

**EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING**

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
2006-2007 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING**

**Outcome:** CSIRO  
**Output Group:** CSIRO

**DEST Question No. E1036\_07**

Senator Carr provided in writing.

**Question:**

Can CSIRO explain what evaluation has been undertaken to establish in the face of claims to the contrary that the research is, in fact, complete?  
Please provide evidence of such an evaluation process or any other method used that enables Dr Steele to claim that the research is complete?

**Answer:**

CSIRO has provided the following response.

*G-bIRD*

See response to Question E1034\_07. In September 2003, the then division of Atmospheric Research underwent a strategic review process. A key decision was to restructure and refocus the division's earth observation effort through its Canberra site in order to enhance critical mass and create synergies. Dr Prata was redeployed to an Applied Technology project, to support the transfer of the G-bIRD technology under agreements that CSIRO and Tenix had agreed in 2001 and 2003. CSIRO believed that it had conducted the research phase to the point where it was appropriate to get its commercial partner involved in the development phase.