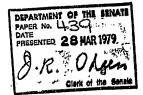
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FORTY-SECOND GENERAL REPORT

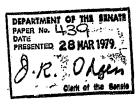
TABLED PARTY

1979

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

FORTY-SECOND GENERAL REPORT



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PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS

FORTY-SECOND GENERAL REPORT

Pursuant to Section 16 of the Public Works Committee Act 1969, the Perliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works has the honour to report the proceedings of the Committee during the period 1 January to 31 December 1978.

TWENTY-FIFTH COMMITTEE

1. Members of the Twenty-fifth Committee were appointed in the Senate on 22 February 1978 and in the House of Representatives on 1 March 1978. They were Senator 8.F. Kilgariff, Senator J.I. Melzer, Senator H.W. Young, Mesers M.H. Bungey, S.E. Calder, D.F.C., B.C. Humphreys, A.W. Jamos, L.K. Johnson and M.E. Sainsbury. At the first meeting of the Committee on 2 Merch 1978, Mr. M.H. Bungey was elected Chairman and Mr. L.K. Johnson, Vice-Chairman.

PROPOSALS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE

2. The Committee presented six reports to Parliament during 1978, one being a review of an earlier report presented in 1973. Two proposals referred in 1978 remain to be reported on and reports on these will be tabled early in 1979. Details of the references and reports are in the tabulated summary at Appendix A.

MEETINGS

3. The Committee met on 49 occasions during 1978. These meetings were held to take evidence at public and in-camera hearings, carry out inspections and to undertake private deliberations and took place in Canberra (32), Tullamarine (1), Adelaide (2), Point Cook (1), Jervie Bay (1), Yirrkala (1), Nhulunbuy (1), Enoggera (2), Balcombe (1), Portsea (1), Wodonga (1), Togronga (1), Chatewood (2) and Sydney (2).

PROPOSALS REPORTED ON BY THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE 1973-1977

- 4. At Appendix B is a tabulated summary of progress to date of all works reported on by the Committee covering the period 1973-1977 as at December 1978. This information was first provided in the Fortieth General Report and has been updated by the Department of Housing and Construction. The Committee believes that this review of the relative progress of jobs to original planned targets is useful information and, with the agreement of the then Minister for Construction in May 1978, will continue in all General Reports to Parliament by this Committee.
- S. One alteration has been made to the previous format of this summary. The column showing final cost is now headed "final cost/current estimate" and the amounts set out in that column represent the Department of Housing and Construction's current expectation of final cost for those projects which are not yet complete.
- 6. For brevity, the reports on each project have been condensed to the essentials considered to be of interest to Parliament. The Department of Housing and Construction can provide further information to expand on any projects of particular interest.
- 7. The Committee is sware that the Department of Housing and Construction and its client Departments, in submitting evidence at public hearings of the Committee, attempt to indicate the shortest possible time frame for contract documentation and construction of proposed works. We are also sware that following approval of our report by Parliament, subsequent development of each project and its eventual progress to construction is mainly a budgetary consideration and hence is a matter of Government decision.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE ACT (PARLIAMENTARY PAPER NO. 105/74)

8. The Committee has been given to understand that legislation simed at widening the ambit of the Public Works Committee to include selected statutory authorities will be introduced into Parliament during the autumn session this year.

NON-REFERENCE OF DEFENCE WORKS

- 9. Section 18 (8) of the Public Works Committee Act 1969 states:
 - " A public work the estimated cost of which exceeds
 Two million dollars shall not be commenced unless.
 - (a) . . .
 - (b) ...
 - (c) the Governor-General has, by order, declared that the work is for defence purposes and that the reference of the work to the Committee would be contrary to the public interest. "
- 10. The Committee recognises that in the case of certain defence works a public investigation by the Committee could prejudice security. However, the practice of advising the Committee that such projects have not been referred to it for examination and report has not been as prompt as the Committee would wish, particularly at a time when the Committee has been canvassing a view that it be provided with such information at an earlier stage during the processing of such works proposals than is currently the
- II. We are conscious that it might be difficult for the Department of Housing and Construction to give an undertaking to provide any earlier advice on individual projects. On the other hand, advice of impending exemptions on an in-confidence basis as an act of courtesy would be welcomed by the Committee.
- 12. The Committee acknowledges the recent advice given to it that cereful consideration is given to projects before recommendations are made to the Government and before the question of exemption is put to the Governor-General in Council, both in respect to the underlying ressons for the need for the works and to the sort of information that would be discernible from descriptions of the scope or technical detail of projects.

