



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**COMMITTEES**

**Public Works Committee**

**Approval of Work**

**SPEECH**

**Thursday, 17 September 2015**

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## SPEECH

<b>Date</b> Thursday, 17 September 2015	<b>Source</b> House
<b>Page</b> 10538	<b>Proof</b> No
<b>Questioner</b>	<b>Responder</b>
<b>Speaker</b> McCormack, Michael, MP	<b>Question No.</b>

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**Mr McCORMACK** (Riverina—Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance) (10:17): I move:

That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the committee has duly reported to Parliament: OneSKY equipment rooms project in Melbourne and Brisbane.

As I advised the House when referring this project to the Public Works Committee, Airservices Australia and the Department of Defence are planning to replace their existing air traffic control systems with the new civil military air traffic management system being delivered under the OneSKY program to provide a common air traffic control platform in both civilian and military controlled airspace. To achieve this outcome, Airservices is proposing to construct new equipment rooms in Melbourne and Brisbane to house the critical OneSKY computer and communications infrastructure in a Defence protected status building.

The proposed works will include facilities to ensure that two systems can be run in parallel during the transition phase while providing a clear separation between the existing operational air traffic management system and the new air traffic control system. The new civil military air traffic management system will require continual work to develop and test the system without disruption to existing operations and operational equipment. The proposed facilities will meet stringent reliability and security requirements in order to adequately support air traffic control in more than 11 per cent of the world's airspace, 24-hours a day, seven days a week.

The committee has conducted an inquiry and is of the view that the project signifies value for money for the Commonwealth and constitutes a project that is fit for purpose and expedient to carry out. On behalf of the government, I would like to thank the committee for undertaking a timely inquiry. Subject to parliamentary approval, the proposed works are scheduled to commence in late 2015, with a staged practical completion and commissioning between September 2016 and November 2016. I commend the motion to the House.

Question agreed to.