



Hon Joe Hockey MP

MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

MEDIA RELEASE

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\$460 Million commitment to new Centrelink Headquarters

Tuggeranong is set to become the location of one of the most environmentally friendly buildings in the Australian Capital Territory after Centrelink signed a \$460 million building and leasing deal with Allco / Multiplex today.

This significant deal means Centrelink will lease new purpose built office space planned for Tuggeranong Town Centre over a period of 18 years.

The new national head office will comprise two buildings, nearly 200 metres in length with the upper levels connected via bridges. It will house 2790 staff and is expected to be complete by mid 2007, with Centrelink staff moving in by the end of that year.

The Minister for Human Services the Hon Joe Hockey MP, said the development is a significant financial commitment by the Government for Centrelink. Signing an 18 year lease ensures that one of the Department of Human Services critical agencies operates within an efficient environment to meet its service expectation.

The new building will be the largest development in Tuggeranong in the past decade, with up to 900 construction jobs expected to be created as a result.

The local economy is also expected to reap the benefits of Centrelink staff from across Canberra relocating to Tuggeranong, with millions of dollars a year likely to flow into local businesses, said Mr Hockey.

Centrelink staff are currently located in eleven buildings across Canberra. This move will see them consolidate into two adjacent buildings in Tuggeranong.

The 40,000 square metre building has been specifically designed to meet the requirements for a 4.5 star Australian Building Greenhouse Rating.

Centrelink staff members were encouraged to participate in the design of their new workplace and information from staff surveys and focus groups has been used in the planning and design of the building.

To help reduce water consumption levels, the site will have tanks for half a million litres of rainwater for use within the building. Hot water for the building will largely come from renewable resources, such as solar panels and/or wind generators on the roof.

Construction is expected to begin this month.

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