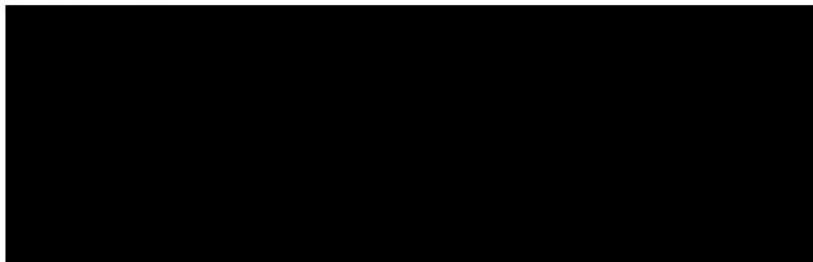


WARRACKNABEAL FIRE BRIGADE



FIRE STATION: JAMOUNEAU STREET



September 21, 2025

Tammy Smith
Chief Executive Officer
PO Box 243
WARRACKNABEAL 3393.

info@yarriambiack.vic.gov.au
kzanker@yarriambiack.vic.gov.au

Dear Tammy

Members of the Warracknabeal Fire Brigade wish to express their disappointment and concern at the announcement that the Bureau of Meteorology intend to substantially increase the fees associated with the weather station located at the Warracknabeal Airport.

The Warracknabeal Airport Weather Station is of great importance to Warracknabeal and the wider community, particularly when monitoring conditions in preparation for increased fire danger, and for management of fire activity.

We understand that Yarriambiack Shire Council may cease support of the station due to the increased fees, and we are concerned that the removal of the Warracknabeal Airport Weather Station would leave Warracknabeal exposed, with the closest relevant station then being at the Nhill airport. Experience has already shown that observations at this station do not provide an accurate indication of conditions that will be experienced in the Warracknabeal area.

Data from the Warracknabeal Weather Station is also used as a reference point to gauge fire danger and issue warnings of increased fire risk to farmers within and around the Warracknabeal CFA Group area. This has proved invaluable and been a pivotal tool in reducing our fire activity, particularly over the harvest period, as the station provides critical information that assists in determining the initiation of requests to cease paddock activities.

The Warracknabeal Fire Brigade requests that the decision to cease operation of the Warracknabeal Weather Station be reconsidered.

Yours faithfully



Captain