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CEO/OUT/2009/067

Submission No:6.....

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

cc Mr Ian McPhee
Auditor General
Australian National Audit Office
GPO Box 707
Canberra ACT 2600

Chair, Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

INQUIRY INTO THE AUDITOR-GENERAL ACT 1997

Thank you for the invitation to make a submission to the inquiry into the Auditor-General Act 1997.

From a DMO perspective, I support the broadening of the Act to give sufficient legislative backing for new functions such as reviews, eg the "Major Projects Report".

More broadly, I recommend changes to the Act that would allow the Auditor General to operate effectively in the evolving Government environment such as the increasing role in infrastructure development. In particular, I suggest expanding section 16 of the Act to include all Government Agencies, including Government Business Enterprises, and providing greater authority for the Auditor General to examine the financial and performance outcomes associated with expenditure of Commonwealth funds, including company audits.

My point of contact for further information is Tony Hindmarsh, Chief Audit Executive, DMO (02) 6265 4698.

Yours sincerely

DR STEPHEN J GUMLEY
Chief Executive Officer

8 APRIL 2009.