

EMBARGO 46

FREQUENCY RANGE(S):	5900–5950 kHz 7300–7350 kHz 9400–9500 kHz 11600–11650 kHz 12050–12100 kHz 13570–13600 kHz 13800–13870 kHz 15600–15800 kHz 17480–17550 kHz 18900–19020 kHz
SUBJECT:	Embargo on new frequency assignments to encourage the introduction of digitally modulated emissions for broadcasting services in HF bands
DATE OF EFFECT:	6 February 2007 (last revised September 2007)
COVERAGE:	Australia-wide
TIME FRAME:	Ongoing

INSTRUCTIONS

No new frequency assignments are to be made for any location in Australia or its Territories and adjacent areas in the frequency bands listed above. This includes frequency assignments for existing licensees seeking to expand or modify their radiocommunications systems in the bands.

Exceptions to this embargo require case-by-case consideration and the approval of the Manager, Spectrum Engineering Section. ACMA will consider licence applications for frequency assignments for existing licensees of overseas HF broadcasting services using digitally modulated emissions in accordance with the provisions of Resolution 517 of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) for those frequencies coordinated in accordance with Article 12 of the *Radio Regulations* of the ITU.

REASON

The World Administrative Radio Conference of the ITU held in 1992 made decisions concerning the above frequency bands that from 1 April 2007 will result in changed status for existing fixed and mobile services with the introduction of broadcasting services. In Australia, existing services may continue to operate provided that their communication is limited to within the boundary of Australia and on the condition that harmful interference is not caused to the broadcasting service. In addition, existing services must accept interference from broadcasting services.

The ITU World Radiocommunication Conference held in 2003 urged administrations to use the above bands to facilitate the introduction of digitally modulated emissions for broadcasting services in accordance with the provisions of ITU Resolution 517 (Rev. WRC-03).

In addition, ACMA intends to implement the intention of the Australian Government to facilitate the introduction of digital radio by inclusion of the above bands in its planning for the introduction of digital radio.

Considering these reasons it is necessary to regulate use of the bands to facilitate these outcomes. This embargo is intended to do this by encouraging the introduction of digitally modulated emissions for broadcasting services and limiting the use of other emissions.

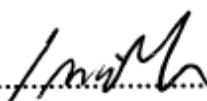
COMMENTS

Digitally modulated emissions for broadcasting services potentially provide efficiencies in spectrum use and provide significant benefits for users including greater program quality and service availability. The radiofrequency spectrum is a finite resource of significant value to the Australian community. ACMA responsibilities include its management for the overall public benefit to which end ACMA facilitates its efficient use and methods to improve services it supports.

HISTORY

In September 2007 the embargo was revised to include minor editorial changes.

EMBARGO AUTHORISATION:


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27.9.2007

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