

Submission No. 02

Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency

Committee Secretary Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works PO Box 6021 Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600 AUSTRALIA

Proposed fit-out of new leased premises for Divisions of the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research at Buildings 2 and 3, Riverside Corporate Park, North Ryde, NSW

Dear Committee Secretary

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the submission concerning the proposed fit-out of new leased premises for Divisions of the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (as above).

The Government Energy Efficiency Team (GEET) of DCCEE has considered the submission in the context of the *Energy in Government Operations* (EEGO) policy.

GEET notes that a large proportion of the proposed development of the site is dedicated to laboratories. Laboratories represent a significant proportion of the Commonwealth's overall energy use. In 2008-09 laboratories accounted for over 9% of the entire stationary energy use of Commonwealth agencies required to report under EEGO. Therefore any improvements in energy efficiency that DIISR can achieve will make a contribution to efforts to reduce the energy consumption of Commonwealth operations.

DIISR has demonstrated initiative in determining the best way to achieve energy efficiency outcomes in their laboratories, such as incorporation of state of the art fume cupboards which are designed to reduce the overall energy needs of the laboratories, and ensuring that energy efficiency elements are incorporated in the building design. If DIISR can demonstrate significant improvements in energy efficiency at their North Ryde site then it is hoped that their experience can be used to promote energy efficiency in other laboratories operated by Commonwealth agencies.

GEET has suggested that DIISR ensure that sufficient separate digital metering of the office space be installed to ensure that the office areas can be assessed for a Tenancy rating by a NABERS assessor. A 4.5 Star NABERS Office Tenancy rating, which relates to such things as lighting and equipment use, can normally be achieved irrespective of the NABERS Office Base Building rating which in this case – due to the mixed-use nature of the building – is not measurable.

As DIISR has committed to a 30 year lease on the building, GEET has strongly recommended that DIISR install a state of the art Building Management System (BMS) and engage staff with suitable expertise to manage the system. An effective BMS, combined with adequate digital metering for both office and laboratory space, will allow DIISR's building managers to monitor and address energy wastage issues that may arise during their occupancy and ensure that the building is operating efficiently.

We wish DIISR every success with this project and hope that they will continue to work with GEET to help promote energy efficiency in laboratories.

Yours sincerely

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