13. The Committee recognises that little use has been made of exemption provisions in recent years. We have been informed that there were only three such exemptions in 1978, none in 1977, one in 1976 and one in 1975. The matter of non-reference of defence works was last raised by the Committee in its Twenty-ninth Report dated 27 October 1966.

REVIEW OF WORKS BY DEPARTMENTS AFTER THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT TO PARLIAMENT

- 14. The Committee is concerned about a recent trend by Departments for advice being given to it that certain changes have been made to works proposals after they have been approved by Parliament following presentation of the Committee's report.
- 15. The Committee recognises that some changes involving refinement have in many cases resulted in a saving of funds and a better design, notwithstending that the project should have been more thoroughly analysed before reference to the Committee. However, there have been some changes notified to the Committee which have resulted in increases in cost of individual buildings. For example, in the reference relating to the Consolidation into Bankstown of the Lidcombe and Bankstown Government Aircraft Factories operated by Hawker de Havilland Pty Ltd (Report No. 2 of 1976). A new self-contained machine shop at Bankstown, estimated to cost \$1 million was found to be required instead of utilising an existing hanger building, without incurring significant capital expenditure, as put to the Committee at the public hearing. The Committee has been informed that it was a chapper solution than the "considerable cost" of establishing a machine shop in the existing hanger building.
- 16. The Committee has also been notified of subsequent changes in the design concept of buildings after the relevant hearings have taken place. In the reference relating to the Development of the Rendwick Military Area (Report No. 5 of 1977), the rank and file eleping accommodation has been changed from a three-storey concept to one of two storeys. It was found that the two-storey concept produced a better architectural solution and improvements to fire egress and protection which the Department of Housing and Construction found achievable within the indexed cost targets for O.R.'s accommodation.

17. The Committee is concerned that major changes such as those referred to above have been found necessary. Current provisions of the Public Works Committee Act do not permit the Committee to enquire into the justification for such changes once the work has commenced. The Committee is of the firm opinion that some of the reasons justifying the changes should have been evident at the time the Committee examined the work and requests the Department of Housing and Construction to undertake fuller investigation in the preparation of submissions to the Committee. Furthermore, the Committee would appreciate early advice of any major changes found necessary after examination by the Committee, together with details of the reasons for the changes.

WIDER USE OF CARPET

18. In our lest General Report, we commented that a policy decision on the wider use of carpet was taking a long time to resolve and were advised that the matter would be raised again with the interdepertmental committee "in the near future to achieve a final decision". We have been informed that in April 1978 the responsibility for standards of fittings in Commonwealth office accommodation including carpets was vested in the Department of Administrative Services. Following discussions between the Department of Administrative Services and the Department of Housing and Construction, guidelines for the use of carpet were agreed to in November 1978 and are to be published in the near future.

WORKS EXCEEDING PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REFERENCE LIMIT OF \$2 MILLION DURING DOCUMENTATION/TENDERING STAGE

- 19. During debate in the House of Representatives in 1974, on an amendment to the Public Works Committee Act to include a definition of the term "estimated cost", it was suggested that the Committee should include in the General Report details of those works, the initial estimated cost of which was less than \$2 million (and were therefore not referred to the Committee) but whose final cost exceeded the mandatory reference figure of \$2 million.
- 20. During the year ending 31 December 1978, there were no projects which at the Limit of Cost estimate stage were below \$2 million and subsequently exceeded \$2 million due to cost increases.

- 21. The Committee wishes to record its appreciation to those who gave evidence as witnesses or who assisted during site inspections. We are grateful to the officers of the various departments, particularly the Department of Housing and Construction, for their co-operation and willingness to fit in with our meeting and inspection arrangements.
- 22. We are also grateful to the Principal Parliamentary Reporter, the Government Printer and respective staffs, for their co-operation and service.

