MAYOR OF IPSWICH Councillor Paul Pisasale



City of Ipswich Queensland, Australia

27 June 2007

Mr John Fuhrman Inquiry Secretary Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Fuhrman

RAAF Airbase Amberley Redevelopment Stage 3 & C17 Heavy Air Lift Infrastructure Project Submission to a Parliamentary Inquiry

I would like to take this opportunity to advise that Ipswich City Council acknowledges the economic and social benefits that the RAAF Airbase Amberley redevelopment Stage 3 and C17 Heavy Air Lift Infrastructure projects will bring to the Ipswich region.

Council has established an excellent working relationship with the Department of Defence in developing a Town Planning Scheme over many years and it is this successful partnership that has made the redevelopment possible.

The Town Planning Scheme encourages development at RAAF Airbase Amberley and has been designed to protect the operating efficiency of the Airbase through a number of conditions relating to building heights, lighting controls and an extensive buffer zone, all designed to ensure that other developments do not affect operations on the Airbase.

The Western Corridor of South East Queensland is experiencing rapid growth and the SEQ Regional Plan (2005) predicts that the population in the Western Corridor and Ipswich region will grow by a further 1 million by 2026. This tremendous growth will bring benefits and challenges and providing jobs for the increased population will be an important issue.

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We enthusiastically welcome the economic and social benefits that the Stage 3 redevelopment and C17 Heavy Lift Infrastructure Projects will bring to our region and look forward to working with industry and all levels of government to capitalise on these opportunities.

The Department of State Development has purchased 170 hectares of land adjacent to the Airbase for the establishment of an Aerospace Industry Park. These projects will provide further momentum for the development of this industrial park creating significant economic benefits for our region.

I look forward to working with the Department of Defence to assist with the redevelopment of RAAF Base Amberley.

Regards

<u>CR PAUL PISASALE</u> Mayor of the City of Ipswich