



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEES

Public Works Committee

Reference

SPEECH

Wednesday, 16 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) (17:00): I move:

That, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Committee Act 1969, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for consideration and report: AIR5431 Phases 2 and 3 Air Traffic Management and Control System Facilities and Australian Defence Force Air Traffic Control Complex Infrastructure Project.

The Department of Defence and Airservices Australia are proposing to replace their existing air traffic control systems with a new civil-military air traffic management system being delivered under the OneSKY project to provide a common platform for provision of air traffic control in both civilian- and military-controlled airspace. Australia's OneSKY initiative will bring civilian and military air traffic control together under one air traffic management system for the first time, improving aviation efficiency and safety.

To support this initiative, Defence is proposing to construct new or upgraded existing air traffic control towers, airfield systems complex buildings and sensor equipment to buildings at 13 Defence bases and five off-base Defence sites across Australia. Defence air traffic control services are for the purpose of preventing collisions between aircraft, between aircraft and obstructions, between aircraft and vehicles in the ground manoeuvring area and expediting and maintaining an orderly flow of air traffic within military-controlled airspace. The majority of the current air traffic control towers and airfield systems complex facilities were constructed in the 1960s and do not comply with current Building Code of Australia and engineering requirements. The project is valued at \$409.9 million, excluding GST. These costs include all construction costs, management design fees, furniture fittings and equipment, contingencies and escalation allowances.

Subject to parliamentary approval of the project, construction is expected to commence in early 2016 at RAAF Base Amberley. Works at the other sites will progressively commence from late 2016. All works are anticipated to be completed by the end of 2021. I commend the motion to the House.

Question agreed to.