

Australian Government

Department of Defence

Corporate Services & Infrastructure Group

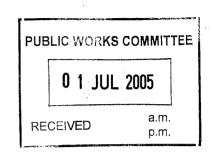
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Ms Vivienne Courto

Secretary
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Ms Courto



PATROL BOAT FACILITIES UPGRADE DARWIN NAVAL BASE

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the submission dated 31 May 2005 from Mr Carl D. Cossill regarding the proposed Patrol Boat facilities upgrade at Darwin Naval Base (DNB) Darwin, Northern Territory.

In Mr Cossill's submission he suggested that the funds proposed for the upgrade works at DNB would be better spent establishing a new Patrol Boat facility at the mouth of the Liverpool River.

The proposed funds for upgrading facilities at Darwin Naval Base is essential to providing support to the new Armidale Class Patrol Boats which have the capability of operating for greater periods and range than the current Fremantle Class Patrol Boats.

Defence believes that the upgrade of facilities at DNB provides the best value for money for Commonwealth resources.

Yours sincerely

Jer

P.J. (Hutch) Hutchinson, DSC 400

Brigadier

Director General Infrastructure Asset Development

1 July 2005