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(RAAF East Sale)
Date: 2/11/11



P.O. Box 76 Sale 3850 Victoria Australia

Rotary Club of Sale Inc. Reg No A00 1910172 ABN: 72 002 804 681

1st November 2011

Committee Secretary
Parliamentary Standing committee on Public Works
P.O. Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Sale, we welcome the Federal Government's announcement for capital works expenditure at the East Sale RAAF Base.

We recognize the value of the works and appreciate the investment will underpin the local economy whilst promoting the East Sale Base as a progressive state of the art facility. We acknowledge the social advantages that the development will bring to our community and look forward to supporting local businesses and local council through this journey.

The Rotary Club of Sale was established in 1928 and as such has facilitated substantial community works and activities in the Sale region and we wish to place on record the contribution personnel from RAAF Base East Sale as members and officers of the Club have made to our achievements that is reflected in the high standard of community facilities and services in the Sale region.

Vibrant regional communities require a diverse range of economic drivers to provide a level of stability when other sectors are under performing thus the upgrading and development of the RAAF Base at East Sale is a vital component of regional economic wellbeing.

The changes occurring in regional communities as business models are changing to reflect global markets means that traditional community leadership and development roles from the business sector are under threat. The personnel at the RAAF Base have been active in fulfilling these roles as enlightened members of service clubs and community organisations and the continuing presence of the Base will empower the communities and enable them be less reliant on external influences.

Thus the importance of the continuation and further development of the East Sale RAAF Base cannot be overstated as a major positive influence in both social and economic terms to the region

The Gippsland region as demonstrated by the number of RAAF personnel who elect to stay in the region after their tour of duty offers many opportunities for families throughout their life cycle from enjoyment of the wide range of natural attributes, educational, health and community facilities.

The Rotary Club of Sale supports the continuing development of RAAF Base East Sale and would appreciate the opportunity to expand on the issues raised at a later hearing.

Yours Faithfully

Daniel Smolenaars

President of the Rotary Club of Sale