Copy No.....

CONFIDENTIAL CABINET DECISION

No. 7422

Submission No:

6285

Title:

NORTHERN TERRITORY SUBMISSION TO

COMMONWEALTH STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - INCREASED ARMY PRESENCE IN THE NORTH

Cabinet approved the Northern Territory Government Submission for transmission to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works hearing on an increased army presence in the North.

Whim

R.A.SETTER Secretary to Cabinet

14 August 1992

Library & Archives NT, NTRS 2575/P1, Volume 393, Decision 7422 THE NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

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FOR CABINET	SUBMISSION No: 6285
Title:	NORTHERN TERRITORY SUBMISSION TO COMMONWEALTH STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - INCREASED ARMY PRESENCE IN THE NORTH.
Minister	CHIEF MINISTER
Purpose:	OBTAIN APPROVAL TO FORWARD THE SUBMISSION
Relation to existing policy:	N/A
Timing/ legislative priority:	REQUIRED BY 17 AUGUST 1992
Announcement of decision, tabling, etc:	N/A
Action required before announcement:	NONE
Staffing implications, numbers and costs, etc:	NONE
Total cost:	NIL

DEPARTMENT OF THE CHIEF MINISTER

COMMENT ON CABINET SUBMISSION:

TITLE:

NORTHERN TERRITORY SUBMISSION TO

COMMONWEALTH STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - INCREASED ARMY PRESENCE IN THE NORTH

COMMENTS:

The following Departments/Authorities support the submission -

Department of Transport and Works Power and Water Authority Conservation Commission of the NT Department of Health and Community Services Department of Lands and Housing

SIGNED:

DESIGNATION: SECRETARY

Milles

DATE: 1/8/42

COMMENTS					
COMMITTEE ON PU	BLIC WORKS				
TITLE: NT SUBMIS	SSION TO THE	COMMONWEALTH	H PARLIAM	ENTARY S'	randing O
COMMENT ON CABIN	NET SUBMISSION	No.			
pepartment/Authority					
*XXXXXXXXXXIII	CONSERVATION	COMMISSION	OF THE NO	DRTHERN '	TERRITORY

THIS SUBMISSION IS SUPPORTED

SIGNED:

DESIGNATION: DIRECTOR

DATE: /O AUGUST 1992

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Departm	ent/Anthority. TRANSPORT AND WORKS
COMME	ENT ON CABINET SUBMISSION No.
TITLE:	NORTHERN TERRITORY SUBMISSION TO THE COMMONWEALTH
	PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
	COMMENTS:

The submission is supported

SIGNED:

C J FULLER

DESIGNATION: SECRETARY

DATE:

AUGUST 1992

Library & Archives NT, NTRS 2575/P1, Volume 393, Decision 7422

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DANAM	XMAuthority POWER AND WATER
COMME	ENT ON CABINET SUBMISSION No.
TITLE:	NORTHERN TERRITORY SUBMISSION TO THE COMMONWEALTH
	PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
	COMMENTS:

The submission is supported

SIGNED:

C J FULLER

DESIGNATION:

CHAIRMAN

DATE:

AUGUST 1992 CONFIDENTIAL

Library & Archives NT, NTRS 2575/P1, Volume 393, Decision 7422

Departm	ent/Authority	Health	and Comm	unity Ser	vices		
COMMI	ENT ON CABI	NET SUBMISS	ION No.				
TITLE:	ST	ANDING COM	MMITTEE C	N PUBLIC	.TO COMMON WORKS - IN	CREASED	ARMY
			******************			***************************************	

COMMENTS:

The Cabinet Submission is supported.

SIGNED:

Allooman

DESIGNATION: Secretary

DATE: 11-8-92

Department/*Atitivitivy. LANDS AND HOUSING
COMMENT ON CABINET SUBMISSION No.
TITLE: NT SUBMISSION TO THE COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
COMMENTS:

The Submission is supported.

SIGNED: Paul Tyrrell

DESIGNATION: Secretary

DATE:

6-49

RECOMMENDATION:

1. It is recommended that Cabinet approve the attached submission for transmission to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works hearing on an increased army presence in the North.

