

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE – QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

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

#### **DEST Question No. E186\_04**

Senator Carr asked on 4 June 2003.

#### **Question:**

*Refers to DEST Question Nos E789\_03, E792\_03, E793\_03 and E794\_03.*

I would like initially to refer to your answers to questions E789, 792, 793 and 794.

This information isn't really complete.

- (a) In relation to **E798 (should be E789)**, has the "current estimated" cost increased from \$1.9 million?
- (b) You suggest the variance on this budget to be 25%: my calculations suggest that the increase from the initial figure of \$1.4 million is in fact more than 35%. Do you consider that a satisfactory outcome?

#### **Answer:**

CSIRO has provided the following response.

#### *Southern Surveyor refurbishment*

- (a) The current estimate is \$1.98M.
- (b) Variance on budget is 41%. This is an unwelcome result financially, but it represents a very modest incremental investment that has already enabled Australian marine researchers to deliver outstanding science results to the community.