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Auditor-General for Australia



29 July 2024

Chair
Senate Standing Committees on Environment and Communications
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
By email: ec.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Chair

Senate Standing Committees on Environment and Communications *Inquiry into Australian Antarctic Division funding*

I am writing to provide a response to the following recommendation directed to the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) in the Senate Environment and Communications References Committee's report *Australian Antarctic Division funding*.

Recommendation 16

The committee recommends that the Australian National Audit Office undertake its potential 2023-24 audit into the effectiveness of the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water's management of Australia's Antarctic presence, including arrangements to support Australia fulfilling its environmental responsibilities.

ANAO Response:

The potential audit [Australian Antarctic program](#) included in the ANAO's 2023–24 Annual Audit Work Program (AAWP) is included in the 2024–25 AAWP. The AAWP reflects the ANAO's audit strategy and informs the Parliament, government entities and the public of the planned audit coverage for the Australian Government sector and was published 8 July 2024 and is available on the ANAO Website [here](#). Throughout the year, I determine which audits will commence, based on consideration of the audit priorities of the Parliament, an assessment of strategic risk, and achieving sufficient breadth and depth across the government sector. I also consider any recent developments in the public sector, areas of community interest, opportunities to demonstrate good practice in public administration and accountability, resourcing, and requests for audit. When I decide to commence an audit, it will be detailed on the ANAO website.

Yours sincerely

Rona Mellor PSM

Acting Auditor-General

GPO Box 707, Canberra ACT 2601
38 Sydney Avenue, Forrest ACT 2603
Phone: +61 2 6203 7300
Email: rona.mellor@anao.gov.au

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