BACKGROUND:

- 2. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works will sit in Darwin on 26 and 27 August 1992, to examine public works proposals associated with the facilities for an increased army presence in the North, including the redevelopment of Larrakeyah Barracks.
- 3. Submissions were invited from Northern Territory Departments by the Committee in letters dated 29 June 1992. In order to present a coordinated response, the Department of the Chief Minister has assumed responsibility for putting together a Northern Territory Submission.

CONSIDERATION OF THE ISSUES:

4. Department of Defence documentation provided sets out a comprehensive description of what is proposed. There are, however, a few matters which need to be drawn to the Commonwealth's attention to ensure that there are no misunderstandings between the parties as well as the need for additional planning information.

OPTIONS:

5. Cabinet can approve sending the submission, decide not to send any submission or seek an amended submission. Forwarding the submission is recommended.

PUBLIC IMPACT OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS:

6. There should be no impact.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

7. None. The submission does, however, signal to the Commonwealth possible future claims for funding by the Territory.

REGULATORY IMPACT:

8. None.

EMPLOYMENT AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS:

9. None.

COMMONWEALTH, STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS:

10. The submission is to a Commonwealth Standing Committee.

COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION:

11. The submission is the result of inputs from all relevant NT departments and agencies.

LEGISLATION:

12. Not relevant.

PUBLICITY:

13. None.

TIMING:

14. The submission is required by the Committee before 17 August 1992.

MARSHALL PERRON

SUBMISSION FROM THE NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT TO THE PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS PUBLIC HEARING INTO:

- (A) FACILITIES FOR AN INCREASED ARMY PRESENCE IN THE NORTH; and
- (B) THE RE-DEVELOPMENT OF LARRAKEYAH BARRACKS

INTRODUCTION:

- 1. This submission identifies a number of issues which need to be taken into account in the planning for the increased army presence in Darwin. The issue of water supply at Palmerston and to a lesser extent at Larrakeyah is covered, as well as a range of health and environmental health issues.
- 2. Attention is also drawn to two other important matters which need to be considered. These are 'Road Traffic' and 'Public Transport'.
- 3. Information was gathered from a variety of Northern Territory departments and agencies recently on these and other matters in regard to the Notice of Intention of an increased army presence.
- 4. A response was provided to the Commonwealth Department of Arts, Sport, the Environment, and Territories by the Northern Territory Conservation Commission. A Copy of that correspondence is at Attachment 2.

Road Traffic

- 5. No information has been provided on the likely traffic patterns that will be generated by the increased military presence. Assessments therefore on the likely impact on road traffic cannot be made. The expected increase in specialised military vehicles and convoys may increase the risk of road accidents, particularly with the large number of road trains and tourists towing caravans.
- 6. In addition, the effects of heavy military traffic on the existing road system and whether this is likely to result in increased maintenance cost cannot be assessed. Traffic densities may also

suggest the bringing forward of planned highway extentions. Should this become desirable capital funding support from the Commonwealth may be required.

7. Projections of anticipated traffic densities and patterns should be provided.

Public Transport

- 8. No reference has been made to public transport needs which will arise as a consequence of the projected population increases (possibly 4000 in total).
- 9. School buses, in particular, are an important issue and some planning at this early stage should occur to ensure relevant services are available when needed.
- 10. Consultations with the Department of Education and the Darwin Bus Service should be undertaken at an early stage.

Palmerston - Water Supply

- 11. Proposed developments will have a major impact on the need for up-grading water mains and headworks for Palmerston and a new water source for Darwin.
- 12. A second water supply connection to the area will have to be constructed.
- 13. A contribution towards the cost of construction of water mains and headworks will be required. Costs in 1991 dollar terms are in the order of:

Water Mains 1.3m Headworks 8.5m

Total 9.8m

Details of these costs are set out in Attachment 1.

