

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

Question No: 155
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 3
Programme: Australian Antarctic Division
Topic: NEW ICEBREAKER - RESEARCH DAYS PER YEAR
Hansard Page: 37
Question Date: 20 October 2014
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Whish-Wilson asked:

Senator WHISH-WILSON: If you could take on notice how many days of research per year the new icebreaker for the Antarctic program is being designed for? I would be interested in knowing that.

Answer:

The current Request for Tender specification calls for the provision of a new icebreaker to provide direct support to the Australian Antarctic programme for a minimum of 200 days per austral summer season. Within this base annual operating period it is intended that the vessel will have 60 days dedicated to research with the remainder required to support Australia's four stations. There is provision for the base operating period to be extended up to a maximum of 300 days per annum if required.