



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

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Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

Chair: Ms Janelle Saffin MP

Public Works Committee to scrutinise proposed new Australian Embassy in Bangkok

The Public Works Committee is holding a public hearing tomorrow in Canberra, for its inquiry into the proposed construction of a new Australian Embassy complex in Bangkok, Thailand. The complex would house numerous Government departments and is designed to serve as Australia's ongoing permanent mission to Thailand.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade submits that the embassy should be relocated to meet new security requirements and provide appropriate accommodation for the Department and other tenant agencies.

The Committee will review the Department's proposal to ensure the project is necessary, fit for purpose and signifies value for money for the Commonwealth. The anticipated cost of the project is estimated at \$193.4 million. If approved, the project will be complete by June 2016.

For further details on the proposal, visit the Committee's website: www.aph.gov.au/pwc

Hearing Venue - **Committee Room 2R2, Parliament House, Canberra**

Date - **Friday, 4 November 2011**

Time - **9:00am - 10:00am**

Members of the public are welcome to attend 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 Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

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

For further information on the inquiry, please visit the Committee website <http://www.aph.gov.au/pwc> or contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4636.