

The Hon. David Janetzki MP
Treasurer
Minister for Energy
Minister for Home Ownership

DELIVERING
FOR QUEENSLAND



Queensland
Government

1 William Street Brisbane
GPO Box 611 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone 07 3719 7200
Email treasurer@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Website www.treasury.qld.gov.au

ABN 90 856 020 239

Our Ref: QT05444-2025

Senator the Honourable Murray Watt
Minister for the Environment and Water
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Email: minister.watt@dcceew.gov.au

Dear Minister Watt

Queensland Legislative Assembly	
Number: 5825T1654	Tabled ☒
 28 OCT 2025	By Leave ☐
MP: Hon Janetzki	
Clerk's Signature:	

I am writing to express my significant concern about the changes made to the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) website and the impact that they have had on Queenslanders.

As you would be aware, the BOM is wholly the responsibility of the Federal Government. Clear and accessible information is an essential part of disaster responsiveness. The BOM website has, for many years, served as an essential source of vital information amidst natural disasters and storms in Queensland.

You would be aware that on 26 October 2025, South East Queensland faced significant storms, including large hail, lightning strikes and, as a result, fallen power lines, debris and outages across Queensland. The sights of this event have shocked Queenslanders, many of whom felt surprised by the sudden rainfall and lightning amidst a lack of accessible information on the new BOM website.

I note that the new website suffers from critical flaws. For example, as reported in the Courier Mail, Caboolture – a growing area of the South East corner – has disappeared as a locator on the BOM map, while the strength and associated colour coding of storms has changed significantly.

The decision to make the site live on 22 October – just as Queensland and Australia enter storm season – can, at its best, be described as short sighted, while at its worst, it has put the lives and safety of Queenslanders at risk.

As Energy Minister, I hold particular concern that Queenslanders could have been left in a position where they were out in wild weather with a lack of warning, potentially risking damage or harm amidst fallen power lines and debris over roads. Queenslanders, too, must be prepared for the possibility of power outages at their home after a storm – something that cannot be done if they do not know a storm is coming.

Any updates to a website as vital and as widely relied upon as the BOM's must be done with enough time for the public to become familiar with the changes, and ensure that access to critical information is quick and easy. None of the changes made achieve either of these objectives.

I urge you to consider the ongoing impact of changes made to the website and consider options to improve accessibility of information at this critical time.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Janetzki', with a stylized flourish at the end.

DAVID JANETZKI MP
Treasurer
Minister for Energy
Minister for Home Ownership

28 / 10 / 2025

Cc: The Honourable Dan Purdie MP, Minister for Police and Emergency Services

The Honourable Ann Leahy MP, Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers