



ABA had 48 hours grace (by virtue of the stay) in which to make a determination under section 34 of the Broadcasting Services Act to make available the frequency at 1116kHz for some temporary purpose. The ABA subsequently made the frequency available, on a temporary basis, to 3AK pending finalisation of the licence area plan variation.

The ABA is drafting a variation to the Melbourne licence area plan in relation to the two frequencies, which will be circulated for wide public consultation before finalisation.

3UGE licence area to include Yea and Marysville

The ABA has decided to vary the licence area plan for radio in the Shepparton area by extending the licence area of the Alexandra/Eildon community radio service 3UGE to include Yea and Marysville. The towns of Alexandra/Eildon, Marysville and Yea form part of a small rural region with close community-of-interest ties, and are part of the larger Shire of Murrindindi. 3UGE is already licensed to serve half of the town of Marysville.

The ABA has received a number of submissions from local community groups, including the Marysville SES, supporting 3UGE's intention to provide a community radio service to the towns of Marysville and Yea.

The ABA is aware of interest from Triangle Community Broadcasters in providing an independent community radio service to Marysville. However, since 3UGE is already licensed to serve half the town, the ABA considers the Marysville community, which has a

population of around 750, is too small to support a separate community radio service.

Triangle Community Broadcasters currently operate a low power open narrowcast service in Marysville and can still continue to do so.

Background

3UGE first requested to extend its licence area at the time of radio licence area planning in Shepparton (September 1997). The group was operating under a temporary community broadcasting licence at the time and was advised the extension would be considered as part of Melbourne licence area planning, due to a possible difficulty in finding suitable spectrum.

In December 1999, the ABA released the draft Melbourne, Geelong and Colac radio licence area plan and a draft variation to the Shepparton radio licence area plan. The draft licence area plan variation for Shepparton proposed that the licence area of the existing FM community radio service 3UGE, which serves Alexandra/Eildon on 106.9 MHz, be extended into the towns of Yea and Marysville.

The ABA proposed in the draft licence area plan variation that these services would provide additional town only coverage to Yea and Marysville in order to improve the reception. As a result, this service would be accessible to a greater number of people in the Yea and Marysville areas. Additional channel capacity was to be made available for two additional transmitters, one in Yea (89.1 MHz) and the other in Marysville (98.5 MHz) to provide improved coverage for 3UGE to these towns.

The smallest existing community radio licence area in Australia is that of 7RGY Geelong, approximately 1872 people.

C and P programs

Programs granted C and P classification between 21 March and 23 April 2001. Producers interested in submitting programs for classification should contact the ABA's Children's Television section on (02) 9334 7700.

Program title	Origin	Class.	New/ renewal	Decision dated	Applicant
FAIRY TALE POLICE DEPARTMENT (Series 1)	Australia	PRC	new	30-3-01	Yoram Gross EM.TV
KANGAROO CREEK GANG	Australia	PRC	new	11-4-01	Southern Star Entertainment Pty Ltd
WILD KAT (Series 2)	Australia	PRC	new	7-4-01	Barron Entertainment Limited

PRC – Provisional C

Class. – Classification