



Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

Tropical Low 'Ken'

1- 5 January 2004

Perth Tropical Cyclone Warning Centre
Bureau of Meteorology

A. Summary

A low off the Northwest coast was named tropical cyclone *Ken* operationally, but was re-analysed as not reaching cyclone intensity on the grounds that gales did not extend more than halfway around the centre and were not sustained.

B. Meteorological Description

A low originating from the Top End moved off the Kimberley coast travelling westwards. The system was constrained by wind shear throughout its life-time. It was named *Ken* at 0400 WST 5 January when located about 240 km northwest of Karratha on the basis of gales being detected on Quikscat pass at 1800 WST 4 January in the northwestern quadrant. Given that the gales did not span more than one quadrant and they were not sustained, the system was re-analysed as **not** reaching cyclone intensity.

Ken followed a path west off the Kimberly coast and continued to travel westwards and then southwest before approaching the coast.

C. Impact

There was no known impact from this system.

D. Forecast Performance

Cyclone advices for the Northwest coast were first issued on 1 January for a low over the Kimberley that was expected to move off the west Kimberley coast near Cape Leveque and develop. Advices were maintained for the parts of the Pilbara coast until 0400 WST 6 January when the low was estimated to be 80 km north northeast of Exmouth and although approaching the coast, was unlikely to reach cyclone intensity. No community alerts were issued at any stage.