- 14. It is understood that a timetable for the project will be developed by Working Party No 1.
- 15. It should be noted that funds have not been made available in the 1992/93 Northern Territory Budget for the augmentation of Stage

- 1, Water Supply System for Palmerston. Implementation of this project has been deferred from August 1993 to August 1994.
- 16. One implication of this deferment is that water restrictions may need to be imposed during peak demand periods in 1993. Such restrictions are, however, by no means certain. The water requirements of military establishments, for example, may not be the same as for residential areas.
- 17. At this stage the design flows and costings are notional and a detailed study should be undertaken to establish the most appropriate specifications for the system. Some variation in final costings should, therefore, be anticipated.

Larrakeyah Barracks - Water Supply

- 18. Preliminary assessment is that existing headworks to serve Larrakeyah are adequate. This is based on the claim in the Statement of Evidence that there will be no increase in demand.
- 19. Should the demands be greater than foreshadowed, the Northern Territory Government would be looking for a contribution from the Commonwealth.
- 20. Among the works programmed there is no mention of landscaping for new construction. If landscaping is proposed for the program, water conservation practices should be applied. In that regard, grass areas should be minimised and local trees and scrubs used together with heavy mulching.

Health

Hospital

- 21. Authorised hospital beds are averaged at 4 per 1000 of population. Projected population increases could indicate a requirement for an additional 8 beds for Royal Darwin Hospital. The level of private health insurance cover would affect this figure.
- 22. Some impact could be experienced in the outpatient department of Royal Darwin Hospital, particularly in the area of specialist consultations.

- 23. It is anticipated general consultations would fall to private general practitioners unless emergency/accident services were needed.
- 24. Some increase in PATS travel for interstate specialist consultations may be experienced.

Community Health

- 25. It is intended to disperse the personnel through all areas of Darwin therefore increased facilities could be needed in the area of infant health and immunisation facilities. Initially community health should be able to absorb the increase.
- 26. An increase in aged dependants may have staffing implications for domiciliary nursing.

Dental Health

27. Some impact will be felt in the school dental program but initially it should be able to be absorbed.

Child Care

- 28. Government has agreed to build a 40 place child care centre in Palmerston in 1992/93. Three-way discussions have already taken place with the Military, Palmerston City Council and the Department of Health and Community Services. If the military build up continues until the year 2000, an additional 40 places could be needed.
- 29. The dispersion of families within the community make it a little difficult to suggest where the additional places would be made available.
- 30. Consideration could be given by the military to provide "on base" facilities.

Environmental Health

Palmerston - Unit Facilities

(a) Sewage and Waste Water Disposal

- 31. The Notice of Intention (NOI) stated that sewage will be either treated on site and spray irrigated or put into PAWA's Palmerston sewer network.
- 32. The NOI also noted that some waste water recycling will occur. Any on site waste water recycling is to comply with NH&MRC guidelines, and should only take place in consultation with the Northern Territory Department of Health and Community Services in order to avert any health, ground water contamination or mosquito breeding risks.

Other Waste Disposal

- 33. Solid waste should be disposed of in accordance with the requirements of the Department of Health and Community Services (HACS).
- 34. Liquid and toxic waste should be disposed of in accordance with requirements of the Northern Territory Conservation Commission and HACS.
- 35. Dangerous waste should be disposed of in accordance with Work Health Authority requirements.

Water Pollution

36. Appropriate construction and other measures should be taken to prevent storm waste contamination from stores, fuel storage, workshops, vehicle maintenace facilities and food preparation areas.

General

37. A small-animal abattoir is shortly to be established in conjunction with an existing piggery located to the south of the base. The Army should be aware of the potential for the base to be affected by odours emanating from the piggery and/or abattoir.

