



Infrastructure Division R4-2-040 Russell Offices CANBERRA ACT 2600

DGCI/2002/ **/4-8** 2002/14850/2

The Secretary Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Attention: Ms Margaret Swieringa

## **RESPONSE TO PWC FROM THE AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**

1. Thank you for referring a copy of the letter dated 22 July 2002 from the Australian Heritage Commission concerning the RAAF Base Williamtown Redevelopment Stage 1 and Airborne Early Warning and Control Aircraft Facilities project.

2. The Australian Heritage Commission has identified that the works covered by this proposal are unlikely to have any effect on Indigenous or historic heritage values, however, part of the proposal may impact on natural heritage values. A Review of Environmental Factors is currently nearing completion and if necessary, Defence will undertake the appropriate referral action under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act*, 1999. If necessary, an assessment of alternatives to clearing vulnerable vegetation will be undertaken as part of this process.

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**G. R. Beck** Brigadier Director General Capital Infrastructure 62657481

2 August 2002