

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications  
Legislation Committee**

Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment and Energy portfolio**

**Question No:** 235  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Agency  
**Program:** Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)  
**Topic:** Introduction of automatic weather stations  
**Hansard Page:** 24  
**Question Date:** 6 March 2017  
**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Roberts asked:**

Senator ROBERTS: My understanding is that the introduction of the automatic weather stations and small screens is a major time-synchronous change in the bureau's network. Bias resulting from synchronous changes cannot be detected by differencing one dataset with another—for example, Kent Town with Adelaide Airport; Sydney Observatory and Sydney Airport. Why does the bureau use differencing to investigate data inhomogeneity?

Dr Johnson: I am not in a position in this hearing, here today, to comment on individual weather stations or individual sites. Again, if you have specific feedback, I would be happy to take that on notice.

Senator ROBERTS: I will put it on notice.

**Answer:**

Automatic weather stations were not synchronously introduced to the national network.