

Media Release

The Hon Jaclyn Symes MLC

Deputy Leader of the Government in the
Legislative Council
Minister for Regional Development
Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Resources



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NEW REGIONAL IOT NETWORKS TO PROVIDE BETTER ACCESS

Four regional areas are set to benefit from new networks being funded by the Victorian Government as part of its trial to test Internet of Things (IoT) technology on farms.

Minister for Agriculture Jaclyn Symes today announced NNNCo had been successful in their bid to provide IoT network connectivity to Victoria's On-Farm IoT Trial regions surrounding Maffra, Tatura, Serpentine and Birchip.

NNNCo will work in partnership with Agriculture Victoria to deliver LoRaWAN; a long-range network designed to wirelessly connect battery operated 'things' to the internet. The network will allow for thousands of sensors to be reliably and securely connected, providing users with real-time data on measures to help improve productivity, efficiency and sustainability.

Funding the delivery of IoT network connectivity to each trial region is an important part of the On-Farm IoT Trial to ensure a lack of access to a reliable network coverage isn't a barrier to farmers participating in the trial.

The network also has the potential to support other uses in the community, so that everyone in these regions can enjoy improved connectivity and the benefits of Victoria's digital economy.

NNNCo is a leading Australian IoT network provider with experience deploying and managing networks to support cities, utilities, logistics and agriculture.

The trial is part of the Connecting Victoria initiative which includes better regional mobile coverage, regional rail connectivity, mobile black spot projects and public Wi-Fi. For more information about the trial go to agriculture.vic.gov.au/digitalag

Quotes attributed to Minister for Agriculture Jaclyn Symes

"We are funding IoT network connectivity in the trial regions to address a lack of connectivity which is often a barrier to farmers' realising the potential of IoT and other emerging digital technologies."

"This announcement is an important step forward in supporting Victorian farmers to harness digital technology to improve the productivity, efficiency and sustainability of their businesses."

Quotes attributed to Rob Zagarella, CEO of NNNCO

"NNNCo's network and data platform roll-out is a commitment to every farmer in these regions to provide the coverage they need to better manage and run their operations."

"Farmers now have a broad choice of devices and applications from the growing global IoT ecosystem, including irrigation management and control, and real-time monitoring of soil health and rainfall, cattle

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movement, farm assets, worker safety, and water tank levels so that they can proactively respond to the needs of the farm.”

“By providing coverage to every farm, we can ensure that farmers have access to this important information every day, at their fingertips.”