STAFF

- 23. The Committee was served by Mr. R.B. Fenton as Secretary, Mr. P.J. Roberts as Assistant Secretary, Mr. G.L. Laffan and Mrs. J.R. Thompson.
- 24. Mr. G.L. Laffan left the service of the Committee on promotion to the Attorney-General's Department. We record our appreciation of all members of the Committee staff.
- 25. Mr. Laffan has been replaced by Mr. M.B. Ward.

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, Parliament House. CANBERRA, A.C.T.

1 March 1979.

The second secon	Remarks		Recommended as proposed. Further consideration should be given to external cladding and lendscaping.	Report not yet presented.	In presenting its 5th Report of 1973 or 20/9/7 accommending the expenditure of \$2.1m
	fotion for Expediency Passed		1. 6.78		31, 5,78
DOUTER TAVO	Expandituro Recommended by Committee		2 350 008		6 400 000
MEPUNIS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC BORNS CURMITTEE DURING 1970	Expenditure Proposed when Referred to Committee	so	2 350 000	52 800 000	2 100 000 10 1978 prices 9 500 000
חב רטטרוני	Report Presented		1. 6.78		er. ç.
SENIEU DI I	Date and Number Report		(1/18)		23. 5.78 (2/79)
ncronis Pac	Proposed Work		Redevelopment of Airways Facilities, Adelaide Airport, South Australia	Defence force Academy, A.C.T.	Off Shore High Security Animal Quarantho Station, Cocos 13landa. (Revision of Fifth Report of 1973)
	Date Proposal Referred		8. 3.79	16, 3,78	5.73

REPORTS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE DURING 1978

The second secon	Romarks		Recommended as proposed and Recommended as proposed and manufacture in the factor in t	Recommended as proposed.	Recommended as proposed.	Recommended as proposed. However, a covered heated submaring pool should be provided at an estimated additional cost of \$330 000. The proposal by Civil & Civic Pby Lid regarding project exemple to be thoroughly exemined.	Raport not yet presented.
D1C# 0	Motion for Expediency Passed		13. 9.78	19. 9.79	26. 9.78	24.11.78	
WILLIES DONE	Expenditure Recommended by Committee		\$ 12 000 000	3 150 000	17 300 000	29 50 <u>0</u> 000	
REPURIS PRESENTED DI INE PUBLIC MORNS COMMITTEL DOLLNE 1510		Committee	\$ 12 030 000	3 150 000	17 300 000	29 Sọa aaa	7 350 000
יים אונים א	Report Presented		23, 8.78	24. 8.78	24. 8.78	22,11,76	
JULIS PRESEN	Data Number of Becort	bare	22. 8.78 (3/78)	17. 8.78	17. 8.78 (5/78)	(6/79) (6/79)	
NEP	Proposed Work		National Acoustics Laboratory and Ultrasonics Instituto, Chatewood, New South Wales	High School, Nhulunbuy, Northern Territory	Enoggera Military Area Stage 2 Development, Queensland	Devalopment of Axes Site, Bonegilla, Victoria	Workehop, Amenities Buliding and Services, Garden island Dockyard, New South Wales
	Date Proposal Referred		8. 5.78	9. 6.78	14, 7.78	27. 9.78	8.11.78

INFORMATION DE PROPOSAS, REPORTED ON DI PROPLE FORMS COMMITTEE 1972-1977 AS AT DÉCEMBER 1970 Page 1

	<u> </u>	7				
APPENDIX B	Anticipated Coupletion Bate			Janury 1975	April 1979	June 1979
	Gurrent Position		Indefinitely deferred, Proposal became responsibility of the A.L. Government from 1 July 1978	Project was significantly delayed and cost increased due to probless encountried with the froundstens. Building surks completed New 1978, kinor works coupleted New 1978, kinor works cuttanding one medianical cooponent are expected to be couplete in March 1979.	94% complete, Bajority of building handed over.	This project has proceeded thouses, will impose, building ords on expoleted and finalisation of some engineering facilities only roceins.
	final Cost/ Corrent Esticate	=	,	2.2	67	15,3
Page 1	Tender Esticate/ Price	21	,	15. 8.	2	1°6
Pag	Esticated Cost at Hearing	2	S, C	##	0.0	3.5
	Hearing Dates		18-20 , 6.73	17-18, 4,73	7, 5,73	14, 5,73
	Project		Reports Tabled in 1973 Palmorston Arterial Road, Darrin, H.T.	Mellington Telephone Exchange, Perth T.f.	Tindsor Tolephone Exchange, Lielbourne, Vic.	Bojemisation of 3111 jaastoun liaral Dockyard, Stage 1, VIC.

