SYDNEY, NSW**

I refer to your letter of 28 February 2003 inviting the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to make a submission on the above proposal.

The EPA's concern is that the assessment, remediation and redevelopment of the site occurs with due consideration of NSW environmental legislation, guidelines and policies.

The principal legislation in this context is the *Contaminated Land Management Act 1997* and the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*. The EPA has published a number of guidelines relevant to site assessment and remediation, which are in part based on National Environment Protection Measure (Assessment of Site Contamination) 1999. These guidelines provide the basis for any assessment and consideration of remediation options for the site. The main State planning policy that applies with regard to site contamination is *State Environmental Planning Policy No 55 - Remediation of Land*. Joint EPA-Planning NSW guidelines, *Managing Land Contamination - Planning Guidelines (1998)*, issued in association with this policy, are also directly relevant.

Adherence to these State instruments in the assessment, remediation and redevelopment of the site will ensure that the EPA can have confidence that site contamination issues will be fully considered and addressed in the process.

The use of an EPA accredited site auditor where appropriate, and the auditor's provision of a site audit statement demonstrating that a site is suitable for a proposed development, is another integral component of the remediation and redevelopment of a contaminated site in NSW.

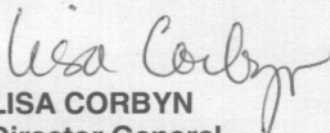
It is also of key importance with a proposal of this nature that it is transparently evident that the proposal has considered the need for and appropriateness of the proposed development, having regard to the principle of ecologically sustainable development and the input of stakeholders.

The EPA has not undertaken a review of documents relating to the site's status and cannot therefore provide specific comment on the site assessment or the basis for the remediation proposal outlined in the supporting statement of evidence from the Department of Defence.

However adherence to and compliance with local environmental requirements, particularly where there is the potential for off-site impacts, would need to be ensured.

If you require further information on these issues please contact either Niall Johnston from the EPA's Contaminated Site Section on 02 9995 5607 or Michael Crowley from the EPA's Sydney Planning Section on 02 9995 6804.

Yours sincerely

  
**LISA CORBYN**  
**Director General**