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SUBMISSION 2

Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory

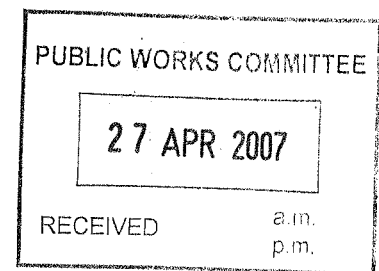
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27 April 2007

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



Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Provision of Facilities for Project Single Leap – Phase 2.

Robertson Barracks is in my electorate and in the Litchfield Shire Council not the Palmerston City Council as shown in Annex II of the document. I would hope that this proposal has been sent to the Litchfield Shire Council for comment.

Whilst I do not have concerns about the project to build more accommodation at Robertson Barracks, I am concerned that not enough recognition has been given by the Department of Defence for the effects that the continuing expansion of the Barracks has on the surrounding areas.

What is not mentioned in the description of Robertson Barracks is that it is situated quite close to a rural residential area called Knuckey Lagoon. Ever since the development of the Barracks, I have received many complaints about the steady increase in traffic through this rural residential area. Because the Barracks has an entrance/exit gate to the north (not part of the original design except during the construction phase) many vehicles coming from the Barracks use the Knuckey Lagoon area to travel to the Northern Suburbs and Darwin City. The Litchfield Shire Council has tried unsuccessfully for many years to build a road that would take the traffic away from the residential area but this has not happened mainly due to a lack of funding from the Department of Defence. Both the Council and the NT Government have been willing to put in an equal amount of the money to fund the project but this has not been matched by the Department of Defence.

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If there is going to be more people living on the Barracks because of Project Single Leap then I would ask that this project also include funding to allow a new road to be constructed which would alleviate the traffic concerns in Knuckey Lagoon. A consideration should also be given for a bicycle path to be built along this road so that it can join the existing bicycle path on McMillans Road making it safer for soldiers riding to and from the Barracks.

I would like to attend the public hearings if there is an opportunity to do so.

Yours Sincerely



Gerry Wood MLA