Palmerston - Local Training Area

- 38. On the receipt of the original NOI in September 1986, considerable work was undertaken by HACS's Entomology Branch to establish baseline data for insect vectors. A report to that end was forwarded to the then Department of Administrative Services in February 1988.
- 39. The future close training area and any base extensions should not form part of the Brigade Manoeuvre Area.
- 40. All tracked vehicles should be barred from the wet season extents of Noogoo and Milner Swamps at all times of the year to avoid any increase in mosquito breeding due to the incursion of salt water closer to the base area and water-containing depressions left by the vehicles.
- 41. An environmental audit of the present establishment should be undertaken to identify problems of siltation, erosion and dry season low flows so that any necessary rectification can be undertaken before the current proposal can exacerbate those problems.
- 42. No explosives area is mentioned. Consideration should be given to the establishment of such an area outside of the wetlands so that Army and civilian use of the totally inappropriate current area at Leanyer can cease. Wetlands are not an appropriate area for the detonation of explosives.
- 43. No mention is made of weapons training in this area so an assessment of noise pollution is not made. Similarly the impact of the activities in this area on dust pollution is difficult to address without further information.

Department of the Chief Minister July 1992

ATTACHMENT 1

DETAILS OF THE DEFENCE DEPARTMENT

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR WATER FACILITIES

1. PAWA Contribution Policy

The current policy differentiates the following contributions:

- dedicated connections
 The cost of such connections is provided by a developer.
- shared headworks
 Contribution to shared headworks is apportioned pro-rata to design flows.

2. Estimated Water Demands - Design Flows

Estimated water demands provided to PAWA by Australian Construction Services are as follows:

(i) Design flow (peak hour flow)

- domestic 118L/s
- fire 63L/s
- landscaping 210L/s

Total 400L/s

The initial connection to the site was designed for 130L/s, therefore a second connection is necessary to supply the difference at the rate 270L/s. (400 - 130 = 270)

Headworks (mains and pump station) will have to supply 400L/s.

(ii) average day flow 6.0ML/day (iii) peak day flow 10.2ML/day

3. Impact on Water Supply Headworks

Estimated water demand will bring forward the need for augmentation of water supply system for Palmerston Zone and a new source for Darwin.

Water supply system for Palmerston Zone will be augmented in four stages:

* Stage 1 - comprises a 1000mm rising main from McMinns Transfer Station (MTS) to Howard Springs Road.

- estimated cost \$8,000,000 - proposed completion date August 1994

- capacity of the main 1200L/s

Stage 2 - comprises a new Palmerston Pump Station at MTS and a 1000mm rising main from Howard Springs Road to Palmerston.

- estimated cost

\$8,000,000

- capacity of the system

1200L/s

(new Palmerston Pump Station only)

* Stage 3 - comprises augmentation of Palmerston Pump Station.

- estimated cost

\$200,000

- capacity of the system

1400L/s

* Stage 4 - additional 42ML storage at MTS

- estimated cost

\$3,200,000

Time for completion of Stages 2,3 and 4 and augmentation of water source will be significantly influenced by timing and development of Palmerston Barracks.

An estimated cost for augmentation of the water source is in the order of \$13-15\$ million.

It must be pointed out that any additional demand for water by the Army will require construction of Stage 2.

4. Options for Supply of Water to the Site

The following options are acceptable to PAWA, (refer attached drawing 040-92-04-2052)

(i) Option 1

Second connection in Thorngate Road at the gate to the site.

This option is designated by nodes 1-2-10-3-4 and 3-7-5.

Section 3-7-5 will close the loop between connections, equalise water pressure and provide additional reliability for supply in case of emergency.

(ii) Option 2

Second connection in parallel to the existing connection.

This option is designated by nodes 1-2-6-9-5-8.

PAWA's preferred option is Option 1, as that option opens a larger area for future development.

Estimated costs for options 1 and 2 are preliminary and will be refined in due course. Currently, these costs are as follows:

- Option 1

\$1.9M

- Option 2

\$1.8M

5. The Defence Department Contribution

PAWA understands that the following data establishes principles which will have to be up-dated on the basis of adopted or revised flows, conditions of the existing system, PAWA policy on contributions from developers and revised estimated costs.

The contribution is based on the following assumptions.

(i) Design Flows - refer item 2.

(ii) Adopted Flows to Components of Water Supply System.

The following design flows have been adopted to establish contribution.

