

Professor John Finlay-Jones
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)

Submission No. 006

(Pawsey Centre)

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6th April 2010

Committee Secretary
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
Department of House of Representatives
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**Submission RE: Pawsey High Performance Computer Centre for SKA Science
at Kensington, Western Australia**

On behalf of Edith Cowan University (ECU), I write to provide strong support for the proposed construction of a new High Performance Computing (HPC) Centre – the Pawsey Centre – at Kensington, Perth, Western Australia.

ECU is a member of IVEC, an unincorporated joint venture between the CSIRO and the four publicly-funded Universities in WA, which will be responsible for the establishment and operation of the Pawsey Centre. This facility will provide for Australia an outstanding and world-class computing resource of benefit to Australian research in radioastronomy, nanotechnology, bioinformatics and geoinformatics to name but four of a range of computational and data-intensive sciences. Such a facility will not only provide Australia with a competitive edge in its case to establish the Square Kilometre Array predominantly within Australia, but also ensure that Australian researchers in academic, industry and government environments have access to the computing resources necessary to maintain their research and development programs at international levels.

The establishment of the Centre will provide to the Australian Government and the taxpayer with a carefully-planned facility which will generate an excellent return on investment. ECU would be pleased to have the opportunity if requested to provide further information in support of this unique initiative for Australia.

Submitted by:

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