

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

**Question No:** 87  
**Hearing:** Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 3  
**Programme:** Australian Antarctic Division  
**Topic:** PBS - DECLINE IN SPENDING  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 10 June 2014  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Whish-Wilson asked:**

On page 76 of the Portfolio budget statement the table shows a decline in spending across the forward estimates. What is the explanation for this decrease?

**Answer:**

The annual departmental expenses on page 76 of the Portfolio budget statements shows a decline in the forward estimates from the 2014-15 Budget year due to efficiency dividends, a terminating measure within Outcome 3 of \$9.4 million included in the 2014-15 year and a reduction in expenses associated with revenue from independent sources (s.31) of \$5.7 million. This is detailed in the footnote to the table on page 76. There are also reductions in depreciation and amortisation expenses that do not require appropriation.