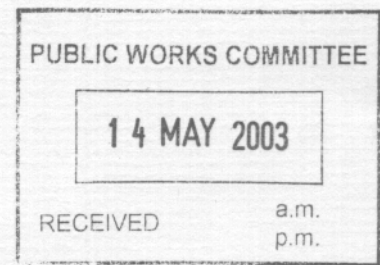


File No: 8/1/0/123
Contact Officer: Grahame Crocket
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CADB No: 8292



12 May 2003

Ms Vivienne Courto
Inquiry Secretary
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Courto

Thank you for your letter of 17 April 2003 requesting comment on a Statement of Evidence to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works (PWC) by the Australian Sports Commission to redevelop the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), at Bruce, ACT.

The Commission advises that it is currently assessing a nomination of the AIS for entry in the Register of the National Estate (RNE). The Bruce Stadium and the National Indoor Stadium have also been nominated for their individual significance. An independent Conservation Analysis prepared by consultants to the Australian Sports Commission informs this assessment. I attach for your information copies of the RNE database reports for these places.

The Commission notes that the Conservation Analysis found the AIS, as a complex, to have exceptional heritage significance and that heritage values existed in a number of individual structures located at the AIS, in particular, the Canberra Stadium, the AIS Arena, the AIS Swimming Pool Centre, the Outdoor Synthetic Field, Sculptures and Artworks, remnant mature Eucalypts, the woodland character and amphitheatre setting, and the north/south pedestrian spine. Other elements, including the Gymnastic Hall, the Athletes Residences, the Australian Sports Commission offices, and the Sports Science and Sports Medicine building, had some heritage significance.

With respect to the proposed redevelopment of the AIS, the Commission advises that it would appear to have no significant effect on the potential heritage values of Bruce Stadium, the AIS Arena, and has only minor effects on the potential heritage values of the Athletes Residences, the AIS Swimming Pool Centre, the Australian Sports Commission offices, the Sports Science and Sports Medicine Centre, and the Sports Training Facility.

Although the Statement of Evidence to the PWC makes no reference to the possible heritage values of the AIS, the Commission appreciates being consulted on this proposal and considers that the proposed redevelopment is unlikely to have any significant effect on any potential heritage values of the AIS.

Unless invited, the Commission does not expect to appear as a witness before the Committee at the public hearing on 16 June 2003.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Ken Heffernan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr Ken Heffernan
A/g Director
Historic Heritage Management Section