



News Update

Letters of support

Copies of any letters of support included with applications and subsequent support letters received by the ABA will not be displayed on the web site or in libraries but can be made available for inspection on request. Anyone who has concerns about public access to their personal details should advise the ABA to treat this information as confidential.

Information booklets

Applicants should contact the ABA's Licensing Section on 1800 226 667 or (02) 9334 7700 for copies of the application information booklets for Dunedoo, Mackay and Yarraman.

General information is also available, at: www.aba.gov.au/radio/services/licence_types/community/index.htm.

Applications

From Friday, 24 September 2004, copies of all applications received will be available on the ABA's web site at: www.aba.gov.au/radio/services/index.htm. Copies of all applications received will also be made available for viewing in the Dunedoo Public Library, Mackay Public Library and Yarraman Public Library.

Submissions

The ABA welcomes written submissions from members of the public about the applications. They should be lodged with the ABA by 5 pm, Friday, 8 October 2004. Submissions can also be lodged via email: info@aba.gov.au.

Technical changes to Adelaide community television service proposed

The ABA is proposing to vary the technical specifications of the available community television service in Adelaide.

'The ABA's proposal follows a trial of the

service which has been conducted by Ch31 Adelaide Ltd operating at a different site and higher power and antenna height to that determined in the licence area plan,' said Lyn Maddock, Acting ABA Chair.

The ABA is planning to call for applications for the Adelaide community television licence in the near future.

The proposal, to allow the service to operate on channel 31 from the Ntl tower, Mount Lofty with a maximum effective radiated power (ERP) of 795 kW (omnidirectional), antenna height of 155m and horizontal polarisation. is contained in the draft variation to the Adelaide analog television licence area plan released today for public comment.

In November 2002, the ABA made channel capacity for a community television service in Adelaide, operating from a nominal site at Mount Lofty with a maximum ERP of 20 kW and antenna height of 15 m.

Trials of the Adelaide community television service have been conducted by Ch31 Adelaide Ltd on channel 31 from a site at Summit Road, Crafrers with a maximum ERP of 30 kW and antenna height of 155 m.

The ABA has assessed the use of channel 31 at a maximum ERP of 795 kW, equivalent to that of the existing SBS television service, and determined that it is possible for the service to

Temporary community broadcasting licences

Allocated from 31 July to 19 August 2004.

| Area served | Licensee | Frequency | Period | Date allocated |
|--------------------------|---|-----------|--------------------------|----------------|
| New South Wales | | | | |
| Gosford RA1 | Gosford Christian Broadcasters Ltd | 94.9 MHz | 1.8.2004 to 30.09.2004** | 18.8.2004 |
| Sanctuary Point RA1 | Bay and Basin Community Resources Inc. | 92.7 MHz | 1.9.2004 to 31.8.2005 | 19.8.2004 |
| Eden RA1 | Eden Community Radio Inc. | 104.7 MHz | 1.10.2004 to 30.09.2005 | 19.8.2004 |
| Coonabarabran RA1 | Warrumbungles Community Broadcasting Association Inc. | 99.5 MHz | 30.8.2004 to 20.12.2004 | 19.8.2004 |
| Coonamble RA1 | Warrumbungles Community Broadcasting Association Inc. | 91.9 MHz | 30.8.2004 to 20.12.2004 | 19.8.2004 |
| Gilgandra RA1 | Warrumbungles Community Broadcasting Association Inc. | 98.9 MHz | 30.8.2004 to 20.12.2004 | 19.8.2004 |
| Queensland | | | | |
| Esk RA1 | Brisbane River Valley Radio Inc. | 95.9 MHz | 12.09.2004 to 11.09.2005 | 13.8.2004 |
| Western Australia | | | | |
| Perth RA2 | Capital Community Radio Inc. | 90.5 MHz* | 23.8.2004 to 20.03.2005 | 13.8.2004 |
| Perth RA2 | Western Sports Media Inc. | 90.5 MHz* | 23.8.2004 to 20.03.2005 | 13.8.2004 |

* TCBLs issued under a time sharing arrangement

** Licence period extended



operate at this maximum power. The ABA recognises that it is unlikely that the community television service would be able to operate at the higher ERP in the medium term, but is proposing to vary the specification of the community television service to allow it to do so should it be achievable in the future.

