

Hutchison applies for LNP exemption

ACMA recently sought comment on an application from received from Hutchison Telecommunications (Australia) Limited (HTAL) from the requirement to provide local number portability. The application relates to HTAL's LocalZone product, which is offered on the Orange CDMA network. Comments close on 12 April 2006. For more information, please contact Helen Papazoglou at ACMA on telephone 03 9963 6849.



LIPD Class Licence change proposed

ACMA proposes to vary, the Radiocommunications (Low Interference Potential Devices) Class Licence 2000 (the LIPD Class Licence). This licence authorises the operation of a wide range of low power radiocommunications devices operating in various segments of the radiofrequency spectrum.

The proposed variation, under section 134 of the Radiocommunications Act 1992, includes:

· an addition to authorise the operation of ultra wideband short-range vehicle radar in the frequency band 22-26.5 GHz

- an amendment to the limitations on maximum EIRP permitted for wireless microphones
- an amendment to allow radio local area network access in the 5 GHz band
- a reduction in the minimum number of channels required by wideband frequency hopping spread spectrum devices in the range 915-928 MHz.

ACMA is seeking comment on the proposed variation to the LIPD Class Licence and

representations should be submitted in writing by close of business 19 April 2006, addressed to The Manager, Space and Terrestrial Regulation, Australian Communications and Media Authority, PO Box 78, Belconnen ACT 2616, by fax to 02 6219 5133 or by email to radiocommunications.licensing .policy@acma.gov.au.

More information about the proposed variation and a background paper is available by contacting ACMA on telephone 02 6219 5279, fax 02 6219 5133 or email margaret.owen@acma.gov.au.

Proposal to allow 3AW and 3EE to swap frequencies

ACMA is proposing to vary the operating conditions of the Melbourne commercial radio services 3AW and 3EE by swapping their frequencies and transmitter locations.

Southern Cross Broadcasting has asked ACMA for the variation to allow 3AW, which has a large listening audience, to enjoy an improvement to the reception of its service, in particular, in inner-city Melbourne. Both stations currently broadcast on the AM band, 3AW on 1278 kHz and 3EE on 693 kHz, 3EE has an omni-directional radiation pattern and therefore, in theory, a larger coverage area than 3AW which has a directional pattern.

Comments on these proposals closed on 31 March 2006. The draft variation to the Melbourne licence area plan and explanatory paper are on the ACMA website at www.acma.gov.au or contact ACMA on telephone (free call) 1800 810 241.