

New plans for **analog and digital TV** in regional Victoria and southern NSW released

New plans for analog and digital television services in areas of regional Victoria and southern New South Wales have been released. ACMA varied the licence area plans for analog television for the licence areas of Regional Victoria, and Griffith and the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area, and varied the digital television channel plans for the Regional Victoria licence area.

The variation to the plan for analog services adds new channels, deletes channels no longer needed or operated by broadcasters and varies the technical specifications of existing national and commercial services. In conjunction with these changes, ACMA has assigned channels for digital television repeater services in central Victoria and some border areas of southern New South Wales.

In making these decisions, ACMA considers factors including the aim of spectrum efficiency in the introduction of digital channels and the need to minimise any changes that viewers will have to make. While ACMA gives the interests of viewers a high priority at all times, some changes to services will be necessary. Only minor disruption to viewers is expected as, in most cases, retuning of television sets, video cassette recorders or subscription TV set-top boxes will be all that is required.

Under the provisions of the Interference Management Scheme, broadcasters must provide public information, run education campaigns and establish telephone hotlines to deal with and provide timely advice on how to retune devices and alternative connection methods before any changes take place.

ACMA has responsibility for planning and allocating those parts of the radiofrequency spectrum used for free-to-air broadcasting services in Australia—AM and FM radio, and

VHF and UHF television spectrum (collectively, the broadcasting services bands). Planning is accompanied by wide public consultation. Much of the detailed planning of transmission facilities will be carried out by successful licence applicants themselves, within guidelines set down by ACMA.

The table lists the assignment of channels for the digital television

repeater services in the variation to the digital channel plans for Victoria Part 2: Regional Victoria.

Information about retuning a VCR or set-top box is on the ACMA website at www.acma.gov.au (go to Radio & TV > Reception & Interference > Television > Retuning your VCR or Pay TV set-top box).

The variations to the licence area plans for analog television for

Regional Victoria and Griffith and the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area are on the ACMA website at www.acma.gov.au (go to ACMA > Publications > Broadcasting > Planning > Final licence area plans (LAPs)).

The variation to the commercial and national digital channel plan for Central Victoria and Southern New South Wales is on the ACMA website at www.acma.gov.au (go to ACMA > Publications > Broadcasting > Planning > Final digital channel plans (DCPs)).

CHANNEL ASSIGNMENTS

AREA SERVED	MODE	CHANNEL					
		ABGV	AMV	GLV	SBS	VTV	Unassigned
Alexandra	Analog	59	65	62	68	56	- -
	Digital	60	64	61	67	63	38 66
Alexandra Environs	Analog	31	-	-	28	-	- -
	Digital	32	-	-	29	-	- -
Balranald	Analog	39	61/52	42	-	64/55	- -
	Digital	40	37	41	-	56	38 53
Bonnie Doon	Analog	58	67/34	64/31	55	61/28	- -
	Digital	32	33	30	29	35	38 39
Deniliquin	Analog	57	66	63	69	60	- -
	Digital	55	47	64	50	61	38 53
Eildon	Analog	33	45	42	30	39	- -
	Digital	34	46	43	37	40	41 44
Eildon Town	Analog	57	-	-	54	-	- -
	Digital	58	-	-	53	-	- -
Hopetoun	Analog	56/38	62/29	32	-	65/35	- -
	Digital	34	28	33	-	36	30 37
Howqua	Analog	57/30#	63/36	66/39	-	60/33#	- -
	Digital		37	38	-	-	52 54
Jerilderie	Analog	56	62	65	59	68	- -
	Digital	55	63	66	60	57	38 53
Mansfield	Analog	50	44	41	53	47	- -
	Digital	60	64	61	67	63	57 66
Seymour	Analog	55	61	64	67	58	- -
	Digital	53	60	63	66	57	47 50
Yea	Analog	33	45	42	30	39	- -
	Digital	34	46	43	37	40	41 44

service type 'drop-through (non-LAP)' included in this table for information purposes only