



Discussion paper for radio services in Launceston

The ABA has released a discussion paper on the use of available FM channels in the Launceston area. The ABA is particularly interested in the potential for FM commercial services in the Launceston market which currently only has commercial radio broadcasting services operating in the AM band.

The paper also invites submissions on whether channel capacity should be made available for an additional community radio service in Launceston.

'Before releasing a draft licence area plan variation for Launceston, the ABA is interested in receiving comments on the issues and the options for introducing FM radio services to the Launceston market,' said Professor Flint.

FM radio channels have become available in Launceston after the ABC turned off its television service on VHF channel 3 in North East Tasmania (Mt Barrow). This service now operates on the UHF band. The additional FM channels are available as VHF channel 3 overlaps the FM radio band.

Closing date for comment on the discussion paper was 30 April 2004.

Draft variation to Scottsdale radio licence area plan

The ABA is proposing to make FM channel capacity available for the Scottsdale commercial radio service 7RGS in Weldborough, Tas.

'The ABA's proposal follows consideration of a request from the licensee, North East Tasmania Broadcasters Pty Ltd, to enable it to resolve reception deficiencies in the region,' said Professor Flint.

The additional FM channel capacity has been planned by the ABA under the Commercial Radio Blackspots Program.

The proposals are contained in the draft variation to the Scottsdale radio licence area plan. The closing date for comment was 23 April 2004. The draft variation to the Scottsdale radio licence area plan and explanatory paper are on the ABA's web site or tel. 1800 810 241 for a copy.

Changes proposed for Emerald radio services

The ABA is proposing to make FM channel capacity available for the 4HIT Emerald commercial radio service in Blackwater and Middlemount, Queensland.

'The ABA's proposal follows consideration of a request from the licensee, DMG Regional Radio, to enable it to resolve reception deficiencies in the region,' said Professor Flint.

The additional FM channel capacity has been planned by the ABA under the Commercial Radio Blackspots Program.

The ABA also is proposing to make FM channel capacity available to the ABC in Emerald for two future national radio services, and to change the operating conditions of the Moranbah and Woorabinda community radio services to extend their licence areas.

C and P programs

Programs granted C and P classification between 15 March and 21 April 2004. Producers interested in submitting programs for classification should contact the ABA's Children's Television section on (02) 9334 7700.


Program title	Origin	Class.	New/renewal	Decision dated	Applicant
Girl TV	Australia	C	new	15.4.2004	Southern Star Entertainment Pty Ltd
High Flyers (series 1)	Australia	CD	renewal	30.3.2004	Southern Star Entertainment Pty Ltd
New Macdonald's Farm (series 1)	Australia	P	new	8.4.2004	Pacific And Beyond Pty Ltd
Parallax (series 1, eps 1-13)	Australia	CD	new	31.3.2004	Great Western Entertainment Pty Ltd
Pig's Breakfast (series 1)	Australia	CD	renewal	8.4.2004	Southern Star Entertainment Pty Ltd
The Big Arvo (series 11)	Australia	C	new	19.3.2004	Seven Network Ltd
The Big Arvo (series 12)	Australia	C	new	19.3.2004	Seven Network Ltd
Totally Wild (series 13)	Australia	C	new	30.3.2004	Network Ten Pty Ltd
Zoom	Australia	PRP	new	19.3.2004	Galaxy Pop Pty Ltd

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

Discussion paper

The discussion paper is on the ABA web site, www.aba.gov.au, or tel. 1800 810 241 for a copy.



The closing date for comment was 23 April 2004. The draft variation to the Emerald radio licence area plan along with an explanatory paper are on the ABA's web site or tel. 1800 810 241 for a copy. 

Additional transmitters proposed for Mackay radio services


The ABA is proposing to make FM channel capacity available for the Mackay commercial radio services 4MKY in Glenden and 4MMK in Nebo and Clairview/St Lawrence, Queensland.

'The ABA's proposals follow consideration of a request from the licensee of the services, DMG Regional Radio, to enable it to resolve reception deficiencies in the region,' said Professor Flint.

The additional FM channel capacity has been planned by the ABA under the Commercial Radio Blackspots Program.

The ABA also proposes to make FM channel capacity available to the ABC in Mackay for a future national radio service.

'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 Professor Flint.

The proposals are in the draft variation to the Mackay radio licence area plan. The closing date for comment was 23 April 2004. 


FM channel proposed for 4AMM at Ravenshoe

The ABA is proposing to make FM channel capacity available for the Atherton commercial

radio service 4AMM in Ravenshoe, Queensland.

'The ABA's proposal follows consideration of a request from the licensee, Tablelands Broadcasting Pty Ltd, to enable it to resolve reception deficiencies in the area,' said Professor Flint.

The additional FM channel capacity has been planned by the ABA under the Commercial Radio Blackspots Program.

The proposals are contained in the draft variation to the Atherton radio licence area plan released for public comment. The closing date for comment on the additional proposals was 23 April 2004. The draft variation to the Atherton radio licence area plan along with an explanatory paper are on the ABA's web site or tel. 1800 810 241 for a copy. 

AFTRS and IT Skills Hub address iTV training needs

The Australian Film Television and Radio School (AFTRS) and IT Skills Hub have joined forces to create a national training initiative designed for the rapidly emerging digital interactive television (iTV) industry and related services.

The Interactive Television Skills Advisory Group (ITSAG) has been formed and their first step is a move towards a nationwide scoping study to identify specific training requirements.

For more information contact: Rebecca Zipser, AFTRS Publicity, tel. 02 9805 6629.


Email: rebecca.zipser@aftrs.edu.au,

Lisa Interligi, IT Skills Hub, tel. 03 9665 5600

Email: lisa.interligi@itskillshub.com.au 

Temporary community broadcasting licences

Allocated from 16 March to 27 April 2004.

<i>Area served</i>	<i>Licensee</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Date allocated</i>
New South Wales				
Gosford	Radio Yesteryear Inc.	94.9 MHz	1.4.2004 to 31.5.2004	19.3.2004
Lismore	North Coast Radio Inc.	92.9 MHz	1.4.2004 to 30.9.2004	26.3.2004
Braidwood	Braidwood FM Inc.	94.5 MHz	1.5.2004 to 31.7.2004	8.4.2004
Northern Territory				
Alice Springs	Charles Darwin University	102.1 MHz	20.3.2004 to 19.3.2005	18.3.2004
Tasmania				
Oatlands	Southern Midlands Community Radio Station	97.1 MHz	5.5.2004 to 4.5.2005	8.4.2004 

For copies of the draft

The draft variation to the Mackay radio licence area plan along with an explanatory paper are on the ABA's web site or tel. 1800 810 241 for a copy.