- water mains-second connection 270L/s (peak hour flow)
- headworks-mains and pump station(peak hour flow) 400L/s
- storage 10.2ML/d (peak day flow)
- water source 6.0ML/d (average day flow)

5.1 <u>Headworks Contribution</u>

Refer item 3 for relevant costs. The estimated Defence Department contribution is based on current estimated costs and is as follows:

- Stage 1

- Stage 2

- Stage 3

- Stage 4

- Source

 $6.0ML/d \times $13,000,000$

\$1,860,000

45.ML/d

Sub-total Headworks \$8,027,200

Escalation to contract target dates say 5% (assuming one year construction period)

\$ 401,300

TOTAL

\$8,428,560

\$8.5M say

5.2 Water Mains Contribution

Refer item 4 for relevant costs. The contributions based on current estimated costs, are as follows:

- Option 1 \$1.3M for contribution refer Attachment 1

- Option 2 \$1.3M for contribution refer Attachment 1

Total Contribution 5.3

Total contribution is as follows:

- Headworks plus Option 1 Mains \$9.8M

- Headworks plus Option 2 Mains \$9.8M

It should be noted that these costs will have to be up-dated as stated in item 5, first paragraph.

Attachment 1

OPTION 1

SECTION	I.D.	D. DISTANCE	ESTIMATE	DESIGN FLOWS		COMMONWEALTH	COMMENTS
	(mm)	metres		TOTAL (L/s)	To 2nd Cavalry Regiment (L/s)	CONTRIBUTION	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 2	750	980	\$504,700	485	300	\$312,186	Shared main
2 —10	600	1600	\$646,400	475	300	\$408,253	Shared main
10-3	525	460	\$151,800	360	300	\$126,500	Shared main
3 — 5	375	1080	\$258,120	70	30	\$110,623	Shared main
3 — 4	525	920	\$303,600	270	270	\$303,600	Dedicated main
		TOTAL	\$1,864,620		TOTAL	\$1,261,161	

