Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications Legislation Committee

Answers to questions on notice **Environment portfolio**

Question No: 08

Hearing: Additional Estimates

Outcome: Outcome 1

Programme: Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)

Topic: Japanese Whaling in the Southern Ocean

Hansard Page: 74

Question Date: 08 February 2016

Question Type: Spoken

Senator Whish-Wilson asked:

Senator WHISH-WILSON: No, since their whaling fleet has departed for the Southern Ocean have they given updates on where the whaling fleet is or whether they have gone through Australian territorial waters?

Ms Schweizer: Prior to and since the fleet departed, the government has continued to make representations to the Japanese government, often through their embassy here, to reconsider the merits of going whaling again.

Senator WHISH-WILSON: But the Japanese government has not been forthcoming as to the location of their whaling fleets?

Mr Oxley: I am not aware of any specific communication from the Japanese government to the Australian government as to the whereabouts of the Japanese whaling fleet, or indeed the product of its activity. But as that is me personally not being aware, we will take that one on notice if that is all right.

Answer:

No. The Japanese Government has never informed the Australian Government of the location of their whaling fleet or whether the whaling fleet has gone through Australian territorial waters.