



Inquiry into ABC Melbourne accommodation project

The Public Works Committee is conducting an inquiry into the proposed Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) Melbourne accommodation project, Southbank, Victoria.

The ABC proposes to relocate its Melbourne-based television production and administrative functions from sites at Gordon Street and Selwyn Street, Elsternwick, to a new building consolidated with the existing ABC Centre at Southbank. It is intended that once this relocation is complete, the Elsternwick sites would be decommissioned and sold.

The project would consolidate the majority of the ABC's Melbourne operations at its Victorian Headquarters, 120 Southbank Boulevard, Southbank, by expanding into the adjacent site at 102 – 118 Sturt Street. These buildings would house all staff and facilities, across all operational and program-making divisions and media genres with the exception of the television outside broadcast operations.

The estimated cost of the project is \$176.4 million. Construction is expected to be complete by early 2017.

The Committee's Chair, Kirsten Livermore MP, said the Committee will conduct an inspection and public hearing for the project in May 2013.

"The current Elsternwick sites have various deficiencies, and the new accommodation will remedy these. Further, the project will consolidate the ABC's Melbourne facilities, providing flexibility and enabling increased collaboration within the ABC. This would better enable the ABC to continue to meet its obligations under the ABC Charter," Ms Livermore said.

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

Submissions to the inquiry close on Thursday 18 April 2013.

Details of the public hearing program will be announced soon.

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 Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

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.