

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications  
Legislation Committee**

Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment and Energy portfolio**

**Question No:** 253  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Agency  
**Program:** Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)  
**Topic:** Data integrity and site and instrument changes  
**Hansard Page:**  
**Question Date:** 6 March 2017  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Roberts asked:**

List your department's objections to the statement: The Bureau's recent claims about temperature trends, extremes and trends in extremes are due to site and instrument changes and should be withdrawn.

**Answer:**

The Bureau does not consider this statement to be correct.

The Bureau's statements on Australian temperature trends are based on analyses of the ACORN-SAT dataset and related datasets and analyses. The ACORN-SAT dataset has been adjusted to account for site and instrument changes using a methodology for detecting and adjusting artificial biases. This methodology has been peer reviewed and published in the scientific literature and can be found on the ACORN-SAT website, [www.bom.gov.au/climate/change/acorn-sat/](http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/change/acorn-sat/).

The Bureau is confident that the reported trends, therefore, reflect actual changes in the climate, rather than being an artefact due to site and instrument changes.