

**EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING**

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
2003-2004 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING**

**AGENCY:** Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation

**DEST Question No. E405\_04**

Senator Carr asked on 6 November 2003:

**Question:**

On page 37 of the current Annual Report, you explain that "*project re-scheduling was implemented by the contractor in May 2003 to accelerate the project schedule.*" To what extent was this forced by delays to the project?

**Answer:**

ANSTO has provided the following response:

The proposed acceleration of the project schedule was initiated by the contractor to complete the project ahead of schedule, thereby reducing the contractor's overhead costs and managing the risk of liquidated damages should the project be delayed in the final commissioning stages. The contractor has always had the intention to consider ways to accelerate the project, consistent with maintaining its safety of design and achievement of performance. The delays to the project have added incentive (but no contractual imperative) to that need.