



**Australian Government**

**Department of Defence**  
Corporate Services &  
Infrastructure Group

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**Ms Vivienne Courto**

Inquiry Secretary  
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Courto

**HEADQUARTERS JOINT OPERATIONS COMMAND PROJECT  
RESPONSE TO PWC SUBMISSION FROM RAIL ESTATE**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the submission dated 31 May 2004 from the Rail Estate.

The following paragraphs provide responses to the Rail Estate in the order that they are raised in their submission.

**Noise and Vibration**

As the Headquarters complex would be located some 400 to 500m from the adjacent rail corridor, no significant impacts from rail-related noise and vibration are anticipated. Nonetheless, rail generated noise and vibration issues will be investigated during the detailed design phase for the Headquarters, and will use the documents published by StateRail and Rail Infrastructure Corporation as noted in the Rail Estate submission.

**Fencing**

As noted in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, a stock fence proof boundary will be provided around the land to be acquired by Defence, including along the adjoining rail corridor. Additionally, the Headquarters Standard Operating Procedures will specify that unauthorised entry to the rail corridor is not permitted.

**Access to Rail Party's Facilities – Future Development**

Defence anticipates that the construction and operation of the Headquarters facility, including future developments, will not restrict or prevent access to the rail facilities for maintenance and support by RailCorp staff.

**Increased Traffic across Level Crossing**

As noted in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Defence anticipates that the primary access road to the Headquarters would pass under the Main Southern Railway line using the existing culvert. The proposed works are likely to include duplication or expansion of the

culvert to allow the safe passage of vehicles to and from the Headquarters, and would be designed in accordance with RailCorp's requirements.

Defence is committed to continuing consultation with the RailCorp to ensure that all necessary approvals, including design and construction requirements, are achieved during the project development process.

Yours sincerely

*Original signed on 2 June 2004*

**B.E. PLENTY**

Air Commodore

Director General Headquarters Joint Operations Command Project

June 2004