

News Update

Television		
State	Location	Channel
Western Australia	Broome	UHF 35
Radio		
State	Location	Frequency
New South Wales	Bourke	96 1 MHz
	Bourke	94.5 MHz
	Brewarrina	96.1 MHz
	Brewarrina	94.5 MHz
	Collarenebri	97.1 MHz
	Collarenebri	95 5 MHz
	Lightning Ridge	98.5 MHz
	Walgett	97 9 MHz
	Walgett	99.5 MHz
	Wilcannıa	96 7 MHz
	Wilcannia	98 3 MHz
Victoria	Mildura	89.1 MHz
Western Australia	Albany	93.7 MHz
	Albany (town)	104 9 MHz
	Bunbury	1017 kHz
	Busselton	1404 kHz
	Manjimup	1377 kHz
Northern Territory	Alice Springs	
	Katherine	96.5 MHz
	Tennant Creek	104 5 MHz
	Yulara	105 3 MHz

ABA invites comment on application for community radio licence

SYDNEY: The ABA is seeking public comment on an application for a new community radio broadcasting licence to serve Kangaroo Island, South Australia and on two applications for two new community radio broadcasting licences to serve Mt Isa, Queensland.

The ABA has received one application for the Kangaroo Island licence, from Kangaroo Island Community Broadcasters Incorporated.

Applicants for the licences from Mt Isa include Mt Isa Aboriginal Media Association and Mt Isa Christian Broadcasters Association Inc.

'We're interested in hearing from local people in each area about the respective applications,' said Mr Peter Webb, ABA Chairman.

The period for comment on the licence application for Kangaroo Island closed on Wednesday 16 April 1997 and Friday 2 May 1997 is the closing date for comment on the Mt Isa applications. The ABA may make comments submitted to it available to the applicant.

Free-to-air community broadcasting service

licences are allocated on the basis of merit. Where there is only one applicant, the ABA can decide whether that applicant merits a licence. The ABA will assess the application against criteria set out in the Broadcasting Services Act.

Copies of the application for Kangaroo Island are available for viewing at Kingscote Library, ph (08) 8553 3052. Copies of the Mt Isa applications can be viewed at Mt Isa City Library, ph (077) 44 4266.

Written comments should be sent to the Manager, Allocation and Renewal, ABA, PO Box Q500, Queen Victoria Building, NSW 1230.

Proposed new conditions on subscription television broadcasting licences

SYDNEY: The ABA has published, in the Commonwealth of Australia *Gazette*, its intention to impose new conditions on the licences of satellite subscription television licensees. The ABA imposes conditions on satellite subscription television licences under section 100 of the Broadcasting Services Act. The proposed conditions cover such issues as domestic reception equipment and its rental, and subscriber management. The ABA asked for comment, by Friday 2 May 1997. For information on the proposed conditions, call (02) 9334 9851.

Project Blue Sky is granted leave to appeal to High Court

SYDNEY: Project Blue Sky Inc., representing the New Zealand film and television production industry, has been granted leave to appeal to the High Court from the decision of the Full Federal Court upholding the validity of the ABA Australian Content Standard.

There has been no decision by the High Court on the appeal or the validity of the standard. The Australian Content Standard remains in force unless and until the High Court determines the appeal in favour of Project Blue Sky.

Project Blue Sky sought leave to appeal following the judgment of the Full Federal Court handed down on 12 December 1996.

The Full Federal Court determined that the ABA been given the task of implementing two mutually inconsistent Parliamentary instructions, because of an irreconcilable conflict between the special provision to make Australian content standards for television and the general provision to act consistently with the Closer Economic Relations (CER) agreement with New Zealand.

The ABA expects that the matter will be heard by the High Court towards the end of this year.