

**Closing date for comment**

Closing date for comment on the proposed changes was 31 January 2003.

For copies

For a copy of the explanatory paper and the draft licence area plan, go to the ABA web site: www.aba.gov.au or telephone Freecall 1800 810 241.

Technical changes proposed for Gold Coast radio services

The ABA has released for public comment an explanatory paper and draft variation to the Gold Coast radio licence area plan, which proposes technical changes to services on the Gold Coast.

The ABA's views are contained in its draft variation to the licence area plan for radio on the Gold Coast, Queensland released on 20 December 2002.

The final Gold Coast radio licence area plan, determined in December 2000, made an additional commercial radio service and three additional community radio services available on the Gold Coast. The plan specified that each of the services would operate at a transmission site on Mount Tambourine.

Hot Tomato Pty Ltd acquired the additional commercial radio licence in August 2002 and has subsequently undertaken negotiations with Transmission Australia to establish its FM radio transmission facility at Mount Tambourine.

Transmission Australia has advised the ABA that the Hot Tomato service cannot be accommodated on the existing FM transmit antenna at 22m together with the existing radio services. The ABA is proposing to change the transmit antenna site of the Hot Tomato service to operate from an alternative site at Mount Tambourine and increase the height from 22m to 63m.

Community radio services 4MET, 4RHI and 4CAB were allocated permanent community radio licences in November 2001. The licensees have all requested changes to their technical operating conditions. While 4MET and 4RHI have finalised negotiations to move to an alternative transmit antenna site, 4CAB is still in the process of finalising negotiations, and as a result the ABA has proposed two alternative technical specifications for the service.

Temporary community broadcasting licences

Allocated from 19 November 2002 to 14 January 2003

Area served	Licensee	Frequency (MHz)	Period	Date allocated
New South Wales				
Sanctuary Point	Bay and Basin Community Resources Inc.	92.7	20-11-2002 to 28-2-2002	20-11-2002
Gosford	Newcastle Christian Broadcasters Ltd	94.9	21-12-2002 to 1-1-2003	20-11-2002
Murwillumbah	North Coast Broadcasters Ltd	101.3	1-4-2003 to 31-7-2003	26-11-2002
Murwillumbah	Heartland Opry Group Inc.	101.3	1-12-2002 to 31-3-2003	28-11-2002
Gosford	Radio Yesteryear Inc.	94.9	22-11-2002 to 20-12-2002	21-11-2002
Gosford	Wyong – Gosford Progressive Community Radio Inc.	94.9	2-1-2003 to 31-1-2003	16-12-2002
Wollongong	Hellenic Australian Radio Inc.	93.3	1-2-2003 to 30-4-2003	14-1-2003
Braidwood	Braidwood FM Inc.	92.3	25-1-2003 to 30-4-2003	14-1-2003
Victoria /New South Wales				
Walwa / Jingellic & Tumbarumba	Upper Murray Community Radio Inc.	88.7 & 107.7	11-12-2002 to 10-12-2003	3-12-2002
Queensland				
Smithfield	Smithfield Community Radio Association Inc.	101.9	1-12-2002 to 30-11-2003	28-11-2003
Bundaberg	Bundaberg Breeze Community Broadcasting Association Inc.	96.3	10-12-2002 to 9-6-2003	9-12-2002
South Australia				
Roxby Downs	5 Rox 98 FM Community Radio Incorporated	105.5	11-1-2003 to 10-1-2004	7-1-2003
Western Australia				
Port Hedland (V*)	Port Hedland Indigenous Media Aboriginal Corporation	101.3	24-6-2002 to 28-2-2002	27-11-2002
Cocos Islands (V)	VKW Voice of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands Inc.	96.0 & 105.3	2-9-2002 to 31-8-2003	6-12-2002

V – Licence period varied