



The Aggregation Rebate Scheme, which has been in operation since 1989, recognises the expenses incurred by regional television licensees in expanding their service areas under the Government's aggregation policy. Some regional television services have been able to offset the payment of their licence fees by using credits accrued over the period of the Aggregation Rebate Scheme. Rebates and the use of accumulated credits for this year totalled \$1 million—compared with \$2.5 million in the previous year. The reduction is due to the fact that licensees in markets which first benefited from this policy in 1988–89 have now exhausted their eligibility to a rebate.

The ABA expects to release aggregated financial results for commercial television and radio (including expenditure, revenue and profit figures) in March 2001.

Revised digital channel plans for digital TV

Melbourne

The variation to the digital channel plans for Melbourne includes plans for digital channels at

repeater sites at South Yarra, Warburton, Marysville, Safety Beach, Rosebud, Fern Tree Gully, Upwey and Selby.

The variation to the digital channel plans sets out the channels existing broadcasters will use for their local coverage digital retransmissions. The ABA has also identified channels in each area that may be used for other purposes, such as datacasting.

The ABA has allotted additional channels 51, 54, 57, 60, 63, 66 and 67 at each of the translator sites of South Yarra, Warburton, Marysville, Safety Beach and Rosebud for commercial and national digital television and datacasting. It has also allotted additional channels 41, 44, 47, 50, 53, 54 and 67 at each of the translator sites of Fern Tree Gully, Upwey and Selby for commercial and national digital television and datacasting. In order to operate on the same channel at different sites broadcasters will need to implement a number of these services as part of a single frequency network (SFN).

The variation to the commercial digital channel plan also includes a special condition on the technical specifications for the Melbourne digital television service to operate on channel 32. This

Temporary community broadcasting licences

Allocated in December 2000

Area served	Licensee	Frequency	Period	Date allocated
New South Wales				
Sydney	2 Groove Inc.	94.5	26-12-2000 to 22-1-2001	19-12-2000
Victoria				
Camberwell	Swinburne Student Radio Inc.	94.1	16-12-2000 to 31-3-2001	15-12-2000
Camberwell	Whitehorse – Boroondara FM Community Radio Inc.	94.1	16-12-2000 to 30-6-2001	5-12-2000
Melbourne	Hot FM Current Chart Radio Inc.	89.9	25-12-2000 to 21-1-2001	15-12-2000
Melbourne	New-Gen Radio Inc.	91.5	25-12-2000 to 31-1-2001	15-12-2000
Sunbury	3NRG Inc.	99.3	1-1-2001 to 31-8-2001	20-12-2000
Waverley	Golden Days Radio for Senior Citizens Inc.	95.7	16-12-2000 to 30-6-2001	5-12-2000
Walwa/Jingellic/				
Tumbarumba	Upper Murray Community Radio Inc.	88.7 & 107.7	11-12-2000 to 10-12-2001	4-12-2000
Queensland				
Brisbane	Brisbane Interactive Radio Group Inc.	97.3	30-12-2000 to 16-2-2001	19-12-2000
South Australia				
Adelaide	Fresh Broadcasters Inc.	92.7	28-1-2001 to 28-2-2001	14-12-2000
Adelaide	Progressive Dance Network Inc.	100.7	16-12-2000 to 28-2-2001	5-12-2000
Adelaide	Radio Televisione Italiana (SA) Inc.	92.7	16-12-2000 to 27-1-2001	15-12-2000
Adelaide	Way Out West Broadcasters Inc.	100.7	16-12-2000 to 28-2-2001	13-12-2000
Barossa Valley	Barossa Broadcasting Board Inc.	89.1	16-12-2000 to 31-8-2001	13-12-2000
Coober Pedy	Dusty Radio Inc.	104.5	20-12-2000 to 30-11-2001	15-12-2000
Western Australia				
Armadale	Heritage FM Inc.	93.7	1-1-2001 to 30-4-2001	20-12-2000



News Update

All digital channel plans and their explanatory papers, including the *Variation to the Digital Channel Plans Victoria: Part 1 – Melbourne – December 2000*, *Variation to Digital Channel Plans South Australia: Part 1 – Adelaide- December 2000*, *Variation to the Digital Channel Plans Western Australia: Part 1 – Perth – December 2000*, are available on the ABA's web site at www.aba.gov.au. Copies can also be obtained from the ABA by calling Freecall 1800 810 241.

special condition is to ensure that unacceptable interference is not caused to the existing analog community television open narrowcasting service, CTV 31, which operates on the adjacent channel.

Adelaide

The ABA has released plans for channels for digital television in Adelaide. The plans for digital channels at repeater sites at Adelaide Foothills, Elizabeth South and Victor Harbor are contained in a variation to the digital channel plans for Adelaide. The plans also contain an additional high power channel that may be used for other purposes, such as datacasting.

The variation to the digital channel plans sets out the channels existing broadcasters will use for their local coverage digital retransmissions. The ABA has also identified channels in each area that may be used for other purposes, such as datacasting.

The ABA has allotted additional channels 54, 57, 61, 64, 66, 67, 68 and 69 at each of the translator sites of Adelaide Foothills and Elizabeth South for commercial and national digital television and datacasting. It has also

allotted additional channels 53, 56, 59, 62., 65, 67, 68 and 69 at Victor Harbor for commercial and national digital television and datacasting. Channel 37 has been allotted for Adelaide as a high power service and may be used for other purposes, such as datacasting.

Perth

The ABA has released plans for digital television repeater channels in Perth. The plans for digital channels at repeater sites at Roleystone and Toodyay are contained in a variation to the digital channel plans for Perth.

The variation to the digital channel plans sets out the channels existing broadcasters will use for their local coverage digital retransmissions. The ABA has also identified channels in each area that may be used for other purposes, such as datacasting.

The ABA has allotted additional channels 53, 56, 59, 61, 62, 64, 65 and 67 at each of the translator sites of Roleystone and Toodyay for commercial and national digital television and datacasting.

The variation to the commercial digital channel plan also includes a special condition on the technical specifications for the Perth digital television service to operate on channel 32. This special condition is to ensure that unacceptable interference is not caused to the existing analog community television open narrowcasting service, CTV 31, which operates on the adjacent channel.

An explanatory paper, which discusses issues raised in submissions and provides the reasons for each decision, accompanies the variation to the digital channel plans for the Perth area.

John Rimmer leaves ABA

John Rimmer, ABA Member, left the ABA on 29 January 2001 to take up a new role as chief executive officer of the National Office for the Information Economy.

Mr Rimmer was appointed to the ABA as a part time member on 5 October 1997 for three years. Mr Rimmer was reappointed on 10 August 2000, to 4 October 2004.

The ABA wishes Mr Rimmer well in his new appointment.



John Rimmer

Rhonda Thwaite

C and P programs

Programs granted C and P classification between 24 November 2000 and 29 January 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 date	Applicant
@KIDS CLUB	Australia	IPRC	new	6-12-00	McGuire Media
FLIPPER AND LOPAKA (Series 2)	Australia	CAD	new	20-12-00	Yoram Gross EM.TV
GAME PLANETS	Australia	IPRC	new	6-12-00	Imagination Entertainment Pty Ltd
GLORIA'S HOUSE (Episodes 14 – 26, Series 1)	Australia	CAD	new	1-12-00	Energiee Entertainment
OUTRIDERS	Australia	CAD	new	10-1-1	Southern Star Entertainment Pty Ltd

C — children's program, C Drama — C Australian drama, P — preschool, PRC — provisional C