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Committee Secretary  
Senate on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade  
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Dear Senator Bishop

Thank you for your letter of 1 October 2010 inviting written submissions to the Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee inquiry into the Defence Legislation Amendment (Security of Defence Premises) Bill 2010.

I am advised there are no major implications identified for the Northern Territory other than a need for the Defence Force to engage with Northern Territory Police once the legislation is in place, to ensure agreements are considered regarding response arrangements and any subsequent investigations arising from the use of these new powers.

With regard to the principle issues for consideration as noted by the Selection of Bills Committee, this is more relevant to the Defence Force and the Northern Territory Government has no specific position on these issues.

It is quite clear that these amendments are needed and will certainly enhance the security of Defence bases, facilities, assets and personnel, which is especially relevant given the current security environment.

Thank you for providing the Northern Territory the opportunity to comment on this bill.

Yours sincerely

PAUL HENDERSON

25/10/10