



Paper released on the economics of spectrum management

In 2007, ACMA commissioned a paper to identify and summarise the major contributions to the debate about the economics of spectrum management. *The Economics of Spectrum Management: A Review* was recently made available, in conjunction with a series of discussion papers about spectrum management issues released prior to the RadComms08 conference, to promote debate on radiocommunications regulation.

The paper attempts to go beyond the traditional, polarised positions in the ongoing spectrum management debate—command and control,

property rights and commons. In looking at alternative and hybrid approaches, the paper aims to establish the beginnings of a general theory of spectrum management.

Taking the view that spectrum is an economic resource, the paper analyses peer-reviewed research, agency reports, think-tank and industry-commissioned policy papers, online articles and conference papers on spectrum management to establish and expand the parameters of the debate.

While this paper was commissioned by ACMA, the

views are those of the author, and ACMA does not necessarily agree with or endorse the views expressed herein.

However, the paper is a useful, even provocative, contribution to the recently enlivened discussion on spectrum management and reform.

The Economics of Spectrum Management: A Review is available on the ACMA website at <www.acma.gov.au> (go to About ACMA: Publications & research > Research > Radiofrequency spectrum research).

ACMA's Spectrum Management Decision Framework

