



## **New commercial TV licence for remote and regional WA**

The ABA has allocated a new commercial television licence to serve Remote and Regional Western Australia to WIN International Sales Pty Ltd.

WIN International bid \$36 million for the licence at a licence allocation exercise conducted by the ABA in Perth on 1 April 1998. Full payment for the licence was received by the ABA on 20 May.

'The people of Remote and Regional Western Australia can look forward to the introduction of a second commercial television service in

the near future,' said Professor David Flint,

ABA Chairman.

'At present, people living outside the Perth area have access to only one free-to-air commercial television service. The introduction of a second service will greatly increase the range and diversity of

programming available to viewers,' he said.

WIN is required to commence its service within 12 months of being allocated the licence, or within a longer period as approved by the ABA.

In addition to the standard licence conditions, the licence is subject to the condition that the licensee must provide its service so as to enable its reception by at least 60 per cent of the licence area population within twelve months of commencement of service, and 85 per cent of the licence area population on the fourth anniversary of the commencement of service.

## **Proposed change of frequencies for commercial radio services in Katanning and Narrogin**

The ABA proposes to change the frequencies of the second commercial radio services in

Katanning and Narrogin, Western Australia, from the AM band to the FM band.

The proposal to change these frequencies follows successful test transmissions conducted by the licensee, Radio West Broadcasters Pty Ltd.

The ABA released a consultation paper for comment on 3 June. The submission period closed on 12 June 1998.

In its October 1996 decision finalising the licence area plans for radio in Katanning and Narrogin, the ABA indicated that it was, 'prepared to vary these licence area plans to assign FM channels for the section 39 services (the second commercial radio services) at Katanning and Narrogin, if it can be demonstrated via test transmissions that FM channels are available and the particular FM channels are suitable for use in Katanning and Narrogin'.

The proposed 6KAN Katanning transmitter is planned to operate on FM 94.9 MHz from a nominal site at the 6NA site in Tuck Road, Katanning, with a maximum effective radiated power of 5 kW.

The proposed 6NAN Narrogin transmitter is planned to operate on FM 100.5 MHz from a nominal site 5km south east of Narrogin, with a maximum effective radiated power of 5 kW.

The ABA's consultation paper is available for viewing at the Katanning and Narrogin libraries or from the ABA on Freecall 1800 810 241.

## **New community radio licences for Alexandra/Eildon and Wangaratta**

The ABA has allocated two community radio broadcasting licences in Victoria.

A licence to serve the Alexandra/Eildon area was allocated to Upper Goulburn Community Radio Inc. The new service will broadcast on 106.9 MHz from Devils River.

The licence for Wangaratta was allocated to Wangaratta Community Radio Association Inc. and its service will broadcast on 101.3 MHz from Mt Stanley.

The licensees have 12 months to get the new services up and running.

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



The Federation of Australian Radio Broadcasters has announced it is redrafting the Commercial Radio Codes of Practice to include specific reference to language, sex and sexual behaviour and the portrayal of violence. FARB expects to release the draft code for comment in the next few weeks.