



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

New inquiry

Issue date: 1 December 2016

Refurbishment of the Australian Chancery, Paris under scrutiny

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works is conducting an inquiry into proposed refurbishment works at the Australian Chancery Complex in Paris, France. The Complex was collaboratively designed by Australian and French architects and was constructed in the late 1970s.

The Chancery complex, which accommodates Australia's permanent representatives in France, leases excess space to a range of other organisations, including the International Energy Agency (IEA), a tenant since 1996.

With its lease due to expire in 2017, the IEA has considered alternative lease proposals for future accommodation. To secure a further 12 year lease agreement, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) has agreed to modernise the internal fit-out and upgrade base-building engineering services for the areas currently occupied by the IEA.

DFAT states that the proposed works will provide new and enhanced facilities that will allow the IEA to use existing space more efficiently and replace engineering services, which are now over 35 years old.

Tendering for the project is expected in March 2017 and construction is expected to be completed by mid-2018. The estimated cost of the project is \$27.7 million.

It is anticipated that the Committee will conduct public and in-camera hearings for the inquiry early in 2017. Further information on the public hearing will be available soon.

Full details on the project are available on the Committee's website: www.aph.gov.au/pwc

The Committee would like to hear from all individuals or organisations interested in the inquiry.

Submissions will be accepted until 19 January 2017.

NB: *The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works is neither involved in the tendering process nor the awarding of contracts. Enquiries on those matters should be addressed to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.*

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For background:

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

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