



News Update

ABA visits for radio planning discussions

SYDNEY: Representatives of the ABA have visited the south east and Illawarra regions of NSW and the ACT during July to meet with existing radio broadcasters and those who want to provide new services.

The ABA has visited Canberra, Goulburn, Bowral, Wollongong, Nowra, Ulladulla, Moruya, Bega, Cooma and Mallacoota.

During August, ABA representatives will be meeting with interested parties in the Darling downs region of Queensland, including Dalby, Kingaroy, Toowoomba and Warwick.

The ABA is meeting with these groups to discuss possible new radio services and options for improved reception of existing radio services.

'We are asking aspirant and existing broadcasters to make submissions to the radio planning process. With well prepared submissions, the ABA will be better informed of the interest in new and improved radio services prior to releasing our radio planning discussion papers for public comment,' said ABA member, Mr Tim O'Keefe.

The ABA's visit is part of a national planning process for radio services, which involves wide public consultation.

Written submissions are invited. After consideration of submissions and all previous proposals made about the planning process, the ABA will release draft licence area plans for these zones, for public comment.

Information and submissions

An information booklet is available to help to prepare written submissions and can be obtained by writing to the address below or calling 1800 810 241.

All submissions should be sent to:
Australian Broadcasting Authority
PO Box 34
Belconnen, ACT 2616.

New pay TV licences allocated

SYDNEY: The ABA has allocated 72 licences for non-satellite pay TV broadcasting services to Neighborhood Cable Pty Ltd.

Neighborhood Cable says it intends to deliver its pay TV services via cable.

The 72 licences are intended to provide a variety of programming and include:

■ news channels (including business news),

- educational programming,
- foreign language services (Greek, Italian, Japanese and German),
- the latest release movies,
- request and pay per view movie channels,
- home shopping,
- a documentary channel,
- a sports channel,
- a music channel and
- a weather channel.

'The ABA examined the shareholding structure of the company and found it complied with the foreign ownership provisions of the Broadcasting Services Act,' said Mr Peter Webb, ABA Chairman.

'In addition, the ABA found no reason to regard the company as being unsuitable to be allocated pay TV licences.'

The ABA has now allocated a total of 1075 non-satellite subscription television licences.

Licences issued by ABA

| <i>Licence holder</i> | <i>No. of licences</i> |
|--|------------------------|
| Access Cable Television Ltd | 110 |
| Access Cable TV (Northern Rivers) Pty Ltd | 4 |
| Cable Television Services Pty Ltd | 20 |
| Central Coast Cablevision Pty Ltd | 54 |
| Cosmovision Cable Television Pty Ltd | 50 |
| Cox Media Pty Limited | 56 |
| CVC Pay TV Pty Ltd | 20 |
| Dergat Pty Ltd | 4 |
| Explorer Channel Pty Ltd | 1 |
| Graff Pay-Per-View (Australia) Pty Ltd | 10 |
| Home Show Cable Australia Pty Ltd | 20 |
| Interactive Telecommunications Network Ltd | 150 |
| Multicom Australia Pty Ltd | 35 |
| Neighborhood Cable Pty Ltd | 72 |
| NRS Group Pty Ltd | 13 |
| Oberon Broadcasters Pty Ltd | 10 |
| Pacific Media Telecommunications Pty Ltd | 18 |
| Paynet Telecommunications Pty Ltd | 8 |
| Planet Pay TV Pty Ltd | 20 |
| PPV TV Pty Ltd | 20 |
| Premier Cable Australia Pty Ltd | 43 |
| Prime Media Developments Pty Ltd | 45 |
| Private Cable Network Pty Ltd | 102 |
| Rowcom Holdings Pty Ltd | 28 |
| Selectra Pty Ltd | 50 |
| Star Vision Pty Ltd | 50 |
| Vinatech Pty Ltd | 50 |
| Visitor Publishing Group Pty Ltd | 2 |
| Wright Weller Rosenblum Pty Ltd | 10 |
| Total | 1075 |

Illawarra, South East NSW and the ACT:

Closing date:

27 October

Written submissions, quoting file number 93/7718, should be addressed to:

Planning Officer for
Illawarra, South East
NSW and the ACT.

Darling Downs:

Closing date:

30 November

Written submissions, quoting file number 93/7713, should be addressed to:

Planning Officer for
the Darling Downs.