

**Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017

**Infrastructure and Regional Development**

**Committee Question Number: 150**

**Departmental Question Number: SQ17-000136**

**Program: n/a**

**Division/Agency: Australian Transport Safety Bureau**

**Topic: Reopened Pel-Air investigation**

**Proof Hansard Page: Written (14 March 2017)**

**Senator Xenophon, Nick asked:**

1. How long has the investigation into Pel-Air's 2009 aircraft ditching near Norfolk Island been re-opened?
2. What is the delay in the finalization of this report?

**Answer:**

1. The investigation formally re-opened on 4 December 2014.
2. The detailed reasons for the time being taken to complete the reopened investigation were published in an investigation update on the ATSB website on 21 November 2016 (see [www.atsb.gov.au/publications/investigation\\_reports/2009/aa/ao-2009-072/](http://www.atsb.gov.au/publications/investigation_reports/2009/aa/ao-2009-072/)).

The ATSB posted a further update on its website on 20 February 2017 which states:

*“During the normal internal investigation review process, the investigation team identified the need to obtain additional information from some organisations in order to clarify various matters. In addition, significant time was allocated to refining analyses of flight recorder data and the aircraft's fuel status during the accident flight. These activities have delayed the finalisation of the draft report.”*