

**From:** [Kerry Raymond](#)  
**To:** [Megan Wynn](#)  
**Cc:** [Marlene Edmondson](#)  
**Subject:** FOR CONSIDERATION: Matters to do with the WIA and the Reserve Callsign Policy [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]  
**Date:** Thursday, 14 August 2014 12:19:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image002.jpg](#)  
[image003.jpg](#)  
[image004.jpg](#)  
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Hi Megan

Thanks for your advice.

I have jotted down some comments/thoughts in relation to item 2 for what they are worth. (Apologies if I have got it wrong as I have little background knowledge on this).

I can see that the callsign blocks for WIA, Girl Guides and Scouts have been in place for a long time.

I reviewed Alan Jordan's information paper and he makes no reference to when this arrangement was put in place either.

I can understand why these blocks do not belong on the RCS list which is for offensive callsigns or those of deceased amateurs reserved for a certain period and this RCS list is not published. Therefore I assume that the ACMA would not agree to Phil's request to place this block on the RCS List.

My understanding of what Phil Wait raised at the meeting was that the WIA is paying licence fees so that the WIA can protect access to particular callsigns but that they are not using them.

My understanding from your information about the callsign blocks is that the VK\$WIA-WIZ (WIA), VK\$GGA-GGZ (Guides Australia) and VK\$SAA-SDZ (Scouts) are already effectively "allocated" to these respective organisations. The ACMA would not issue them to others.

So this means that these organisations only have to pay the relevant licence fee for an individual callsign from their allocated block when that organisation wanted to commence using it.

If this is correct, I am not sure why WIA is paying licence fees for callsigns that it is not using if they fall within this block (maybe a historical thing - pre Phil's presidency).

### Question

Does this mean that, in response to Phil's enquiry at the meeting, you could advise Phil that WIA only needs to pay licence fees for those callsigns in the block VK\$WIA-WIZ that it wished to actively use on **an organisational basis**.

Of course, individual members of the WIA should not be given access to any callsigns in this block for their personal use.

## Food for thought

From the ACMA policy perspective, it might be prudent to develop guidelines (if we can't find the originals) for when blocks can be allocated to particular organisations and what criteria would need to be met for the organisations to retain this access.

I am thinking of a "what-if" scenario in relation to the WIA.

"What-if" the WIA was no longer the delegate for issuing certificates of proficiency for amateur radio operators?

Would the ACMA reserve a new block that was relevant to title of its successor organisation? (It might be hard to find a complete block).

In this case, under what circumstances would the WIA's block allocation be retained?

Just my thoughts that I leave you with until October. ☺

Cheers

Kerry

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**From:** Megan Wynn

**Sent:** Wednesday, 13 August 2014 12:25 PM

**To:** Kerry Raymond

**Cc:** Marlene Edmondson

**Subject:** RE: FOR CONSIDERATION: Matters to do with the WIA and the Reserve Callsign Policy  
[SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Kerry,

I'm happy for RLAS to take carriage of item 1. As a starting point, I have sent my suggested changes and comments on the draft policy and process for the RCS list to Phil Wait this morning, which includes the question on whether the WIA would be agreeable to managing and maintaining the RCS list. I will await his response before progressing further.

In relation to item 2, I attempted to convey the fact that certain blocks are set aside in the

callsign templates allocated to amateurs for use by the Guides, Scouts, WIA and International Years. However, I cannot find any documentation that sets out this policy decision and the callsign blocks are not included on the RCS list. Once again if the WIA follows the template set out in the business rules when making a callsign recommendation to the ACMA no-one else should be allocated a callsign in the reserved blocks for the organisations listed above.

Regards,

Megan

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**From:** Kerry Raymond  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 6 August 2014 12:48 PM  
**To:** Megan Wynnink  
**Cc:** Marlene Edmondson  
**Subject:** FOR CONSIDERATION: Matters to do with the WIA and the Reserve Callsign Policy [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Good afternoon Meg,

During the recent meeting with the Wireless Institute of Australia (WIA), a couple of matters arose that may require formal action by the Radiocommunications Licensing and Assignments section (RLAS) in order to finalise them. Both matters relate to Reserved Callsigns.

1. **New policy and process for the Reserve Callsign (RCS) List.**

Marlene Edmondson and I have made some minor edits/comments on the draft RCS List policy and process list for your consideration [See attached version]. Once you are happy with the draft, it can be returned to Phil Wait directly or through PMO, whatever works best. It is anticipated that once the policy and process have been agreed, it will be included in the WIA business rules and/or published on the WIA website. PMO will co-ordinate the ACMA review of the proposed amendments to the BR once received from the WIA.

We understand from your comments in the attached document that RLAS would be comfortable with the WIA taking over the role of managing and maintaining the RCS List. With the policy document still in draft form, it would seem to be an opportune time to explore more widely in the ACMA if this is feasible and appropriate. Once this is known, advice should be sought on how this may impact on the processes. Particular aspects to be explored could include whether:

- a. there are any impediments to handing over the management of the RCS List to the WIA;
- b. particular wording may be required in the process document to clearly articulate the ACMA's role in this matter and the public's right to a review of a WIA RCS List decision (if any); and
- c. the WIA is agreeable to managing and maintaining the RCS List.

I make this suggestion having regard to Radiocommunications Licensing Policy and Allocation Capability Section's recent experience regarding WIA making

recommendations to the ACMA in relation to amateur repeater station licences.

2. **Placing callsigns relevant to the WIA on the RCS List**

At the meeting, the WIA sought advice as to whether the callsigns that it currently pays licence fees for could be placed on the RCS List. My understanding is this would mean that the WIA would not have to pay licence fees until such time as it wanted to use a particular callsign. Others would be prevented from accessing that callsign in the meantime. I am not sure if other not for profit organisations have callsigns on the RCS List or whether they also pay licence fees to ensure access to particular callsigns (I note that the Girl Guides and Scouts are listed in Appendix A to the Business Rules).

Again, I think that this issue would need to be explored more widely within the ACMA to ensure it is feasible and appropriate.

**Way forward**

In order to progress these matters, it may be appropriate for RLAS to consult with the Radiocommunications Licensing Policy and Allocation Capability section in the first instance and then Legal Services Division, and the WIA if changes at to the current arrangements are proposed.

Once any approved changes have been agreed both internally and with the WIA, then the WIA will need to amend the business rules. As the WIA has a number of changes to the business rules it is already working on, it would be helpful if any changes required relevant to these matters could be included in the next revision. PMO staff are hopeful that the WIA will be in a position to table the draft business rules at the next meeting which may be held in late November/early December 2014.

Unfortunately, the PMO section does not have capacity to assist RLAS with this task at this time as I am proceeding on leave from 14<sup>th</sup> August 2014 and will not return until October 2014.

Marlene and I are happy to discuss your preferred approach or else seek your confirmation that RLAS will take carriage of these matters.

Regards

Kerry

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