Say total \$1.9M

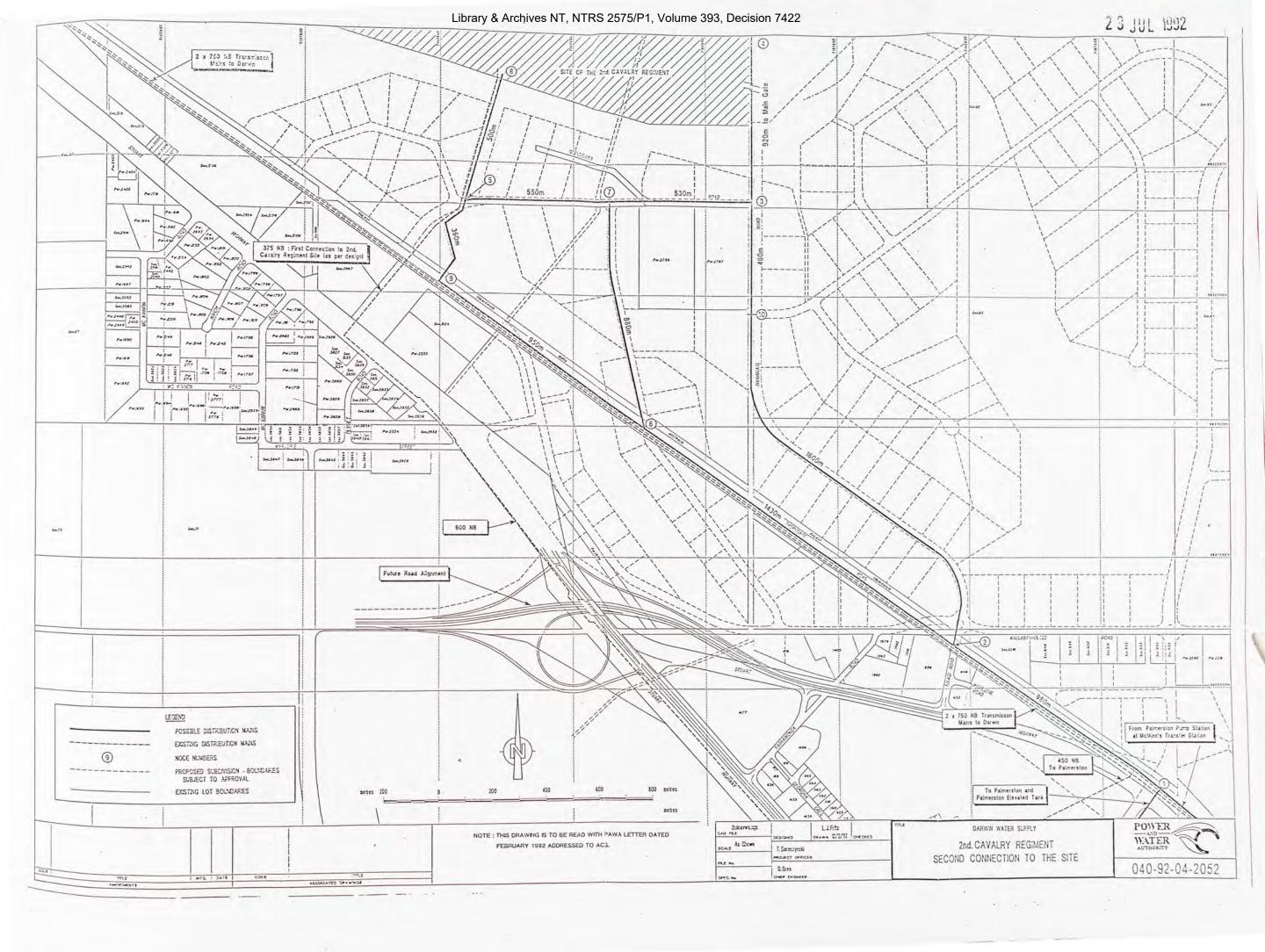
Say total \$1.3M

OPTION 2

SECTION	I.D.	DISTANCE	ESTIMATE	DESIGN FLOWS		COMMONWEALTH	COMMENTS
	(mm)	metres		TOTAL (L/s)	To 2nd Cavalry Regiment (L/s)	CONTRIBUTION	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 — 2	750	980	\$504,700	485	270	\$280,967	Shared main
2 — 5	600	2740	\$1,106,960	360	270	\$830,220	Shared main
5 — 8	525	500	\$165,000	300	270	\$148,500	Dedicated main
		TOTAL	\$1,776,660		TOTAL	\$1,259,687	

Say total \$1.8M

Say total \$1.3M



CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY.



P.O. BOX 496, PALMERSTON N.T. 0831 AUSTRALIA TELEPHONE: (089) 89 5511
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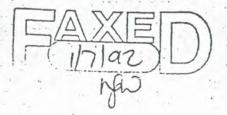
OUR REF:

YOUR REF:

Mr Frank Downing A/Director Government and Infrastructure Section Department of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, and Territories GPO Box 787 CANBERRA ACT 2601







NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT COMMENTS ON INCREASED ARMY PRESENCE IN DARWIN - NOTICE OF INTENTION

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with comments on the above NOI. The Conservation Commission made the NOI available to the following NT Government organisations:

- Department of Lands and Housing;
- Department of Education;
- Department of Health and Community Services;
- Power and Water Authority;
- Department of Transport and Works; and
- Office of Local Government.

It is concluded that the NT Government does not consider that further assessment is necessary for the above proposal, however, additional information on aspects in the NOI is recommended.

Compiled comments on the NOI are summarised below:

- 1. Further information is required before assessment of the educational facilities impact of the proposed personnel build-up can be undertaken in any detail. In this regard it is recommended that the Working Group on Community Services Development meet at an early stage. Specific educational issues include:
 - the number of dependants (4000) generated by the 2200 personnel seems extremely high, especially as the NOI states that 800 additional married quarters only will be required. The Department of Education believes that 800-1000 school age children would be involved.

