

Senate Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Tourism and Resources Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2005-2006, 2 November 2005

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: GEOSCIENCE AUSTRALIA
TOPIC: SEA SURVEY MISSIONS
REFERENCE: WRITTEN QUESTION

QUESTION No.SBI-30

Senator Webber asked:

In relation to your sea survey missions – are there any surveys currently underway?

ANSWER

There are no surveys currently underway (November 2005).

QUESTION No.SBI-31

Senator Webber asked:

Do your survey crews assist other agencies in the detection of illegal activity such as fishing whilst they are undertaking their normal activity?

ANSWER

No. Refer also to response to Question No. SBI-32 (below).

QUESTION No.SBI-32

Senator Webber asked:

What steps would be taken in the event that your surveys detected any illegal activity?

ANSWER

Geoscience Australia charts vessels, and their crews are under the command of the Captain. There is an obligation on vessels and crews operating in Australian waters to report illegal activities to the relevant Australian authorities.