



News Update

Technical changes to Gold Coast radio services proposed

The ABA is proposing to vary the technical specifications of four Gold Coast FM radio services.

The proposed changes are to vary the technical specifications for community radio service 4MET to reflect a change of site from Lower Beechmont to Mount Tamborine; correct a minor radiation pattern discrepancy in the technical specifications for commercial radio service 4HTB and community radio service 4RHI; and revise the technical specifications for community radio service 4CAB to reduce the effective radiated power of the service to minimise interference.

The licensee of 4MET has requested a change of site from Lower Beechmont to Mount Tamborine.

The explanatory paper and draft variation to the Gold Coast radio licence area plan are available from http://www.aba.gov.au/radio/services/services/qld/gold_coast/index.htm. The closing date for comment on the proposals was 3 December 2004. ☒

The terms of reference and the issues paper, including how to make a submission, are available at <http://www.privacy.gov.au/act/review/index.html>

The Commissioner is due to report the findings of the review to the Attorney-General by 31 March 2005.

For further information about the review, contact: privatesectorreview@privacy.gov.au.

The closing date for submissions is 22 December 2004.

Media exemption

(extract from issues paper, pp 50–51)

One of the competing social interests identified in the Privacy Act is the free flow of information. One of the ways the legislation promotes the free flow of information is to exempt the acts and practices of media organisations in the course of journalism from the application of the provisions. This exemption applies where such media organisation is publicly committed to observe published standards that deal with privacy in the context of the activities of a media organisation.

Licence area plans

For copies of all licence area plans, tel: 1800 226 667

Review of media exemption in the Privacy Act

The Federal Privacy Commissioner, Karen Curtis, is asking organisations and individuals to give their views about the operation of the private sector provisions of the *Privacy Act 1988*, that came into effect on 21 December 2001.

The Commissioner has released an issues paper which provides a framework for assessing the extent to which the private sector provisions meet their objectives. The review includes consideration of the operation of the media exemption (see below).

Possible topics for submissions

- Whether the operation of the media exemption is striking the appropriate balance between the free flow of information and individual privacy.
- Whether the current formulation of the media exemption covers the right organisations and the right activities.
- Measures to address any issues that are arising in relation to the media exemption. ☒

C and P programs

Programs granted C and P classification between 21 October and 23 November 2004. Producers interested in submitting programs for classification should contact the ABA on (02) 9334 7700.

Program	Episodes	Program style	Program type	Country of origin	New/renewal	Class.	Decision date	Applicant
<i>Maddigan's Fantasia</i> (series 1)	1 – 13	Live action	Drama – Series	Australia	New	PRC	4.11.04	Burberry Productions Pty Ltd
<i>Making a Splash</i> (series 1)	1 – 13	Live action	Drama – Series	Australia	New	PRC	22.10.04	FilmPoets Dreamstone
<i>Wicked Science 2</i> (series 2)	1 – 13	Live action	Drama – Series	Australia	New	CD	3.11.04	Jonathan M Schiff Productions Pty Ltd
<i>Duck Dodgers</i> (series 1)	1 – 13	Animation	Drama – Series	USA	New	C	22.10.04	Warner Bros (Australia) Pty Ltd
<i>Duck Dodgers</i> (series 2)	14 – 26	Animation	Drama – Series	USA	New	C	22.10.04	Warner Bros (Australia) Pty Ltd
<i>Streetsmartz</i> (series 1)	1 – 13	Live action	Drama – Series	Australia	New	PRC	27.10.04	AIP Entertainment Pty Ltd

C – children's program, CD – C drama, P – preschool, PRC – provisional C, PRP – provisional P Class. – Classification ☒