

EMBARGO 44

FREQUENCY RANGE(S):	5950–6200 kHz 7100–7300 kHz 9500–9900 kHz 11650–12050 kHz 13600–13800 kHz 15100–15600 kHz 17550–17900 kHz 21450–21850 kHz 25670–26100 kHz
SUBJECT:	Embargo on new frequency assignments to support domestic broadcasting services using DRM technology
DATE OF EFFECT:	18 September 2006 (last revised September 2007)
COVERAGE:	Australia-wide
TIME FRAME:	Ongoing

INSTRUCTIONS

No new assignments are to be made Australia-wide in the frequency bands listed above. This includes assignments for existing licensees seeking to expand or modify their communications systems in the bands.

The frequency requirements of existing licensees of overseas HF broadcasting services will continue to be licensed for those frequencies coordinated in accordance with Article 12 of the *Radio Regulations* of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

Exceptions to this embargo require case-by-case consideration and the approval of the Manager, Spectrum Engineering Section. ACMA will consider licence applications for trials to investigate use of the bands for Digital Radio Mondiale (DRM).

REASONS

The purpose of this embargo is to support planning of the bands to accommodate domestic broadcasting services using DRM technology. ACMA is currently considering international developments of DRM using these bands and needs to preserve the availability of the bands for potential future use by DRM services in Australia.

The bands are embargoed to ensure that ACMA's ability to implement the resulting planning arrangements is not constrained by the use of the bands by

additional radiocommunications services.

COMMENTS

DRM is a digital broadcasting system that has received wide international support, including the development of receivers by international equipment manufacturers and international trials of the technology since 2003. The extent of the developments, trial outcomes, and interest in use of the band for DRM by Australian parties requires ACMA to assess DRM developments and preserve the bands while planning occurs.

Existing ITU arrangements for the bands will need to be considered in light of current interests in the band for DRM.

HISTORY

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

EMBARGO AUTHORISATION:

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27.9.2007

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