INFIGUATION DE PROPOSALS REPORTED ON DY PUBLIC VIONS COMMITTEE 1972-1977 As de Cenner 1970 Page 2

APPENDIX B

	Anticipated Completion Date	Kay 1981	1978 Balak Stage 1	January 1978	July 1979	1978
	Current Position	Design 70% complete based on revised proposal coxained on 12.5.7%. Building norks comenced.	Stage 1 balak proceeded to construction and affect inter- ruption by oxions and affect compitted in 1978. Other stages because the responsibility of the M.1. Government on 1 July 1978.	Complete	69% complete	This project was in the final stages of completion the responsibility passed to H.L. Government on 1 July 1978.
	Final Cost/ Current Esticate	# 99 ***	6.1 Halak 349. 1	10,1	6.1	21.0
260	Tender Esticate/ Price	Estimate 5.4	3.2 Balak Stg.1	7.5	5,9	4 , 8
6	Estinated Cost at Hearing	2s1 5s4	11.6 6	4.5	8.	10.8
	Hearing Dates	27-28, 6.73 24, 7.73 13, 8.73 12, 5.78	17, 9,73	25,27, 9,73	5,11,73	6,11,73
	Project	Off-Shore High Security Anixal Quarantine Station	Enjineering Services, kalak and Karara Neighbourhoods, Sanderson District, Derain, N.T.	Research Laboratory, North Clayton (Lonash), Vic.	Dripstone High School, Darmin, N.T.	Stage 6 Extansion, Stokes Hill Power Station, Barwin, H.1.

HEORIUTION RE PROPOSALS REPORTED ON ON PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE 1972-1977 AS AT DECEMER 1978.

_			
APPEUDIX B	Anticipated Cospletion Date		November 1978
	Current Position	Project has been authorized progressively, current position is: Est. A30 Extend departure lounge A30 Extend departure lounge A30 Extend departure lounge A30 Southern Abroat A30 Antoconferent Abroat A30 Extenditioning to Compete Fitting to Compete Fitting to Compete Fitting to Compete for Barch 1979 commence in Barch 1979 commence in Barch 1979 not yet determined.	As advised to the committee in correspondence and at a Hearing in May 1976 the proposal was scaled down. The project is now complete.
	Final Cost/ Current Estinate	## .542 (?
Page 3	Tendor Esticate/ Price		Tenders
Page 3	Estimated Cost at Hearing	a 2	2.0
	Hearing Dates	16,11.23	28. 3.74 21. 8.74
	Project	Sydnoy (Kingsford-Saith) Airport- Extensions to International Terrinal building and Aprons	Roparts Jabled in 1974. Area School at Ylrakala, N.T.

INFORMATION RE PROPOSALS REPORTED ON BY PUBLIC KORKS COMBITTEE 1972-1977 AS AT DECEMBER 1978

APPENDIX 8

APPENDIX 8	Anticipated Cospletion Date		1978	April 1979	March 1980	August 1979	March 1984	February 1979	
	Current Pasition		Physical completion achieved when project became responsibility of N.I. Govt. on 31.12.78.	92% complete	Referred to the committe as a Department of Health Proposal, but subsequently programmed as an M.C.D.C. Project. 45% complete.	80% complate.	Initial site works complete, piling works commenced Sept. 1978, Detail design proceeding.	Complete.	Documentation suspended following cyclone and project deferred.
	Final Cost/ Current Esticate	æ	e. 2	6.7	1,2	13,3	83°0	3.5	P
+	Tender Esticate/ Price	=	3°9	9°	7.2	8.2	83.0	3.1	ı
Page 4	Estinated Cost at Hearing	2	8 2	3,6	3	0.7	67.0	2,3	2,8
	Hearing Dates		25,26. 3,74	12-13, 9,74	22, 8,74	21. 8.74	9-11, 9,74	6-7-11-74	9,12,74
	Project		Redovalopzent of Tennant Creek Hospital, Morthern Territory	Australian Radiațion Laboratory Valinată Vie	iangwors, ric. Central Hoalth Laboratory, Voden A.C.T.	New Telephone Exchango, Haymarket, N.S.W.	Animal Health Laboratory, Geelong, Vic.	Rehabilitation Centre, Townsville, Qld.	Kalak Prinary and Pre-School, Darnin K.J.

