

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 16

**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates

**Outcome:** Outcome 3

**Programme:** Australian Antarctic Division

**Topic:** Aviation Services Contract

**Hansard Page:** 34

**Question Date:** 18 November 2013

**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Fawcett asked:**

Senator FAWCETT: I am happy to put this on notice, but could you get me a list of who that RFT went to and whether you have received any unsolicited proposals from companies providing innovative solutions to the Antarctic solution.

Dr Wooding: I will take that on notice and see what we can provide

**Answer:**

The Commonwealth of Australia, as represented by the Australian Antarctic Division (AAD) issued a Request for Tender (RFT) to the open market through the AusTender website in August 2010, which invited any interested parties to Tender against the Statement of Requirement for the provision of inter-continental fixed-wing aviation between Australia and Antarctica (the air-link). The RFT was advertised on the AAD website and in 'The Australian' newspaper, and notification was also sent by email to known aviation service providers.

The RFT process concluded that, in comparison to what the market had offered, exercising the option to extend the current contract arrangements with Skytraders Pty Ltd for the A319 aircraft represented far greater value for money to the Commonwealth.

The AAD has not received any unsolicited proposals to provide an inter-continental Airlink service.