

Embargo No. 41

EMBARGO NO: 41

STATUS: CURRENT

BAND: 70 MHz–25.25 GHz

SUBJECT: EMBARGO FOR THE AUSTRALIAN RADIO QUIET ZONE WESTERN AUSTRALIA (ARQZWA)

DATE OF EFFECT: 11 April 2005 (Revised 30 November 2005, 27 April 2007 and December 2014)

COVERAGE: For the frequency range 70 MHz–25.25 GHz, within 70 km, of the ARQZWA centre at latitude 26.704167° South, longitude 116.658889° East¹ (Near Boolardy Station, Western Australia).

TIME FRAME: Ongoing

INSTRUCTIONS: No new assignments are to be made within the frequency range 70 MHz–25.25 GHz, within 70 km, of the ARQZWA centre at latitude 26.704167° South, longitude 116.658889° East¹. The embargo applies to all apparatus-licensed, coordinated terrestrial stations and earth stations that are located within the specified zone². Existing licensed services may continue to operate. However, assignment proposals that seek to expand or modify existing apparatus-licensed services are subject to this embargo.

Exceptions to this embargo require case-by-case consideration and the approval of the Manager, Spectrum Planning and Engineering Section. For cases involving the bands managed under the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*, approval must be obtained from the Manager, Broadcast Engineering Section. Sections 100B, 102 and 102A of the *Radiocommunications Act 1992* continue to apply.

¹ GDA94 datum

² Stations as defined in Article 1, ITU Radio Regulations (2004).

EXPLANATION: This embargo originally established a Radio Quiet Zone (RQZ) around the coordinates of the ARQZWA centre, as described above, to facilitate the development and use of new radio astronomy technologies.

On 30 November 2005, subject to sections 100B, 102 and 102A of the *Radiocommunications Act 1992*, the scope of the embargo was extended to include the bands managed under the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*, and the centre coordinates of the embargoed areas was adjusted to more accurately define the RQZ area.

On 30 April 2007 the central coordinates of the embargoed areas were changed to accommodate potential interference issues with new mining operations near the original site.

On 19 December 2014 this embargo was updated to reflect updates to RALI MS 32, which states that it is unlikely that transmitters could be licensed within 70 km of the ARQZWA centre. The 70 km distance corresponds to the RQZ (inner) zone as specified in the *Radiocommunications (Mid-West Radio Quiet Zone) Frequency Band Plan 2011*, according to which other services are taken to be secondary in relation to the radio astronomy services. RALI MS 32 contains coordination requirements and procedures for distances greater than 70 km from the ARQZWA centre.

EMBARGO AUTHORISATION:

[signed – 19/12/2014]

Mark Arkell

Manager

Spectrum Engineering Section

Spectrum Planning and Engineering Branch

Australian Communications and Media Authority