



- 6YMS to allow for an increase in power and reflect a move to a lower site and
- 6PR to reflect a change of site and allow for a power increase.

The ABA is not proposing to make a new community radio service available at this time, electing at this stage to continue the existing temporary community broadcasting arrangements for aspirant groups.

The explanatory paper and draft variation to the Perth radio licence area plan are on the ABA web site, at www.aba.gov.au/radio/services/services/wa/index.htm or by tel: 1800 226 667.

Submissions closed on 24 September 2004. ☞

The draft variation to the Nowra radio licence area plan with an explanatory paper are available from the ABA's web site, www.aba.gov.au/radio/services/services/nsw/nowra/index.htm, or by calling Freecall 1800 226 667.

Proposal to allow 4BC Brisbane to day/night power switch

The ABA is proposing to formalise changes to the technical specifications of commercial AM radio service 4BC Brisbane, to allow it to continue to operate with day/night switching – that is, operating its service at a higher power during the day time and switching to a lower power at night.

'The proposed change follows lengthy testing by 4BC of day/night transmitter power switching and follows a request from the licensee,' said Mr Tanner.

4BC has been testing the operation of the service using day/night transmitter power switching since late 2001. During this time, the service moved site, resulting in some reception problems in southern parts of the licence area. These reception problems arose due to a commercial decision taken by the licensee of 4BC, with the full knowledge that a reception problem would result. The change was not instigated by the ABA.

The proposal is contained in the draft variation to the Brisbane radio licence area plan.

Closing date for comment

The closing date for comment on the proposal is 15 October 2004. The draft variation to the Brisbane radio licence area plan, with an explanatory paper, is available from the ABA's web site, www.aba.gov.au/radio/services/services/qld/brisbane/index.htm or by calling Freecall 1800 226 667. ☞

Channels for digital television repeater services in South East Queensland

The ABA has released proposals to allot and assign channels for digital television repeater services at Boonah, Esk, Linville and Moore in the Brisbane licence area and Ballard, Bell, Chinchilla, Goondiwindi, Miles, Murgon, Tara, Texas and Warwick in the Regional Queensland licence area.

The proposals are contained in a discussion paper and draft variation to the Queensland digital channel plans.

'In releasing these proposals, the ABA weighed up a number of important factors. These include the aim of spectrum efficiency, the need to minimise any changes that viewers will have to make to their existing reception equipment to receive digital broadcasts and the desirability of broadcasters being able to use their existing infrastructure to broadcast their digital television services,' said Mr Tanner.

The discussion paper and draft variation to digital channel plans for Queensland: Part 1 – Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast and digital channel plans for Queensland: Part 2 – Regional Queensland are available on the ABA web site, www.aba.gov.au/tv/digitaltv/planning/qld/index.htm, or by calling Freecall 1800 226 667.

The closing date for submissions is 5 pm, 22 October 2004. ☞

Proposed changes to radio services in Albury

The ABA is proposing the following changes to radio services in the Albury area:

- to increase the power of the Albury commercial radio services 2AAY and 2BDR at Omeo and Falls Creek to enable the licensees to resolve reception deficiencies in these areas.
- to increase the operating power for Omeo, from 50 W to 200 W together with a change of site to Sam Hill, Omeo. The operation of the services at 200 W will be subject to successful test transmissions to ensure no interference is caused to radio services in Mount Beauty, Victoria
- to change the frequencies of the Falls Creek services 2AAY and 2BDR and increase power from 10 W to 1 kW

The proposed changes are in the draft variation to the Albury licence area plan and explanatory paper, available from the ABA's web site, www.aba.gov.au/radio/services/services/nsw/albury/index.htm or by calling Freecall 1800 226 667.

Closing date for comment
25 October 2004