

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

Question No: 177
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 3
Programme: Australian Antarctic Division (AAD)
Topic: AAD - Budget 2015-16 - budget reduction
Hansard Page:
Question Date:
Question Type: Written

Senator Whish-Wilson asked:

1. What impact the budgeted reduction in expenses from \$104,285 in 2015-16 to \$89,038 in 2016-17 will have on programme delivery?

Answer:

The drop in expenses between 2015-16 and 2016-17 is a consequence of the 2015-16 figure for Programme 3.1 – Antarctica being a mixture of ongoing measures, terminating measures and variable funding from independent sources. The most important factors are the terminating measure “Maintaining Australia’s Presence in Antarctica” \$9.4 million, which was renewed in the 2015-16 Budget only and therefore is not in the forward estimates; and estimates of Revenue from Independent Sources, which are usually confirmed closer to the actual Budget year (see note (a) on page 68 of the Portfolio Budget Statements 2015-16 Budget Related Paper No. 1.7 – Environment Portfolio).

Future funding for Programme 3.1 in 2016-17 will be considered next year as part of the Budget process. Until that occurs, and until we have more certainty about the likely level of revenue from independent sources, we are not in a position to consider any impact on programme delivery in 2016-17.