INFORMATION OF PROPOSALS REPORTED ON BY PUBLIC FORKS CORNITTEE 1973-1977 AS AT DECEMBER 1978.

		AS AT D	AS AT DECEMBER 1978			a vincinity o
		Pag	Page 5			ATENIA 0
Project	Heartng. Dates	Estimated Cost at Hearing	Tendor Esticato/ Price	Final Cost/ Current Esticate	Gurrent Positten	Anticipated Coupletion Date
			2	温		
Gentral Hospital Services Cosplex, Grace, A.C.T. (Stage 2)	9,12,74	*2	6°2	3.2	Cosplete	May 1978
Reports Tabled in 1975			<u>.</u>			
Orchestral Studio and Music Centre,	34. 2.75	2.3	2,8	3,5	Complete	September 1977
Brisbane, Qld. Australian Government Centre, Parrasatta, 11.5.16.	18-19, 3,75 30, 4,75	45.0 (1 Stage) 46.0 (2 Stages)	1	\$.	Project deferred indefinitely	,
Road Safety and Standards Authority Facilities at Albury/Jodonga	23, 4,75	0.8	•		Project cancelled	1
Telephone Exchange Building, Edgecllffe, H.S.T.	1. 5,75	\$°.	3.2	3.9	gig complete	Barch 1979

INFORMATION RE PROPOSALS REPORTED ON BY PUBLIC NORKS COMMITTEE 1973-1977 AS AT DECEMBER 1978

APPENDIX B

September 1980 January 1979 · Anticipated Coapletion Date April 1979 July 1979 Complete, except for generator sets, which are 95% complete. Project deferred indefinitely This program was proceeding progressivoly. At 1 July 4978 responsibility passed to 18.1. Government when program ass approximately 25% complete. Current Position 20% Complete 80% complete Cosplete Final Gost/ , Gurrent Esticate 100 **₽***6 5.2 2,0 Tender Estimate/ Price 5 5,7 10,8 9,2 1 프 Page 6 Estimated Cost at Hearing 픘 13,5 5.5 12,3 2,8 2,2 34.6 13,10,75 7, 8,75 1, 9,75 8, 7,75 5, 8,75 5-7. 8.75 Canberra Hospital - Extensions to Podium Stage 1 Bulti-Storey Mard Block, Repatriation General Hospital Greenslopes, Old. Maval Iransmitter Guildings & Power Centre, Humpty Doo, 11.T. Second Three—Year Program for the Improvement & Waintenance of the Stuart & Barkly Highways, W.I. Sadadeen High School, Alice Springs, N.T. Telephone Exchange Builing, Deakin, A.C.I. Project

INFORUATION RE PROPOSALS REPORTED ON BY PUBLIC NORSS COMMITTEE 1973-1977 AS AT DECEMBER 1978.

		Pag	As at the moen 1910. Page 7			APPENDIX B
Project	Rearing		Tendor	Final Cort/	Current Position	Anticipated Cospletion
	Oates	Cost at Hoaring	esticate/ Price	Current Estinate		Date
		#	22	3.		
Reports Tabled in 1976						1081
Development of Havy Supply Gentre and Aray Workshop Facility at Defence Establishment,	15. 6.76	14,2	14,2		Franct is being committee progressively. Currently 20% complete.	
Consolidation into Bankstorn of the	27,10,75	72	2	£6	Project is being committed progressively. Dasign 95%	February 1980
Bankstom and Lidcombe dovernment. Aircraff Plants operated by Hawker de Havilland Austrajia Pty. Ltd.					complete. Construction ≰1≴ complete.	
Reports Tabled in 1977				Š	Parent appearant of the parent	September 1979
Rodernisation of H.W.A. Haval Dockyard (Stage 2), Willianstown,	23,11.76	24*0	Committed progressively	1y 27.2	Phase A (\$5.7a) 24% complete Phase B (\$9.3a) Contractor	October 1980
Victoria.					established on site Phase C to comence 1982 Phase D to comence 1983	
Primary School at Katherine	9. 2.77	2,6	1. 8	1,9	71% complete	June 1979
South, Horthern Lerritory	<u>.</u>	•	,	9.6	14£ complete	Kay 1980
Law Courts Building, Alice Springs Horthern Territory	7. 2.71	3,2	•	ì		

