



News Update

Before reaching a final decision the ABA sought comment on the proposals to change 4VL's technical specifications and the additional FM translator frequencies for 4VL.

For copies

The draft variation to the Charleville radio licence area plan with an explanatory paper are available on the ABA's website: www.aba.gov.au/radio/services/index.htm or tel: 1800 226 667.

Channels proposed for digital TV services

The ABA has released proposals to allot and assign digital channels for television repeater services at eight locations in Inland and North Coast NSW. The ABA has also identified as yet unassigned channels that may be used for other purposes, including datacasting.



The ABA has also released proposals to allot and assign digital channels for television services at Mount Isa in Queensland, Karratha and Roebourne in Western Australia, and Alice Springs and Katherine in the Northern Territory.

The proposals are contained in discussion papers and drafts of the relevant 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 Professor Flint.

'The ABA has at all times given the interests of viewers a high priority. However, an option is contained in the draft variation to the digital channel plan for Gloucester, NSW, which may result in Prime Television, licensee of NEN, needing to change its VHF channel 11 analog service at Gloucester by 1 MHz if it wishes to commence its digital television service on the VHF band. The ABA has requested advice from Prime Television on this issue,' said Professor Flint.

For copies

The discussion papers and draft variations to digital channel plans for: NSW: Part 4 and NSW: Part 5 – Inland NSW; Western Australia: Part 2 – Remote and Regional; revised draft variation for commercial DCPs for Western Australia: Part 2 – Remote and Regional; and draft digital channel plans for Remote Central and Regional Australia, are available on the ABA website: www.aba.gov.au/tv/digitaltv/index.htm or tel: 1800 226 667.

Submissions closed on 30 January.

Temporary community broadcasting licences

Allocated from 21 November 2003 to 20 January 2004.

<i>Area served</i>	<i>Licensee</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Date allocated</i>
New South Wales				
Tumbarumba	Upper Murray Community Radio Inc.	107.7 MHz	12.12.2003 to 11.12.2004	12.12.2003
Victoria				
Walwa / Jingellic	Upper Murray Community Radio Inc.	88.7 MHz	12.12.2003 to 11.12.2004	12.12.2003
Queensland				
Cairns RA2	Smithfield Community Radio Association Inc.	101.9 MHz	1.12.2003 to 31.5.2004	24.11.2003
South Australia				
Cooper Pedy RA1	Dusty Radio Inc.	104.5 MHz	2.12.2003 to 31.8.2004	2.12.2003

