



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

Date Thursday, 17 September 2015	Source House
Page 10539	Proof No
Questioner	Responder
Speaker McCormack, Michael, MP	Question No.

Mr McCORMACK (Riverina—Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance) (10:24): 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: Campbell Barracks Redevelopment Project, Swanbourne, Western Australia.

As I advised the House when referring this project to the Public Works Committee, the Department of Defence is proposing to construct new, modern, adaptive, purpose-built facilities and improve the infrastructure to support the requirements of the Special Air Service Regiment in Campbell Barracks, Swanbourne, Western Australia. Campbell Barracks functions as both an operational and training base, and comprises a number of specialised working, training and storage facilities. The barracks house a diverse and complex inventory of SASR equipment, including vehicles, weapons, communications equipment, watercraft and personnel equipment. Campbell Barracks is an operational mounting base and a command-and-control centre for global operations. It supports a highly trained and specially equipped force that must be able to prevent, deter or respond to a threat at short notice in a range of domestic and international environments. Campbell Barracks enables current operations, planning for impending operations and enables the development and application of classified and sensitive capabilities.

The redevelopment project will replace ageing and obsolete facilities by delivering functional, flexible purpose-built facilities and improved infrastructure at Campbell Barracks. These will include a new operations precinct, new and refurbished operational support squadron facilities and quartermaster store, a new entry precinct and a fibre transmission facility. The project will deliver upgraded facilities, services and infrastructure, and demolition of 34 obsolete facilities. 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 yet again conducting 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 the motion to the House.

Question agreed to.