INFORMATION RE PROPOSALS REPORTED ON BY PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE 1973-1977

AS AT DECEMBER 1978

Page 8

APPENDIX B

Pm,ect	Hearing Dates	Esticated Cost at Hearing	Tender Estinate/ Price	Final Cost/ Current Estizate	Current Position	Anticipated Cospletion Date
		3	ä	æ		
Oevelopment of R.A.A.F. Base, Point Cook, Victoria	18. 4.77	2.6	Comitted progressively	2,9	Stage 1 (\$0.9m) completed December 1978. <u>Stage 2</u> (\$2.0m) 30% complete.	September 1979
Antarctic Division Neadquarters and Hobart Rogional Laboratory, Australian Government Analytical Laboratories, Kingston, Tassania	23,24 . 6.77 29,30. 8.77	7.3	8*0	8*0	Work commenced October, 1978 and is proceeding satisfactorily.	April 1980
Development of the Utilitary Area at Randoick, liev South Bales	7-8, 6,77	13.0	Coxxitted progressively	13.5	Project composed of ten phases Phase A (88.85m) 16% complete Phase B (84.15m) Anticipate tender will be let August 1979.	Karch 1981
Animal Quarantine Station, Jaligrovo, Hem South Jajes	9. 6.77	3°	4. 5	4.7	Access road conpleted, Uain Works comenced August 1978 5% couplate.	February 1980
Analytical Laboratory, Pymble, lier South Wales	8-9, 8,77	8.9	7.0	7.0	Tenders called 8.12.78 Anticipate tender Will be let in April 1979	April 1981
Development of N.A.A.F. Dase, Edinburgh, South Australia	14. 7.77	17.4	Committed progressively	16.2	Project composed of two stages Stage 1(39.35n) 408 complete Stage 2 (46.6b) 15% of work has been tendered, Resalining components will proceed components will proceed	April 1980 January 1981

LIFORMATION RE PROPOSALS REPORTED ON BY PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE 1973-1977.

AS AT DECEUSER 1978

		Page 9	6			APPEHOLX B
Project	Haring Dates	Estimated Cost at Hearing	Tender Estinate/ Price	Final Cost/ Current Estigate	Current Position	Anticipated Completion Date
		Z	靐	22.		
Best Cattle Research Laboratory Rockhampton, Queensland	27-28,9,77	\$* **	ş.	9*	Tender lot for site works in September 1978. Anticipate tender for main norks will be let in February 1979.	.August 1980
Dovelopent of Headyarters Operational Cossand, R.A.A.F. Clenityook	77.10.77	භ ත්	Countted Progressively	Q.	Proposal composed of four Phases Phase 1 (13.32a) Tenders Called 9.12.72. Anticipate contract will be let almany 1979. Phase 2 (33.3a) Pro liminary design commenced. Tenders to be called March 1980. Phase 2 (\$2.02) He called March 1980.	March 1980 June 1981
Redevelopment of Airmays Facilities at Adelaide Airport, South Australia					Lapsed 10.11.77 with dissolution of the Parliament. Re-introduced in 1970.	

- The estimated cost of proposals when referred to Public Torks Compittee is based on prices current at the time of estimation in accordance with Finance Policy no provision is made for the escalation of building costs.
 Costs have been reunded to one decimal point.
 Correct eave been reunded to one decimal point.
 Current estimates include the effects of amand changes which have occurred but do not attempt to forecast future movements.

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- 4. Status of figures under Tender Estinate/Price and Final Cost/Current Estimate columns dependent upon Current Position of Project.