



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 19 April 2013

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

Chair: Ms Kirsten Livermore MP

Public hearing in Nowra for new Seahawk Helicopter facilities inquiry

The Public Works Committee is holding a public hearing for its inquiry into the proposed AIR 9000 Phase 8 MH-60R Seahawk Romeo facilities project.

The project proposes to acquire 24 MH-60R Seahawk maritime combat helicopters, with associated support systems and additional explosive ordnance storage capacity necessary for operations. These aircraft will replace the existing maritime combat helicopter capability provided by the Royal Australian Navy's 16 aging S-70B-2 Seahawk helicopters.

The proposed works would be located at three sites: HMAS Albatross, Nowra, NSW; Fleet Base West (HMAS Stirling), Garden Island, WA; and Twofold Bay, Eden, NSW.

The estimated cost of the project is \$201.3 million. Construction is expected to be complete by mid 2017.

Full details on the proposal are available on the Committee's website: www.aph.gov.au/pwc

Hearing Venue: Fleet Air Arm Museum
HMAS Albatross
Albatross Road, Nowra Hill, NSW

Date: Monday, 22 April 2013

Time: 12.30pm to 1.30pm

Members of the public are welcome to attend.

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 the Department of Defence.

For interview: Contact the Chair's office on (07) 4922 6604.

For further information, including how to make a submission, the public hearing times, and copies of submissions when they become available, please visit the Committee website <http://www.aph.gov.au/pwc> or contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4636.