

ASSPED 221 /2003

The Secretary
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Courto

**RANDWICK BARRACKS SITE REMEDIATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
DEVELOPMENT**

You referred Submission No 12 from Randwick City Council dated 24 March 2003 to Defence for comment.

Randwick City Council (Council) has an interest in the proposed project as the consent authority for the majority of the works and as part of its responsibilities to represent various community groups and stakeholders. Their submission:

1. Provides an overview of the intent and function of the site specific planning controls and the history of the project which included extensive community consultation;
2. Reiterates the importance of progressing the full remediation of the Site without delay to allay community concern;
3. Highlights the need and expectation that Defence will meet its identified commitments to Council;
4. Supports the works outlined in 'Option 3' of Defence's Statement of Evidence in order that Defence can carry out agreed outcomes and commitments under the Master Plan; and
5. Notes that the proposed works satisfy any Section 94 contributions required by future developers of the Site under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* thus increasing the value of the Site.

DEFENCE RESPONSE

Defence thanks Council for its detailed and supportive submission noting that:

- Both Council and the broader community support the full remediation of the Site. This follows a significant effort by Council and the independent Site Auditor to explain the procedures and safeguards that will be used during decontamination.
- The Site remediation will meet or exceed the standards and requirements set by the NSW Dept of Health, WorkCover, ComCare and all relevant legislation.

- Council adopted (with variations) the Master Plan submitted by Defence for the redevelopment of the Site on 13 November 2001. In adopting the Master Plan, Council prepared an amending Local Environmental Plan and a site specific Development Control Plan which were endorsed by Council on 11 March 2003.
- Council has requested the NSW Minister for Planning rezone the Site for use as residential, open space and environment protection areas.
- Council sees the Site as a model of ecologically sustainable development in terms of water sensitive urban design, maximising opportunities for renewable energy use, minimising greenhouse gas emissions and waste and environmental education.
- The Commonwealth has indemnified Council against any legal liability which they may incur for a period of 40 years arising from or incurred in connection with any soil or groundwater contamination in the Stage 1A Site.
- Council will be advised that Defence will not be able to deliver on a number of its commitments within the agreed timeframe due to the need to obtain works approval through the PWC.

Yours sincerely



MICHAEL PEZZULLO
Assistant Secretary
Strategic Planning and Estate Development

4 April 2003