



Australian Government

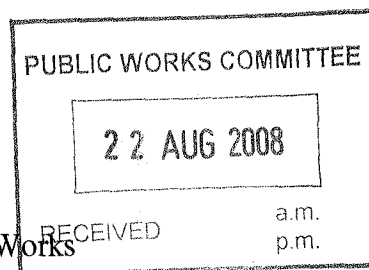
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts

Submission No. 2

(Fit-out for the AFP, Edmund Barton Building)

M.R. 22/08/08

Our reference: 2008/08818



Mr James Catchpole
Committee Secretary
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
House of Representatives
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Catchpole

I refer to the proposed Fit-out for the Australian Federal Police (AFP) of the Edmund Barton Building, Barton, ACT and the Environment and Heritage Considerations component in the AFP submission.

Paragraph 55 of the submission notes that the Edmund Barton Building is entered in the Register of the National Estate. The Edmund Barton Building is also included in the Commonwealth Heritage List (Place ID 105476). In summary, the Commonwealth Heritage values include: its rare construction technique (criterion (b)); its value as a representative of the late twentieth century international style of architecture in Australia (criterion (d)); its aesthetic value for the open ground floor and the expression of its structure (criterion (e)); its technical achievement for the use of its innovative structural system, courtyards and monumental sculptures (criterion (f)); and its association with Harry Seidler, a prominent Australian architect (criterion (h)).

In accordance with the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, (EPBC Act) the lessees of the Edmund Barton Building (Stockland Development Pty Ltd) have prepared a Heritage Management Plan to satisfy section 341S of the EPBC Act. The Heritage Management Plan has been prepared by Eric Martin and Associates and is referred to in paragraph 56 of the AFP's submission. The Heritage Management Plan is now a legislative instrument.

Consequently, the Commonwealth, or a Commonwealth agency must not contravene a plan made in accordance with section 341S of the EPBC Act and must not authorise another person to contravene such a plan (section 341V).



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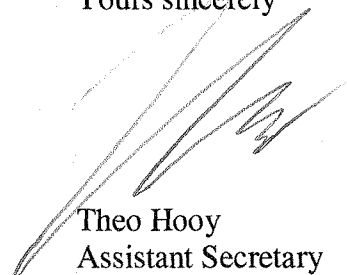
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It is not clear from the submission that the proposal to accommodate the AFP's use of the Edmund Barton Building is consistent with the approved Heritage Management Plan. If the proposal is in accordance with this statutory plan, or any new plan for the place which the Australian Heritage Council advises is consistent with Commonwealth Heritage management principles, this would satisfy the requirements of the EPBC Act.

Please do not hesitate to contact Ms Ilse Wurst, Director, Historic Heritage Section South, on (02) 6274 1201 or by email: ilse.wurst@environment.gov.au if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely



Theo Hooy
Assistant Secretary
Historic Heritage Branch

20 August 2008