



## THE HON. JOEL FITZGIBBON MP Minister for Defence

Saturday, 2 May 2009

### GOVERNMENT TO ENHANCE OPERATIONAL LOGISTICS SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURE IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The Minister for Defence, the Hon Joel Fitzgibbon MP, today announced that, as part of the 2009 Defence White Paper, the Government will invest over \$90m in the next four years to construct a new Guided Weapons facility in Western Australia.

“The new Guided Weapons facility will ensure the Australian Defence Force’s guided weapons are kept ready for action,” Mr Fitzgibbon said.

The Guided Weapons facility will result in more guided weapons being available, in shorter timeframes, to support our fighting forces.

“The new Guided Weapons facility will augment the current missile maintenance facilities situated in New South Wales. Both facilities will ensure the high level availability of reliable guided weapons to meet the needs of the Australian Defence Force, by improving maintenance turn-around times,” Mr Fitzgibbon said.

Following an initial scoping study, construction of the Guided Weapons facility is expected to take around three years. This new investment will provide additional employment for approximately 25 personnel between the new facility and the existing site in New South Wales.

The 2009 Defence White Paper represents the most comprehensive statement on Defence ever produced. It affirms the Government’s commitment to the defence of Australia, the protection of our sovereign interests and the security and stability of our region.

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