



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

SPEECH

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Questioner		Responder	
Speaker	McCormack, Michael, MP	Question No.	

Mr McCORMACK (Riverina—Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance) (10:22): 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: REDFIN Phase 1B Infrastructure—Facilities required for the new fleet of Special Operations Vehicles.

As I advised the House when referring this project to the Public Works Committee, the Department of Defence is proposing to provide new and refurbished infrastructure at four locations across Australia for the acquisition of special operations vehicles and communication systems for the Australian Defence Force special forces. The project includes new and upgraded facilities and infrastructure essential for the operation of the special forces, which includes new working accommodation, maintenance hangars, storage and workshop facilities. ADF special forces are highly trained and specially equipped to conduct operations at short notice in a range of domestic and international environments. Special forces give the government a range of strategic options beyond those available through conventional forces.

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 which is fit for purpose and expedient to carry out. On behalf of the government, I would like to thank the committee for once again undertaking a timely inquiry. Subject to parliamentary approval of the project, construction is expected to begin in early 2016 and be completed by late 2018. I commend this motion to the House.

Question agreed to.