

---

The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

# **Facilities for Troop Lift Helicopter, RAAF Base Townsville, Qld**

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

September 2006  
Canberra

---

© Commonwealth of Australia 2006

ISBN 0 642 78834 0 (Printed Version)

ISBN 0 642 78835 9 (HTML Version)



# 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

<b>1 Introduction .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Referral of Work .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Background .....</b>	<b>2</b>
RAAF Base Townsville.....	2
<b>Inquiry Process .....</b>	<b>2</b>
Inspection and Public Hearing.....	3
<b>2 The Proposed Works .....</b>	<b>5</b>
Purpose.....	5
Need .....	5
Cost.....	6
Scope .....	6
Project Delivery.....	7
<b>3 Issues and Conclusions .....</b>	<b>9</b>
Defence Forward Planning.....	9
Other Issues.....	10

<b>Joint User Arrangements</b> .....	<b>11</b>
RAAF Base Townsville Runway Access .....	11
Security Considerations .....	11
<b>Occupational Health and Safety Issues (OH&amp;S)</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>Environmental Considerations</b> .....	<b>12</b>
Town Common.....	12
Energy Efficiency .....	13
<b>Scope</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>Project Delivery</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>Quality of Evidence</b> .....	<b>14</b>

## **APPENDICES**

<b>Appendix A – List of Submissions</b> .....	<b>17</b>
<b>Appendix B – List of Witnesses</b> .....	<b>19</b>
<b>Appendix C – Submission No. 1 from the Department of Defence</b> .....	<b>21</b>
<b>Appendix D – Official Transcript of Evidence</b> .....	<b>53</b>



## **Membership of the Committee**

**Chair** Hon Judi Moylan MP

**Deputy Chair** Mr Brendan O'Connor

**Members** Mr John Forrest MP

Senator Michael Forshaw

Mr Harry Jenkins MP

Senator Stephen Parry

Mr Bernie Ripoll MP

Senator the Hon Judith Troeth

Mr Barry Wakelin MP

## **Committee Secretariat**

**Secretary** Mrs Margaret Swieringa

**Inquiry Secretary** Mr Jason Sherd

**Senior Research Officer** Mr Raymond Knight

**Research Officer** Ms Penny Wijnberg

**Administrative Officer** Mr Peter Ratas



## List of Abbreviations

5 Avn Regt	5 <sup>th</sup> Aviation Regiment
Defence	Department of Defence
ESD	Ecologically Sustainable Development
MRH90	Multi-role Helicopter 90
NAACEX	Northern Australian Aeronautical Centre of Excellence
OH&S	Occupational Health and Safety
RAAF	Royal Australian Air Force
the Act	<i>Public Works Committee Act 1969</i>



# **Extract from the Votes and Proceedings of the House of Representatives**

No. 104 dated Thursday 1 June 2006

## **3 PUBLIC WORKS – PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE – REFERENCE OF WORK – FACILITIES FOR TROOP LIFT HELICOPTER, RAAF BASE TOWNSVILLE, QLD**

Mr Nairn (Special Minister of State), 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: Facilities for troop lift helicopter, RAAF Base Townsville, Qld.

Debate ensued.

Question – put and passed.



# List of Recommendations

## 3 Issues and Conclusions

### Recommendation 1

The Committee recommends that the provision of facilities for Troop Lift Helicopter, RAAF Base Townville, Qld, proceed at the estimated cost of \$20 million.