



Australian Academy of Science

Ian Potter House, Gordon Street, Canberra 2601

31 March 2009

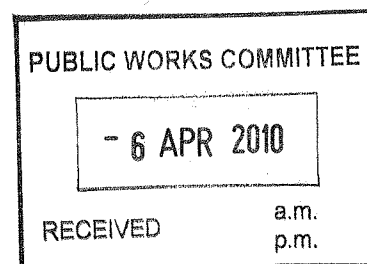
Submission No. 003

(NISHI Building)

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Date: 06/04/2010

The Secretary
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
House of Representatives
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Dear Sir,

**Proposed fit-out of new leased premises for the Department of Climate
Change and Energy Efficiency at the New Acton Nishi building, Edinburgh
Avenue, Canberra City**

The Australian Academy of Science owns two heritage listed buildings in the Acton area, Ian Potter House and the Shine Dome. The Academy is aware of the proposed New Acton Nishi development and has lodged objections with the National Capital Authority and the Approvals and Wildlife Division of the Department of the Environment, Heritage, Water and the Arts. I am surprised this matter has been referred to the Public Works Committee while the Academy has a credible and serious objection to the development under consideration.

There appears to have been a substantial amount of work done on the fit out of the building before the building has been approved. Whether this is a sound use of Government funding and the time and effort of the Departments involved is questionable. This expense and effort may not be in vain if the proposed development occurs elsewhere, in a location which is more appropriate. However, in its present proposed location the building will have a serious impact on a heritage building and its surrounds. Accordingly, the development should not proceed in its present form on the proposed site in the New Acton precinct.

The Academy would appreciate confirmation that its concerns expressed to the National Capital Authority and the Approvals and Wildlife Division of the Department of the Environment, Heritage, Water and the Arts will be addressed before any further work on this development is undertaken.

Yours sincerely,

Phil Greenwood
Business Manager

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