

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

Question No: 108
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 3
Programme: Australian Antarctic Division (AAD)
Topic: Icebreaker contract - progress
Hansard Page: 60
Question Date: 08 February 2016
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Singh asked:

Senator SINGH: ... I understand the Prime Minister's media release on 29 October said it would be commissioned in October 2019. You can take this on notice, but are you able to provide a clear time line for each step in the process for the icebreaker?

Dr Gales: I can provide the answer now. Mr Rob Bryson, who is leading our negotiations, is here. I might ask Rob to step forward and provide an answer. If you wish further details, we will take that on notice.

Mr Bryson: I am responsible for the icebreaker project. The time line at the moment is that, hopefully, we will have a contract signed in the next month or so. Following that we move into a detailed design process, which will take about nine to 12 months. Following that you are pretty much into a three-year build program, which would involve cutting the steel, building the vessel, going through harbour acceptance trials and into sea acceptance trials. On top of that you have a delivery voyage. We are still hopeful for about late 2019, but, as the contract negotiations and complexity of vessels come to fruition, that might move into early 2020. But that is where it is at the moment.

Senator SINGH: I might still need you to take it on notice just because I am sure you have some kind of clear table that shows all of those processes in date order.

Mr Bryson: Yes. I am happy to take that on notice.

Answer:

The following table contains approximate timings, which remain subject to the successful conclusion of the contract negotiation process currently underway between the Australian Government and DMS Maritime Pty Ltd. The final delivery schedule remains the subject of negotiation and the timings presented are indicative only.

Design	Design and engineering phase that involves the translation of requirements into detailed ship design.	Commences at Contract execution date. Initial design components will require approximately 10 months . The entire design and engineering phase is approximately 40 months long and overlaps and is inclusive off the Build phase.
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Build	Ship construction phase of the project.	Commences at Build Readiness Review – approximately 10 months post contract execution date. Anticipated build phase is approximately 30-32 months .
Transition	Post production phase where the vessel undertakes a test regime, is provisionally accepted and undertakes a delivery voyage to Hobart. Post-delivery an operational commissioning period will be undertaken prior to final acceptance of the vessel.	Approximately 6-8 Months
Total project time		Approximately 46 – 50 months post Contract execution date.