- b. distribution of the proposed married quarters has not been clearly stated (para 58). It is not possible to comment on the impact on schools without this information.
- c. in respect of para 37 there are: 18 Government primary schools, 3 of which are in Palmerston, there are 3 Junior High Schools, 1 Secondary College, and 1 Comprehensive High School in Palmerston. Non-Government schools consist of 9 Primary, 3 secondary and 1 mixed.
- d. Annex F includes the 1984 structure Plan, it should be updated to include the 1990 plan.
- 2. The NOI contains adequate recognition of the Utilities area. Representation on the Working Group by the Power and Water Authority is considered to be the appropriate forum for discussion of issues related to the impact of water, sewerage and power supplies.
- 3. The NOI does not elaborate on the potential impacts on road traffic. Areas that need further attention are:
 - a. military/civilian traffic conflict where already in recent times a military vehicle was involved in a fatality.
 - b. increased presence of specialised military vehicles and convoys may increase risk of road accidents particularly with the large number of road trains and tourists towing caravans.
 - c. high traffic usage routes need to be identified to determine intersection control/capacity and noise attenuation requirements where they adjoin existing or proposed residential areas.
 - d. in respect to (a-c) above, the army might consider an education/public relations program to create a mutual awareness of military and civilian traffic requirements with road safety being the critical issue.
 - e. there is no mention in the NOI of the public transport requirements. This issue could be significant, particularly school bus requirements.
 - f. attempts should be made to house military personnel as close to the schools of their choice as possible. Note there are no Catholic schools in Palmerston.
 - g. when the accommodation arrangements are made, census figures on a suburbby-suburb basis should be made available to the Darwin Bus Service to provide for planning services.
- 4. Some areas in the NOI are out-of-date and need updating. For example, the Palmerston barracks are, in fact, located in Litchfield Shire which was created in September 1985.

- 3. The Department of Local Government believes that the Darwin City Council, the Palmerston (Town Council and Litchfield Shire Council should be included in Working Party no. 2.
- 6. Further information is required on the social and economic impact study referred to in para 63. including: is the study completed, and if it is, will it be publicly available? Who will be consulted (the three municipalities above should be consulted), and who will fund the correction of deficiencies or potential problem areas?
- 7. Given that there are environmental health implications with the proposal, it is recommended that Working Group no. 1 include the Department of Health and Community Services.
- 8. Annex G is a copy of the 1987 2nd Calvary NOI, and it is understood that the facility is connected to the PAWA sewer. Any on-site waste water recycling is to comply with NH&MRC guidelines, and should take place in consultation with the Department of Health and Community Services, in order to avert any health risks.
- 9. Solid waste water should be disposed of in accordance with the requirements of the above Department. Liquid and toxic wastes should be disposed of in accordance with the requirements of the Conservation Commission.
- 10 Appropriate construction and other measures should be taken to prevent storm water contamination from stores, fuels, workshops, and vehicle maintenance areas.
- A small-animal abattoir is shortly to be established in conjunction with the existing piggery located south of the base. The army should be advised of this development and the potential for the base to be affected by odours.
- 12 The future close training area and any base extensions should not form part of the Brigade Manoeuvre Area. All tracked vehicles should be prohibited from the wet season extents of the Noogoo and Millner Swamps to avoid increase in mosquito breeding.
- An audit of the present establishment at the local training area should be undertaken to identify problems of siltation, erosion and dry season low flows so that any necessary rectification can be under taken before the proposal can exacerbate those problems.
- No explosive area is mentioned and it may be timely to suggest an inclusion outside the wetlands, so that operations in the Leanyer area can cease. Wetlands are not an appropriate area for the detonation of explosives.

Finally, comments have not been received from the Department of Lands and Housing and municipalities. These will be forwarded to you as soon as they are received by this office.

4

As discussed on the telephone, I must reiterate on behalf of all NT advisory bodies, my concern over the exceedingly short time allowed for comment on the NOI which, as a result, has probably affected the quality of information that you have sought for your assessment.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Read

Manager - Assessments

for Director of Conservation

Thelas Reed

July 1992