



Australian Government
Department of Defence
Defence Support Group

SL 29/4/08
LETTER

Submission No. 1.3
(HNA Edinburgh)

Brigadier William Grice
Director General
Infrastructure Asset Development
BP3-1-B001
Department of Defence
CANBERRA ACT 2600
william.grice@defence.gov.au
Tel: 02 6266 8101
Fax: 02 6266 8103

DGIAD/OUT/2008/49

Mr Mark Butler, MP
Chair
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Butler,

**HARDENED AND NETWORKED ARMY EDINBURGH DEFENCE PRECINCT
FACILITIES PROJECT, ADELAIDE**

QUESTION RE: ACQUISITION OF LAND PACKAGE 9C/9D, TAKEN ON NOTICE

During the PWC Hearing for the HNA Facilities Project on 1st April 2008, the following questions were asked by Senator Mark Bishop:

When [did] planning and infrastructure become aware that they might have to repurchase some or all of the divested land? Who was the relevant minister, and when was the relevant minister alerted that you might have to have such a provision in the contract to allow right of first refusal?

This and other property management issues are the purview of a separate organisation within Defence. I therefore took the question on notice and undertook to provide an answer after consultation with the relevant authorities. Having now done so, the response is as follows:

In late 2004, Defence became aware of potential land pressures at RAAF Edinburgh associated with the Hardened and Networked Army initiative. It was identified that some of the land classified, at that time, as surplus may be required as a site for undefined facilities. The Minister for Defence at that time was Senator the Hon Robert Hill.

Yours sincerely,

William Grice
Brigadier
Director General Infrastructure Asset Development

28 April 2008