



Australian Government

Department of Defence
Corporate Services &
Infrastructure Group

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HQJOC Project 103/2004

Ms Vivienne Courto

Inquiry Secretary
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Ms Courto

**HEADQUARTERS JOINT OPERATIONS COMMAND PROJECT
RESPONSE TO PWC SUBMISSION FROM MR HUGH DAKIN**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the submission dated 4 May 2004 from Mr Hugh Dakin of 28 La Perouse Street, Griffith ACT.

The collocation of the Headquarters Joint Operations Command is a Defence White Paper initiative to further improve the operational command and control of the Australian Defence Force.

Over the last ten years, Defence has conducted a number of studies to examine possible sites to locate the facility based on security issues, operational needs, operating costs and personnel and family issues. Issues such as cost implication of service infrastructure, zoning, land development, acquisition costs, and environmental, heritage and conservation were also taken into consideration.

The proposed site within the 'Woodlands' property was ultimately selected by a Defence Site Selection Board in April 2003 based on considerations related to amenities and livability, master planning, architectural concept, technical and engineering considerations, site access, external stakeholders and security.

The site selection process included consideration of vacant Commonwealth or privately owned buildings however, no suitable facilities were identified that would meet the specific operational requirements of this project.

Original signed on 21 May 2004

BRIAN PLENTY

Air Commodore
Director General Headquarters Joint Operations Command Project

May 2004