



The ABA has released a television licence area plan for southern New South Wales and regional Victoria, and variations to the radio licence area plans for the Canberra and Cooma regions, the Illawarra, and Gosford and Taree.

Licence area plans

New television licence area plan

Southern NSW and regional Victoria

The ABA has determined the licence area plans for analog television services in Southern New South Wales and Regional Victoria. The plans set out the number and characteristics of television services made available in these areas.

The licence area plans:

- designate the licence areas for each of the television services, and
- confirm the technical parameters of each of the existing analog television services.

In September 1993, the ABA determined its planning priorities under section 24 of the Broadcasting Services Act. These specified the preparation of analog television licence

area plans for the east coast regional television markets to be part of Group 5 of the ABA's planning priorities.

The finalisation of the licence area plans is part of the completion of the ABA's planning process.

The licence area plans for Southern New South Wales and Regional Victoria include alternative channels in a number of locations for services that may need to change channels to accommodate digital television services.

For copies

the licence area plans and variations to the plans are available from the ABA:

on the web site:

radio:

www.aba.gov.au/radio/index.htm

television:

aba.gov.au/tv/analog/index.htm

or tel:

freecall 1800 226 667



Variations to radio licence area plans

Canberra and Cooma regions

The ABA has decided to make channel capacity available for the existing Canberra national radio service, 2PB (1440 kHz), to convert to the FM band, in order to rectify its current reception deficiencies. The ABA has also made a number of changes to existing community radio services operating in the Canberra and Cooma regions.

'The ABA has taken into account the views of those who made submissions on the draft variations to the Canberra and Cooma licence area plans before coming to a final decision,' said Professor Flint.

The ABA determined the radio licence area plans for Bega, Canberra, Cooma, Goulburn, Nowra and Wollongong in mid 1999. Since then the ABA has received numerous requests from broadcasters requesting variations to these licence area plans.

It is proposed that the licence areas be redefined using 2001 Census figures.

Summary of decisions: Canberra

- FM frequencies 103.9 MHz and 99.9 MHz will no longer be made available for community radio purposes in Canberra
- FM frequencies 103.9 MHz and 99.9 MHz will be reserved for the existing Canberra national radio service, 2PB (1440 kHz), to convert to the FM band, in order to rectify its current reception deficiencies
- 1440 kHz will continue to be reserved for a national radio service for the foreseeable future
- channel capacity will be available for an additional FM transmitter for the existing community radio service 1RPH (1125 kHz) to serve the city of Wagga Wagga, NSW
- the existing Queanbeyan



community radio service, 2QBN, is given the option to change its current technical operating conditions, in order to serve the communities of Sutton and Bungendore

- channel capacity will be available for an additional FM transmitter for the existing community radio service 1WAY (91.9 MHz) to serve the area of Tuggeranong, ACT
- any additional open narrow-casting services in Canberra will not be available.

Cooma

- channel capacity for an additional transmitter for the Cooma community radio service, 2MNO, to serve the town of Bombala, NSW will be available
- the frequency of the existing Bombala open narrowcasting service will change, to avoid potential interference from the proposed Illawarra high power national service.

Illawarra region

The ABA has decided to make channel capacity available for an additional national radio service to serve the Illawarra area. The new service would operate on 90.9 MHz. Use of the channel depends on the WIN commercial television service currently operating on channel 3 moving to a UHF channel.

The ABA has also decided to allow the existing SBS radio service, 2EA, to move to an alternative frequency (1035 kHz) in order to be able to transmit at a higher power. The current 2EA frequency (1485 kHz) will continue to be re-

served for a national radio service for the foreseeable future.

The ABA's decisions are in its variation to the Wollongong radio licence area plan.

'The ABA has taken into account the views of those who made submissions on the draft variations to the Wollongong licence area plan before coming to a final decision,' said Professor Flint.

The ABA determined the radio licence area plan for Wollongong in mid 1999. Since then the ABA has received requests for a variation to this licence area plan.

The populations of the Wollongong commercial and community radio licence areas have been redefined using 2001 Census figures.

Gosford and Taree

The ABA has decided to change the technical operating conditions of the new Gosford commercial radio service (SL 1150647) and to change the FM frequency of community radio service, 2BOB Taree.

'The ABA's decisions follow consideration of requests from the licensee of the commercial radio service in Gosford, DMG Radio, to enable it to transmit with the same radiation pattern and power as the existing commercial radio services, 2GGO and 2CFM in Gosford,' said Professor Flint.

'The licensee of 2BOB Taree has agreed to change frequency from 104.5 MHz to 104.7 MHz to enable the Gosford commercial radio service to transmit with an omni-directional output radiation pattern on 104.5 MHz,' said Professor Flint.



ABA Deputy Chair reappointed



Lyn Maddock

The Hon. Daryl Williams MP, Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts has announced the reappointment of Lyn Maddock as ABA Deputy Chair. The reappointment is for four years from 13 December.

In announcing the appointment Mr Williams said, 'Ms Maddock has made a valuable contribution as Deputy Chair of the ABA over the past three years. Her reappointment will continue to add balance to the skills and experience of the ABA membership.'

'Ms Maddock is an economist with extensive experience in policy development in both the public and private sector. She also has substantial experience across a range of areas, having held senior executive positions with the Productivity Commission, the National Occupational Health and Safety Commission, the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and Westpac Banking Corporation.'

Ms Maddock was initially appointed on 13 December 2000 for a three year term.

