



SUBMISSION .....16.....

Infrastructure Division  
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Russell Offices  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

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

Attention: Ms Margaret Swieringa

#### **RESPONSE TO PWC FROM MS. V. TUPMAN**

1. Thank you for referring a copy of the letter dated 30 July 2002 from Ms. V. Tupman concerning the RAAF Base Williamtown Redevelopment Stage 1 and Airborne Early Warning and Control Aircraft Facilities project.
2. The number of direct jobs associated with the construction of the works covered by this proposal is expected to be about 200. The number of indirect jobs will be a function of the proposals submitted by tenderers and the nature by which the works will be carried out.
3. With the arrival of the new families into the area Defence anticipates an increased demand on such community services such as childcare and schools. Under separate arrangements, the Defence Community Organisation will be constructing a new child care facility on the Base to service the increased demand. The Defence Community Organisation will also consult with the NSW Department of Education to ensure that the increased demand for school services can be forecast and managed.
4. The Defence proposal to provide facilities for the Airborne Early Warning and Control aircraft at RAAF Base Williamtown includes the provision of a maintenance facility suitable for the conduct of operational and deeper level maintenance on these aircraft. Boeing, as the Defence aircraft systems contractor, has had discussions with the Hunter Valley Chamber of Commerce on the opportunities for industry in the Hunter Region.
5. In so far as the concerns raised by Ms. Tupman about the roads and cycleways, Defence continues to consult with Port Stephens Council on these issues with a view to addressing any concerns.

6. Defence is aware of the drainage issues related to the Williamstown area generally and will undertake stormwater mitigation measures as part of this project to minimise any impacts as a result of the works. As a key stakeholder in the area, Defence is involved in a number of consultative groups, including the Williamstown Floodplain Management Committee, and intends to continue to participate in the cooperative management of the situation.

7. Defence has consulted with Port Stephens Council about aircraft noise in the past and is sensitive to the concerns of the community in this regard. Defence intends to continue to consult with Council on this matter.



**G. R. Beck**  
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5 August 2002