

Defence Portfolio

INQUIRY QUESTION

(Question No. 4)

Mr Julian Hill MP asked the Department of Defence the following question, upon notice, on 20 June 2023:

1. Which Australian department or entity has the lead on thinking about space traffic management?
2. Any further reflections on role clarity because it is a particular area we might make a, “sensible recommendation on.”
3. Who, from the Government’s perspective, is the lead on space traffic management?

The Department of Defence has provided the following answer to the above question:

Internationally there is no effective framework for space traffic management. Collaboration and coordination across Government on matters including space traffic management occurs through the interdepartmental Space Coordination Committee, chaired by the Australian Space Agency. Defence and the Australian Space Agency rely on the United States Department of Defense for provision of collision avoidance analysis and space traffic data.

Defence and the Australian Space Agency play important roles in the development of Australian Government space traffic policy, management and coordination functions.

Defence Space Command provides space domain awareness to the joint force. The Australian Space Agency is responsible for civil space policy, and through the Office of the Space Regulator for the authorising and continuous supervision of Australian civil space activities as required under the United Nations Space Treaties.

Defence and the Australian Space Agency have been coordinating closely together with other Government departments and agencies such as the Department of Home Affairs, Bureau of Meteorology, as well as New Zealand, United States, European, and United Kingdom Counterparts in civil and military domains.

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INQUIRY QUESTION

(Question No. 1)

Senator the Honourable David Fawcett asked the Department of Defence the following question, upon notice, on 20 June 2023:

Lockheed Martin has been announced as the preferred tenderer for project 9102. In 2021, Inovor Technologies was brought into their team to provide a range of outcomes from Australian industry perspective. Is that still within the scope of 9102? Who are the sovereign industry companies that were part of Lockheed Martin's bid for JP9102? Part of my interest relates to cost concerns from defence industry and contributions from Australian industry being viewed as an added cost rather than an added capability.

The Department of Defence has provided the following answer to the above question:

1. Under the Joint Project 9102 Phase 1 (JP9102) Request for Tender procurement process, Defence is currently conducting Offer Definition and Improvement Activities with the preferred tenderer Lockheed Martin Australia (LMA). At this stage, the details of Australian industry involvement in JP9102 Phase 1 are not yet finalised.
2. Lockheed Martin Australia have proposed a comprehensive Australian Industry Capability plan working closely with Australian small and medium enterprises to deliver the JP9102 program. Provided below are the Australian companies they list as members of their JP9102 team in their [media release of 3 April 2023](#):
 - a. Inovor Technologies, EM Solutions, AV-Comm, Linfox, Shoal Group, Ronson Gears, Calytrix Technologies, Conscia, Clearbox Systems, DXC and Blacktree Technology.