



# News Update

12 months to get the new services up and running.

The ABA has allocated these licences after a process of consultation with the local communities to seek their views on what additional broadcasting services were needed in their regions. The new community radio licences were advertised in local media, and the received applications were assessed, particularly in regard to whether the proposed services would meet existing and future community needs.

## **ABA invites applications for new community radio licences in NSW and Victoria**

NSW/VICTORIA: The ABA has advertised for applications for new community radio broadcasting licences to serve the Dubbo area of New South Wales and for communities in the Central Victoria and Central Murray regions.

The ABA has invited applications for one new community radio licence to serve the Dubbo region. The ABA has also invited applications for one new community radio licence in each of Ballarat, Barham, Echuca and Kyneton and two new community radio licences to serve Bendigo.

'These are the first new community radio broadcasting licences to be offered in these areas under the ABA's merit-based allocation system,' said Professor David Flint, ABA Chairman.

Applications for the licence must be received before the times on the dates specified below:

### **Bendigo and Ballarat**

5.00 p.m. on

Monday 9 March 1998

### **Kyneton**

5.00 p.m. on

Tuesday 10 March 1998

### **Echuca and Barham**

5.00 p.m. on

Wednesday 11 March 1998

### **Dubbo**

5.00 p.m. on

Friday 13 March 1998.

Prospective applicants should obtain a copy of the free application kit, *Allocation of Community Broadcasting Licences (Broadcasting Services Bands)*. The kit also contains the application form, Form ABA 32, *Application for the Allocation of a Community Broadcasting Licence (Broadcasting Services Bands)*. For copies and more information, call the ABA's Allocation and Renewal Section on (02) 9334 7700.

## **ABA invites comment on Derby community radio applications**

DERBY: The ABA is seeking public comment on applications for a new community radio broadcasting licence to serve the Derby area of Western Australia.

The ABA has received two applications for the Derby licence, from Derby Media Aboriginal Corporation (trading as DAMA) and Derby Learning Network Centre Inc. (trading as Derby Telecentre).

'We're interested in hearing from local people about the applications,' said Professor David Flint, ABA Chairman. 'We'd particularly like to hear whether the proposed services will meet existing and future community needs. The public's view on the applicants' capacity to provide their service is also of interest to us.'

The period for comment on the applications closes on 2 March 1998. The ABA may make comments submitted to it available to applicants.

Free-to-air community broadcasting service licences are allocated on the basis of merit. Where there are two applicants, the ABA must first decide if both applicants meet the licence allocation requirements and then which applicant merits the licence more. The ABA will assess the applications against criteria set out in the Broadcasting Services Act.

Copies of the applications are available for perusal at the Derby Public Library.

Send written comments to: Manager, Allocation and Renewal, ABA, PO Box Q500 Queen Victoria Building NSW 1230, by 2 March 1998.

## **New radio services proposed for New England region**

NEW ENGLAND: The ABA is proposing to make licences for at least 15 new radio services available for allocation in the New England region of New South Wales. The region



ABA representatives at the CBAA conference, November 1997:

L-R: (back) Phyllis Fong, Manager Policy; Debra Richards, Director Program Services; Nigel Ryan, Manager Allocation and Renewal; (front) Bob Greeney, Director Planning; Greg Cupitt and Dom McKay, Planning.



# News Update

## Copies

Copies of the draft plans and *The ABA's General Approach to Planning* are available from the ABA by telephoning Freecall 1800 810 241. It is also on the Internet at <http://www.dca.gov.au/aba/hpcov.htm>.

## Public comment

The ABA invites comment on its preliminary views. These and the draft licence area plans are available in local libraries in Armidale, Gunnedah, Inverell, Moree and Tamworth.

## Submissions

Send submissions to:  
Planning Officer for  
Armidale, Gunnedah,  
Inverell, Moree and  
Tamworth  
ABA  
PO Box 34  
Belconnen, ACT 2616  
by **13 February 1998**.

includes the radio markets of Armidale, Gunnedah, Inverell, Moree and Tamworth.

The ABA is proposing to make one new (i.e. a third) commercial radio licence available for allocation for Tamworth, and is inviting submissions on whether it should make third commercial licences available in each of Armidale, Gunnedah and Moree. It is also proposing to make channel capacity available for a translator at Warialda for commercial radio station 2GEM Inverell. This follows interest expressed by potential service providers.

The ABA is proposing to make one new community radio licence available for allocation in each of Armidale, Gunnedah, Narrabri, Inverell, Glen Innes, Deepwater, Moree and Tamworth.

The draft licence area plans propose that FM open narrowcasting radio licences be made available for Walcha, Gunnedah, Inverell, Glen Innes, Moree and Tamworth. The ABA is also considering the option of making additional high power FM open narrowcasting radio licences available for allocation in Armidale and Gunnedah, and a second low powered FM open narrowcasting radio licence available in Walcha. The ABA is also considering the option of making additional commercial or open narrowcasting radio licences available in Armidale, Walcha and Gunnedah.

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

The ABA has allocated 50 licences for pay TV broadcasting services to Selectra which intends to deliver the services via satellite throughout Australia. The services will cover a diverse range of programs including golf and other sports, news, general entertainment and infotainment.

The ABA has allocated 30 licences to Foxtel, to deliver the services via cable throughout Australia. The services will cover a diverse range of programming including news, sport, movies, drama and music.

The following table lists all subscription television licences allocated to date by the ABA.

## Subscription television broadcasting licence holders

<i>Licence holder</i>	<i>No. of licences</i>
Access Cable Television Ltd	110
Access Cable TV (Northern Rivers) Pty Ltd	4
Cable Network Services Pty Ltd	50
Cable Television Services Pty Ltd	20
Central Coast Cablevision Pty Ltd	54
CFM Television Pty Ltd	1
Continental Century Pay TV Pty Ltd	1
Cosmovision Cable Television Pty Ltd	50
Cox Media Pty Ltd	56
CVC Pay TV Pty Ltd	20
Dergat Pty Ltd	4
Explorer Channel Pty Ltd	1
Foxtel Cable Television Pty Ltd	50
Graff Pay-Per-View (Australia) Pty Ltd	10
Home Show Cable Australia Pty Ltd	20
Interactive Telecommunications Network Ltd	150
Mudgee Cable Company Pty Ltd	60
Multicom Australia Pty Ltd	35
Neighbourhood Cable Pty Ltd	72
Northgate Cable Television Pty Ltd	150
NRS Group Pty Ltd	13
Oberon Broadcasters Pty Ltd	10
Optus Vision Media Pty Ltd	100
Pacific Media Telecommunications Pty Ltd	18
Paynet Telecommunications Pty Ltd	8
Planet Pay TV Pty Ltd	20
PPV TV Pty Ltd	20
Premier Cable Australia Pty Ltd	43
Prime Media Developments Pty Ltd	45
Private Cable Network Pty Ltd	102
Rowcom Holdings Pty Ltd	28
Selectra Pty Ltd	100
Star Vision Pty Ltd	70
Vinatech Pty Ltd	50
vVistor Publishing Group Pty Ltd	2
Wright Weller Rosenblum Pty Ltd	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>1557</b>



L-R: John Dickie, Office of Film and Literature Classification; Cornelius Crans, Director Netherlands Board of Film Classification; and Ann Katrin Ageback, Council on Media Violence, Sweden, at the ABA for a meeting with ABA staff on issues relating to violence and the media.

## ABA allocates pay TV licences to Selectra and Foxtel

SYDNEY: The ABA has allocated licences for pay TV broadcasting services to Selectra Pty Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of the AUSTAR group and Foxtel Cable Television Pty Ltd.