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DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND PLANNING

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Chief Executive
5th Floor, Energy House
18-20 Cavenagh Street
Darwin NT 0800
Postal GPO Box 2520
Darwin NT 0801
Tel (08) 8924 7286
Fax (08) 8924 7044
Web www.nt.gov.au/dlp

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(Muirhead)
Date: 9/05/2011

RECEIVED
20 APR 2011
Managing Director's Office

Mr Michael Del Gigante
Managing Director
Defence Housing Australia
26 Brisbane Avenue
BARTON ACT 2600

received:
PWC
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[Signature]

Dear Mr Del Gigante

The Northern Territory Department of Lands and Planning (the Department) is pleased to support Defence Housing Australia's (DHA) current work in delivering the Muirhead land release initiative for defence personnel and the community.

The Northern Territory Government (NTG) is committed to supporting land release initiatives for residential developments, including the Muirhead development. In delivering these initiatives, the Department works in partnership with other government agencies, the private sector and community to sustainably develop the Territory.

Land, infrastructure and housing provide the foundation for the Territory economy to grow. The availability of appropriate and affordable housing is also vital in promoting the social and economic wellbeing of the Territory. In implementing the NTG's vision under the *Growing the Territory* initiative and *Territory 2030 Strategic Plan*, the Department is committed to supporting initiatives that present housing choices for future home owners, as well as nurture sustainable development for the Territory.

x Against this backdrop, the Muirhead development is aligned with the NTG's priorities of creating a balanced housing market. I particularly welcome DHA's announcement in December 2010 of its partnership with Investa Property Group to deliver the new master planned residential community of Muirhead. This partnership is an important milestone in delivering a range of housing choices for Territorians, including community and affordable housing.

In fulfilling its responsibilities under the Memorandum of Understanding between DHA and the Territory, the Department has facilitated planning and development approvals for Muirhead Stage 1. The Department remains fully committed to working collaboratively with DHA in realising Stages 2 to 7 of the Muirhead development.

Throughout 2010-11, the Muirhead Project Committee has been driven by representatives from the Department, DHA, Darwin City Council and Power Water Corporation. These forums have provided an opportunity for the parties to jointly identify issues and develop solutions. A Project Management Group is also held once a month to plan and develop the Muirhead development. These forums will continue to be convened to guide DHA in developing Muirhead Stages 2 to 7.

The Department looks forward to collaboratively working with DHA in progressing the remainder of the Muirhead development. I take this opportunity to recognise the contributions of DHA in delivering housing and land release outcomes within the Darwin region.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Ritchie', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

DAVID RITCHIE

19 April 2011

cc: Mr Neil Morris, Project Director – Muirhead, Defence Housing Australia
Mr James Wallace, Senior Development Manager, Defence Housing Australia