



### ABA proposes changes to Gold Coast digital TV services

The Australian Broadcasting Authority has released draft proposals to change the technical specifications of all digital television services on the Gold Coast.

“The proposals are expected to enable digital television services to cover some areas of poor analog television reception on the Gold Coast which were identified in the Government’s Television Blackspots Program and where the ABA had previously been unable to identify a suitable analog retransmission solution,” said Professor David Flint, ABA Chairman.

The proposals are contained in a discussion paper and draft variation to the Queensland: Part 1 – Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast digital channel plans, released today. The proposals, which relate to services which are planned to operate from Mt Tamborine, incorporate a change of site, increase in antenna height and new radiation patterns.

The proposals only affect digital television services; analog television reception on the Gold

Coast will not improve as a result of this proposal. To access the improved reception, viewers will require a digital set-top box or a digital television. The national television services, ABC and SBS, commenced digital transmissions from Mt Tamborine in August 2002. The commercial broadcasters are expected to commence digital transmissions from Mt Tamborine between September and December 2003, however this timing is dependent on the new infrastructure being in place on time.

Additionally, the ABA is currently working in conjunction with the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, the Gold Coast City Council and broadcasters on a proposal, that if proved practical, has the potential to provide even greater coverage of digital television services to other areas of poor analog reception on the Gold Coast.

The discussion paper and draft variation to Digital Channel Plans for QLD: Part 1 – Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast are available on the ABA website, [www.aba.gov.au/tv/digitaltv](http://www.aba.gov.au/tv/digitaltv) or by calling Freecall 1800 810 241. The closing date for submissions was 5.00pm, Friday 30 May 2003.



### Temporary community broadcasting licences

TCBLs Allocated 17 April 2003 – 22 May 2003

<i>Area served</i>	<i>Licensee</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Date allocated</i>
<b>New South Wales</b>				
Goulburn RA1	Braidwood FM Inc.	92.3 MHz	01/05/2003 to 30/04/2004	29/04/2003
<b>Western Australia</b>				
Perth RA1	Capital Community Radio Inc	90.5 MHz	09/05/2003 to 08/08/2003	08/05/2003
<b>Tasmania</b>				
Oatlands RA1	Southern Midlands Community Radio Station Inc	97.1 MHz	05/05/2003 to 04/05/2004	02/05/2003