

PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 11 February 2011

Chair: Ms Janelle Saffin MP

Australian Taxation Office seeks approval for Albury Relocation

The Public Works Committee is holding a public hearing into a proposed office fitout for the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) at 'Volt Lane' in Albury, New South Wales. The hearing will be held on Tuesday 15 February, at 10.30am in Albury.

The ATO has submitted a proposal for the fitout of 10,400m² of office space, in a new building to be constructed on the corner of Smollett Street and Amp and Volt Lanes. The proposal would allow the ATO to maintain a single location for its entire Albury staff, whilst providing longer-term and more efficient premises. The proposal has an estimated cost of \$19.1 million, and would deliver energy and environmental efficiencies resulting in reduced operating costs.

The Public Works Committee is responsible for ensuring that the need, cost and scope proposed is appropriate.

The Committee's Chair, Janelle Saffin MP, said the Committee is keen to hear a wide range of views on the proposed fitout and public submissions on the proposal are welcomed.

'This proposal would give the ATO purpose designed premises, ensuring that it meets the various standards applying to Commonwealth agencies, particularly relating to energy use and office density,' Ms Saffin said. 'The Committee is concerned to ensure that this project meets the ATO's needs, as well as providing the Commonwealth with value for money and ensuring a long-term solution for the ATO.'

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

Hearing Venue -	Chifley Hotel Albury, corner Dean & Elizabeth Streets, Albury
Date -	Tuesday 15 February 2011
Time -	10.30am - 11.30am

Members of the Public are welcome to come to the hearing.

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 Taxation Office.

For interview: Contact the Chair's media advisor, Lee Duncan on 0448 158 150.

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 <u>http://www.aph.gov.au/pwc</u> or contact the Committee Secretariat on 0434 567 521.