

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

**Question No:** 212  
**Hearing:** Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Programme:** Director of National Parks (DNP)  
**Topic:** Value of the DNP's land and buildings

**Hansard Page:**

**Question Date:**

**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Urquhart asked:**

Referring to page 196 of the PBS, which notes a decrease in the value of the DNP's land and buildings over the forward estimates. What are the reasons for this somewhat counter-intuitive outcome? Is there anyway it can be arrested?

**Answer:**

In accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, non-financial assets such as property, plant and equipment are assumed to have a finite life and therefore will decline in value over time due to factors such as the frequency of use, exposure to harsh environmental factors, obsolescence and usual wear and tear.

Land assets have an infinite life and therefore do not depreciate. The reduction in the PBS relates to the depreciation of our buildings, in line with the Australian Accounting Standards.