



# CASS's future role

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CSIRO ASTRONOMY & SPACE SCIENCE  
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# CASS's future role

- In May 2014, the Chief Executive announced CSIRO would “Reduce the effort at Parkes and Narrabri and close the Mopra facility.”
- It was quickly clarified that the existing agreements with NAOJ and UNSW would be honoured, and that the intent was the CSIRO would cease funding the facility.
- It is recognised that Mopra still has a useful scientific life and it is in the national interest to facilitate that, within the constraints above.

# Two possible models

- Mopra is leased to a third party, taken off the CSIRO network, and maintenance and repairs contracted back to CSIRO

Or

- Dispense with the middle-man: Mopra stays on the CSIRO network, and maintenance and repairs contracted back to CSIRO

*Under either model CSIRO's expenses must be fully covered*

# Open access time

It is anticipated ~1 month per year will be made available to the astronomical community.

CASS has agreed to accept proposals using OPAL and for the TAC to review and rank these.

CASS is not able to provide any user support (beyond existing documentation) for open access time.

Data archiving (in ATOA?) needs further consideration.

# Indicative costs

## Costs include

- Roughly \$60k p.a. for mains power & generator backup
  - 60% cryo
  - 10% air conditioning
  - 10% drives
  - 20% everything else
- Network access (AARNet) – currently 2 x 1 Gbps links
- Routine preventative maintenance
- Site maintenance
- Repairs and call-outs

# Routine maintenance

Battery checks of UPS units.

Fan checks across the site – physical inspection to ensure proper operation.

Situational awareness, particularly around likely or planned power disturbances.

Occasional reviews of key monitoring data to ensure nothing is deteriorating.

Respond to MAPs alarms.

Replacement of flexible cryogenic lines before they fail & cryodyne rebuilds as required.

Swap an occasional equipment power supply on failure.

Hydrogen maser checks.

Generator servicing (after each 250 hours operation).

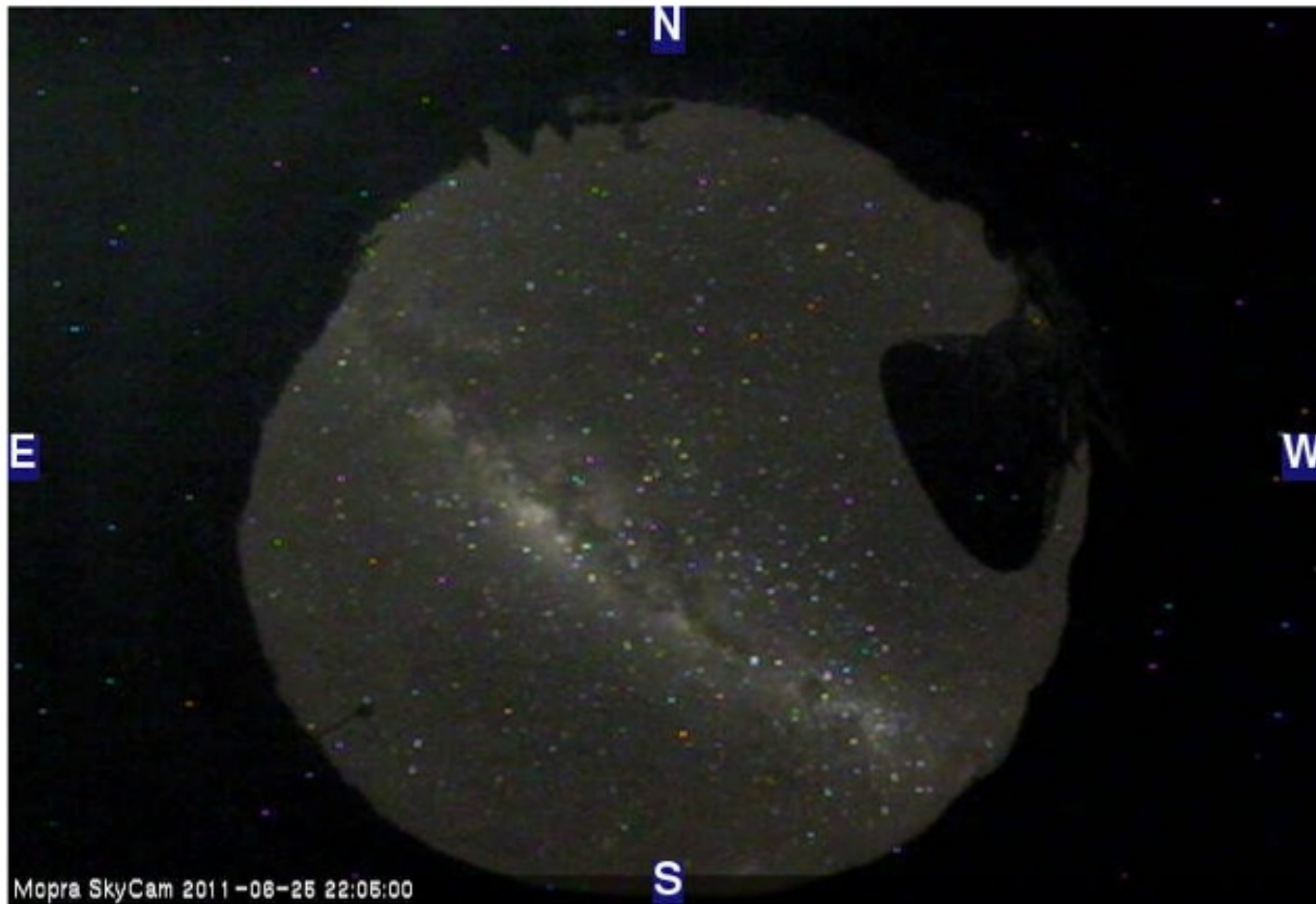
Ensure adequate fuel supplies are available for the generator and resupply as necessary.

Drive checks – ensures reasonable tracking is maintained (every 1~2 months)

Lubrication of key mechanical components.

Software upgrades and patches to onsite servers.

# They say the darkest hour...



**...is just before the dawn**





# Thank you

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