



**Australian Government**  
**Bureau of Meteorology**

**Melbourne Office**  
Bureau of Meteorology  
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In reply please quote

28 March 2022

Senator Malarndirri McCarthy  
Senator for Northern Territory  
PO Box 1596  
Darwin, NT, 0801  
Senator.McCarthy@aph.gov.au

Dear Senator,

I am writing to provide you with a further update on the delivery of the new dual-polarised Doppler radar for the Tennant Creek region and surrounding areas, which is being jointly funded by the Australian and Northern Territory governments as part of the Barkly Regional Deal.

The Bureau of Meteorology is continuing to work with the Northern Territory Government to finalise arrangements for the project. While a preferred site for the radar has been selected, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, including travel restrictions, have impacted the Bureau's ability to travel to site to complete site selection and consultation with key stakeholders including Traditional Owners.

This has resulted in a change to the radar delivery date from late 2022 to mid-2023, subject to a lease signing date of November 2022. We acknowledge the important role weather radars play in providing situational awareness to local communities. The Bureau is working towards delivering the Tennant Creek weather radar as soon as practical.

Until the radar is delivered, local communities, emergency services and industry can continue to draw on alternative information for the Barkly region and the Northern Territory, including:

- warnings and forecasts – on the Bureau's website ([bom.gov.au](http://bom.gov.au)) and BOM Weather app
- temperature, rain and wind graphics – via MetEye on the Bureau's website
- satellite images that show cloud cover and lightning strikes - from the Himawari satellite on the Bureau's website.

Given the high level of interest in the radar in the Barkly Region, the Bureau last year offered to provide you with regular project progress updates. This offer remains open to you and your office and a representative from the Bureau will be in touch to discuss this with you.

Yours faithfully,

Bryan Hodge  
General Manager, Observing Systems and Operations

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