The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

Proposed Development of Land at Lee Point, Darwin, for Defence and Private Housing

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

December 2004 Canberra © Commonwealth of Australia 2004 ISBN 0 642 78493 0

Contents

Membership of the Committee	V
List of Abbreviations	vi
Extract from the Votes and Proceedings of the House of Representatives	vii
List of Recommendations	viii

REPORT

1	Introduction	1
	Referral of Work	1
	Site of the Proposed Work	1
	Inquiry Process	2
	Inspections and Public Hearing	2
2	The Proposed Works	3
	Objective	3
	Need	3
	Scope	4
	Project Delivery	4
	Cost	
3	Issues and Conclusions	7
	Design Detail	7
	Development Objectives	8

Quality of Development	8
Lot Size	9
Access to Facilities and Services	10
Developer Contributions	11
Environmental Considerations	12
Ecologically Sustainable Development and Energy Conservation	12
Air-conditioning	13
Water and Flooding	15
Protection of Local Flora	15
Heritage Considerations	16
Site Considerations	16
Defence Radar Facility	16
Access to Royal Darwin Hospital	17
Public Consultation	17
Opportunities for Local Industry	18
Selection of Joint Venture Partner	19
Value for Money	20

APPENDICES

Appendix A – List of Submissions and Exhibits	. 23
Appendix B – List of Witnesses	. 25
Appendix C – Submission No. 1 from the Defence Housing Authority	. 27
Appendix D – Official Transcript of Evidence	. 61

Membership of the Committee

Chair Hon Judi Moylan MP

Deputy Chair Mr Brendan O'Connor MP

Members Mr Harry Jenkins MP

Mr Peter Lindsay MP Mr Jim Lloyd MP (to 12 August)

Mr Bernie Ripoll MP

Mr Barry Wakelin MP (from 12 August) Senator Richard Colbeck Senator Alan Ferguson Senator Michael Forshaw

Committee Secretariat

Secretary	Mrs Margaret Swieringa	
	Mr Quinton Clements	
Inquiry Secretary	Ms Vivienne Courto	
Research Officer	Ms Sara Edson	
Administrative Officer	Ms Emily Davis	

List of Abbreviations

DCC	Darwin City Council	
DHA	Defence Housing Authority	
ESD	Ecologically Sustainable Development	
NatHERS	Nationwide House Energy Rating Software	
NT	Northern Territory	
NTG	Northern Territory Government	
PLan Inc	The Planning Action Network Incorporated	
RAIA	Royal Australian Institute of Architects	

Extract from the Votes and Proceedings of the House of Representatives

No. 172 dated Wednesday, 26 May 2004

PUBLIC WORKS—PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE— REFERENCE OF WORK—PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF LAND AT LEE POINT, IN DARWIN, FOR DEFENCE AND PRIVATE HOUSING.

Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for consideration and report: Proposed development of land at Lee Point, in Darwin, for Defence and private housing.

Question-put and passed.

List of Recommendations

3 Issues and Conclusions

Recommendation 1

The Committee recommends that the Defence Housing Authority furnish it with updated information regarding the design and costs of the proposed Lee Point development after the selection of the joint venture partner, following the completion of the planning approval process, and thereafter upon the completion of major project milestones.

Recommendation 2

The Committee recommends that the Defence Housing Authority explore the possibility of including a purpose-built community centre within the proposed Lee Point housing development.

Recommendation 3

The Committee recommends that the Defence Housing Authority continue to investigate and utilise all possible design measures to facilitate the minimal use of air-conditioning throughout the Lee Point housing development.

Recommendation 4

The Committee recommends that Defence Housing Authority develop and implement energy efficient measures specifically designed for use in tropical regions.

Recommendation 5

The Committee recommends that the Defence Housing Authority place details relating to the planning and execution of the Lee Point development on its project web site, and that these details be updated regularly as further information becomes available.

Recommendation 6

The Committee recommends that the Defence Housing Authority undertake a comprehensive program of community consultation through which members of the public may have input into the Lee Point housing development proposal.

Recommendation 7

The Committee recommends that the Defence Housing Authority conduct a thorough analysis of the projected yield and value of the Lee Point site using different combinations of lot sizes, and that this information be provided to the Committee upon the completion of the development plan and upon finalisation of the planning approval process.

Recommendation 8

The Committee recommends that the proposed development of land at Lee Point, Darwin, for Defence and private housing proceed at the estimated cost of \$41, 381,480 pending the fulfilment of the preceding recommendations.