

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
jcpw@aph.gov.au

Re: Construction of a new Chancery, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

The construction of a new Chancery, outlined in the Department of Foreign Affairs submission to the Committee dated March 2003, is not directly subject to the provisions of the Commonwealth Energy Policy as detailed in the then Department of Industry, Science and Resources March 2000 publication titled *Measures for Improving Energy Efficiency in Commonwealth Operations*.

Though not a mandatory requirement, the Australian Greenhouse Office and the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources consider that, subject to specific operational, functional and security requirements, the new building should have a total energy consumption target of no more than 500MJ per annum per square metre of space for standard office operations. This energy use target is equivalent to that set for Darwin by the Property Council of Australia 2001 Energy Performance Guidelines.

Section 19 of DFAT's submissions outlines a number of energy efficiency measures that would contribute to meeting this target. It is therefore recommended that any Public Works Committee approval for the proposed works to proceed should be made subject to the incorporation of these energy efficiency measures into the construction of the building. In addition, the modeled energy performance of the parts of the building used for standard office operations should be no higher than 500MJ per square metre per annum.

Should you require additional information please contact Kay Abel at the Australian Greenhouse Office on 02 6274 1039, Fax 02 6274 1913.

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