



Public hearing into extension of ASKAP project by CSIRO

The Public Works Committee is holding a public hearing into CSIRO's extension to the Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder (ASKAP) project. The ASKAP project was originally approved by the Committee in December 2008. CSIRO is seeking approval for changes to the budget and timeline for scope elements from the original project.

Phase 1 of the new budget and timeline is to develop and install 14 phased array feed receivers (PAFs) on the antennas at the Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory in Western Australia, and to continue other works originally approved by the Committee in December 2008. This would mean that 18 of the 36 antennas would be fitted with PAFs by 2014. The cost of this would be \$25.8m, which would bring the total project budget to \$164.3m.

Phase 2 is to develop and install PAFs on the remaining 18 antennas and continue other project works. CSIRO has not yet secured funding for this phase. If funding is secured, this phase would also be completed by 2014. The cost would be \$23.7m, which would bring the total project budget to \$188m.

Hearing Venue: Jubilee Room, NSW Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney
Date: Thursday, 31 January 2013
Time: 3.30pm to 4.30pm

Members of the public are welcome to attend.

NB the Public Works Committee is neither involved in the tendering process nor the awarding of contracts. Enquiries on those matters should be addressed to the CSIRO.

For interview: Contact the Chair's office on (07) 4922 6604.

For further information, including how to make a submission, the public hearing times, and copies of submissions when they become available, please visit the Committee website <http://www.aph.gov.au/pwc> or contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4636.