

Australian Government

Department of Finance and Administration

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The Hon Judi Moylan (MP) Chair Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works House of Representatives Parliament of Australia CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Moylan

Villawood Immigration Detention Centre Redevelopment Response to Submission by New South Wales Fire Brigades

The Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs and the Department of Finance and Administration would like to take the opportunity to reply to the submission of the New South Wales Fire Brigades (NSWFB) dated 21 March 2006 concerning the redevelopment of Villawood Immigration Detention Centre at Villawood, New South Wales.

The submission from the NSWFB recommends that departures from specifically noted performance provisions of the Building Code of Australia be referred to the NSWFB for assessment and comment.

We advise that all construction and fire protection requirements for the Redevelopment will meet or exceed the provisions of the Building Code of Australia and all other applicable Codes and Standards. Any departures from Building Code of Australia requirements for the project will be technically assessed by an independent fire protection specialist during design of the facility as well as referred to the NSWFB for assessment and comment.

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To ensure that the NSWFB is familiar with the redeveloped Villawood Immigration Detention Centre, the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs and the Department of Finance and Administration will consult with the NSWFB when the operational fire fighting procedures for the redeveloped facility are being prepared. These procedures will be completed prior to the redeveloped facility being occupied.

Yours sincerely

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Rodney Bray Acting Branch Manager Major Projects Branch - Immigration 31 March 2006