



News Update

Submissions

Send written submissions to:
Planning Officer for
Coffs Harbour, Grafton
and Kempsey
ABA
PO Box 34
Belconnen, ACT 2616
by **17 December 1997**.

Draft licence area plans

The ABA's preliminary views and draft licence area plans are available in local libraries in Newcastle, Muswellbrook and Taree.

Submissions

Written submissions should be sent to the Planning Officer for Newcastle, Muswellbrook and Taree
ABA
PO Box 34
Belconnen, ACT 2616,
by **16 January 1998**.

by potential service providers: Pacific Broadcasting Pty Ltd; Central Zone FM Service Pty Ltd; RG Capital Radio Ltd; TR Connexions; and Creative Native Australia.

It is also proposing to increase the licence area of the two commercial radio services in Grafton, 2GF and 2CLR.

Community radio

There is interest in providing a community radio service in Grafton and Kempsey, and an additional (second) community radio service in Coffs Harbour and Port Macquarie. The ABA has therefore proposed to make one new community radio licence available in each of Coffs Harbour, Grafton, Kempsey and Port Macquarie.

Open narrowcasting radio

There is interest in providing open narrowcasting radio services throughout the Coffs Harbour, Grafton and Kempsey regions ranging from low power tourist information services to high power racing radio services. Given available technical capacity in these markets, the ABA considers it is feasible to plan one medium power service in each of Coffs Harbour, Grafton and Kempsey.

New radio services proposed for Hunter region of NSW

HUNTER: The ABA is proposing to make licences for at least 12 new radio services available for allocation in the Hunter region of New South Wales. The region includes the radio markets of Newcastle, Muswellbrook and Taree.

The ABA proposes to make licences available for one new commercial radio licence, eight

new community radio licences and three new open narrowcasting radio services.

'These proposals lay the groundwork for a significant expansion of radio broadcasting services in the Hunter region,' said Professor David Flint.

Commercial radio services

The ABA is proposing to make one new commercial radio licence (i.e. fifth) available for allocation in Newcastle, and is inviting submissions on whether it should make a second (i.e. sixth) commercial licence available.

Parties who have expressed interest in providing new commercial radio services, other than existing broadcasters, are: Century Radio Limited; Limic Communications Pty Ltd; SAT FM; and SEA FM (now known as R G Capital Pty Ltd).

The ABA is also proposing to make channel capacity available for a translator at Merriwa for commercial radio station 2VLY Muswellbrook.

Community radio

The ABA has proposed to make one new community radio licence available for allocation in Newcastle, and is inviting submissions on whether it should make a second licence available.

The ABA is also proposing to make new community radio licences available for allocation for each of Cessnock, Lake Macquarie, Maitland, Murrurundi, Muswellbrook, Port Stephens and Taree.

Open narrowcasting radio

The draft licence area plans propose that one high power AM open narrowcasting radio service be made available for Newcastle. The ABA is also proposing that open narrowcasting radio licences be made available for allocation in Muswellbrook and Taree.

There is interest in providing open narrowcasting radio services throughout the Newcastle, Muswellbrook and Taree regions, ranging from limited power tourist information services to high power racing radio services.

Television

Planning for television services in the region is scheduled for 1999.

International content rating group

UNITED KINGDOM: In July 1997 the ABA was invited to join the Internet Watch Foundation in the UK, the Recreational Software Advisory



Professor Flint and Lord Wakeham, Chairman, British Press Complaints Commission, at their recent meeting at the ABA in Sydney to discuss issues of common concern.