



Nine applicants for new Adelaide commercial radio licence

vary a licence area plan in any way should it consider the circumstances require it. Nor should it be taken to imply that the ABA would necessarily consider allocating additional analog commercial radio licences in markets where more than five years have elapsed since the most recent allocation.

The general policy only applies to analog commercial radio services using the broadcasting services bands of the radiofrequency spectrum. It is not intended to constrain decisions that may be made in future concerning digital radio systems. An exception would be made to the general policy for any services planned as a result of the Minister's section 162 direction of 10 April 2003. (Where the circumstances outlined in the Minister's direction are made out, the ABA is required to reopen the relevant licence area plan and consider whether to plan an additional commercial radio service.) Nor can the general policy apply to section 40 (non-broadcasting services bands) commercial licences, as the ABA has only a limited discretion to refuse to allocate a section 40 licence on application.



The ABA will conduct an auction on Friday, 31 October 2003, to allocate one new commercial radio licence to serve Adelaide. The new FM service will broadcast on 91.9 MHz with a translator service to service the Adelaide Foothills on 99.1 MHz.

The ABA has received nine applications for the licence. The applicants are:

Licence auction

The auction for this licence will be held at the Radisson Playford Hotel, 120 North Terrace, Adelaide. Registered applicants must check in between 1pm and 1.45pm, with the auction expected to commence at 2pm. There is a reserve price of \$1million for the licence. Members of the public and the media are welcome to attend the auction, however, only registered applicants may bid for licences.

- ARN South Australia Pty Limited (ACN: 105 319 186)
- Brougham Broadcasting Pty Ltd (ACN: 106 394 889)
- CPS Radio Pty Limited (ACN: 106 474 640)
- DMG Radio Adelaide Pty Ltd (ACN: 101 440 608)
- Hot Tomato Australia Pty Ltd (ACN: 100 626 739)
- Macquarie Radio Network Pty Limited (ACN: 063 906 927)
- Northcliffe Radio Pty Ltd (ACN: 106 378 134)
- Radio Adelaide FM Pty Ltd (ACN: 106 444 437)
- Third National Network Australia Pty Ltd (ACN: 095 062 285)

The auction, technically a 'licence allocation exercise', will be conducted in accordance with the price-based allocation system determined by the ABA under section 36 of the Broadcasting Services Act.



New minister for the communications portfolio



The Prime Minister has announced the appointment of the Hon. Daryl Williams AM, QC, MP as the new Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, replacing Senator Richard Alston, before the Senator's retirement.

In announcing the appointment the Prime Minister said, 'I wish to thank Richard Alston for his outstanding contribution to the Liberal Party at both the organisational and parliamentary levels. A former President of the Victorian division, Senator Alston entered the Senate in 1986. He served in a variety of shadow portfolios but his major achievements have been as Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts since 1996'.

Mr Williams was previously the Attorney-General.

