

THE METEOROLOGY ACT 1955

METEOROLOGY

No. 6 of 1955¹

An Act relating to the Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology.

[Assented to 23rd May, 1955]

[Date of Commencement, 20th June, 1955]

Be it enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, the Senate, and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, as follows:

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| 1. | This Act may be cited as the <i>Meteorology Act</i> 1955. | Short title |
| 2. | The <i>Meteorology Act</i> 1906 is repealed. | Repeal |
| 3. | In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears-
“the Bureau” means the Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology established by this Act;
“the Director” means the Director of Meteorology. | Definition |
| 4. ¹ | This Act extends to all the Territories of the Commonwealth. | Extension to Territories |
| 5. | (1) For the purposes of this Act, there shall be a Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology and a Director of Meteorology.
(2) The Bureau shall be under the charge of the Director, who shall, subject to the directions of the Minister, have the general administration of this Act. | The Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology |
| 6. | (1) The functions of the Bureau are-
(a) the taking and recording of meteorological observations and other observations required for the purposes of meteorology;
(b) the forecasting of weather and of the state of the atmosphere;
(c) the issue of warnings of gales, storms and other weather conditions likely to endanger life or property, including weather conditions likely to give rise to floods or bush fires;
(d) the supply of meteorological information; | Functions of the Bureau |

¹Amended by No.123 of 1973

- (e) the publication of meteorological reports and bulletins;
 - (f) the promotion of the use of meteorological information;
 - (g) the promotion of the advancement of meteorological science, by means of meteorological research and investigation or otherwise;
 - (h) the furnishing of advice on meteorological matters; and
 - (i)¹ co-operation with the authority administering the meteorological service of any other country in relation to any of the matters specified in the preceding paragraphs of this sub-section.
- (2) The Bureau shall perform its functions under this Act in the public interest generally and in particular-
- (a) for the purposes of the Defence Force;
 - (b) for the purposes of navigation and shipping and of civil aviation; and
 - (c) for the purpose of assisting persons and authorities engaged in primary production, industry, trade and commerce.

7. (1) The Director has such powers as are necessary to enable the Bureau to perform its functions under the last preceding section, and, in particular, may-
- (a) establish meteorological offices and observing stations;
 - (b) arrange with any Department, authority or person to take and record meteorological observations and transmit meteorological reports and information;
 - (c) arrange means of communication for the transmission and reception of meteorological reports and information; and
 - (d) arrange for the training of persons in meteorology.
- (2)¹ The Departments and authorities with which, and the persons with whom, arrangements may be made under the last preceding sub-section include Departments and authorities of a State or Territory of the Commonwealth and persons in the service of such a State or Territory or of such a Department or authority.
8. The Director may, subject to any directions of the Minister, make charges for forecasts, information, advice, publications and other matter supplied in pursuance of this Act.
9. The Governor-General may make regulations, not inconsistent with this Act, prescribing all matters which by this Act are required or permitted to be prescribed, or which are necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Act.

Powers of
Director

Charges

Regulations