Those wishing to comment on the proposal can do so by 17 September 2004. The draft variation to the Adelaide analog television licence area plan, with an explanatory paper, is available from the ABA's web site or tel. 1800 226 667 241. ☞

Changes to Rockhampton and Gladstone radio services proposed

The ABA is proposing to make channel capacity available for new and improved services in the Rockhampton/Gladstone area of Queensland.

The ABA is proposing to make FM channel capacity available for the Rockhampton commercial radio services 4RO, 4RGK and 4ROK at Biloela. The licensees have requested an extension to these services to enable them to resolve reception deficiencies in Biloela. The ABA is also proposing to make FM channel capacity available for the Rockhampton commercial radio service 4CC at Agnes Water. This additional FM channel capacity has been planned for 4CC by the ABA under the Commercial Radio Blackspots Program.

The ABA is also proposing to make FM channel capacity available to the ABC in Rockhampton and Gladstone for future national radio services.

'This is part of the ABA's ongoing commitment to reserve channel capacity for the possible future provision of the full range of ABC radio services to communities or regional transmission areas with a population of 10 000 people or more,' said Ms Maddock.

The proposals are contained in the draft variation to the Rockhampton/Gladstone radio licence area plan.

Closing date for comment

The closing date for comment on the additional proposals is 24 September 2004. The draft variation to the Rockhampton/Gladstone radio licence area plan with an explanatory paper are available from the ABA's web site or tel. 1800 226 667. ☞

Channels for digital TV in far north Queensland

The ABA has released proposals to allot and assign channels for digital television repeater services at Atherton, Cardwell, Herberton, Mareeba, Mission Beach, Mossman, Port Douglas, Ravenshoe, Redlynch, Smithfield Heights, Trinity Beach, Tully and Wagnetti, Queensland.

The proposals are contained in a discussion paper and draft variation to the Regional Queensland digital channel plans. The closing date for submissions is 5 pm, 24 September 2004.

The discussion paper and draft variation to digital channel plans for Queensland: Part 2 – Regional Queensland are on the ABA web site, or tel. 1800 226 667.

Vision 20/20 project

The Australian Communications Authority is calling for comment on its preliminary report, *Vision 20/20: Future Scenarios for the Communications Industry – Implications for Regulation*. The project aims to develop future scenarios for the communications industry and identify regulatory implications.

According to the report, the most difficult regulatory challenge for the communications sector is increased complexity in an uncertain, dynamic and global environment. An open, networked system of regulatory cooperation and participation will be needed at both the local and international level, together with regulatory skills to deal with uncertainty, track drivers of change and emerging issues, and share insights.

The project participants include industry, government agencies (including the ABA), research institutions, and community and consumer groups.

Visit the ACA web site, <http://vision2020.aca.gov.au/asp/options.asp> or contact the ACA's Futures Panel. To see the report, go to www.aca.gov.au/aca_home/vision_2020/preliminary_report/preliminary_report_overview.htm. ☞

Closing date

The closing date for comment on the preliminary report, *Vision 20/20: Future Scenarios for the Communications Industry – Implications for Regulation*, is Friday, 17 September 2004.

New on the web (www.aba.gov.au)

In addition to the news releases which are listed on the ABA's home page, www.aba.gov.au, the following items have been added to the site:

- ABA Update July 2004: www.aba.gov.au/abanews/aba_update/current.htm
- new employment opportunities in Canberra & Sydney offices: www.aba.gov.au/recruitment/index.htm
- New licensed community broadcasters: www.aba.gov.au/broadcasters/community.htm
- New licensed open narrowcasters list: www.aba.gov.au/broadcasters/narrowcasting.htm
- new remote licence area locality maps: www.aba.gov.au/broadcasters/planning/lic_area/about_las.htm ☞