

Australian Communications and Media Authority

# Proposal to vary the Tamworth radio licence area plan

Consultation paper

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## **Executive summary**

The Australian Communications and Media Authority is seeking comments on the proposed changes to the <u>Licence Area Plan – Tamworth (Radio) August 1998</u> (Tamworth LAP).

We are proposing to vary the Tamworth LAP to:

- > enable the commercial radio broadcasting service 2TM in the Tamworth RA1 licence area to convert transmission from AM to FM
- > make spectrum available for 3 new FM transmitters for the commercial radio broadcasting service 2TM to serve Tamworth, Barraba and Manilla within the Tamworth RA1 licence area (Proposal 1)
- > vary the existing 2TM AM technical specification so that it will cease to have effect 28 days after commencement of the 2TM FM technical specification (Proposal 1)
- > vary the existing 2TTT technical specification to reflect what has been implemented. The proposed amendments to the technical specifications would lower the maximum antenna height and amend the output radiation pattern (Proposal 1)
- > make spectrum available for 2 additional FM transmitters for the commercial radio broadcasting service 2TTT to serve Barraba and Manilla within the Tamworth RA1 licence area (Proposal 1)
- > make spectrum available for an additional FM transmitter for the community radio broadcasting service 2YOU to serve Quirindi within the Tamworth RA2 licence area (Proposal 2)
- > make spectrum available for a new FM transmitter for a national radio broadcasting service to serve Tamworth (Proposal 3)
- > make various minor amendments (Proposal 4).

The draft variation instrument, Variation to Licence Area Plan – Tamworth Radio 2023 (No.1) that would give effect to the proposed changes is available alongside this paper on the ACMA website.

## Issues for comment

We welcome comments from interested stakeholders on the issues raised in this paper, or on any other issues relevant to this proposed LAP variation.

Details on making a submission can be found at *<u>Invitation to comment</u>* at the end of this document.

## Introduction

## Planning broadcasting services

The ACMA's broadcasting planning functions are set out in Part 3 of the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* (the BSA). We promote the objects of the BSA (section 3), including the economic and efficient use of radiofrequency spectrum, and consider the planning criteria set out in section 23 of the BSA. When planning analog broadcasting services, we refer to <u>ACMA's approach to broadcast planning and varying LAPs</u>, which provides an overview of the regulatory framework, policy objectives and planning process for analog broadcasting services.

Under section 26 of the BSA, the ACMA must, by legislative instrument, prepare LAPs that determine the number and characteristics, including technical specifications, of broadcasting services that are to be available in particular areas of Australia. The BSA also provides the ACMA with a discretionary power to vary LAPs.

## **AM-FM** conversions

The ACMA's published guidance entitled <u>Principles for planning AM to FM conversions</u> <u>in regional licence areas</u> (AM-FM conversion principles) inform the way we resolve complex issues regarding AM-FM conversions and infill transmitters for commercial radio broadcasting services.

We will continue to consider and progress current proposals for conversions in noncompetitive markets, while we open the program for conversions in competitive areas so that more listeners can benefit. We expect to finalise the requests in noncompetitive markets that are currently underway and where appropriate spectrum has already been identified.

More information about the <u>AM-FM conversion principles</u> can be found on the ACMA website.

## Overview of the Tamworth LAP

The Tamworth LAP currently determines the licence areas of Tamworth RA1 and Tamworth RA2.

The Tamworth LAP allows for 4 national radio broadcasting services, 2 commercial radio broadcasting services and one open narrowcasting service in within the Tamworth RA1 licence area. The Tamworth LAP also allows for 2 community radio broadcasting services within the Tamworth RA2 licence area. All services serve the Tamworth area.

## Proposal 1: commercial radio – Tamworth RA1 licence area

### Summary

We propose to vary the Tamworth LAP to:

- > Allow the commercial radio broadcasting service 2TM in the Tamworth RA1 licence area to convert transmission from AM to FM.
- Make spectrum available for a new FM transmitter for the commercial radio broadcasting service 2TM to serve Tamworth. The proposed technical specification will permit an FM transmitter to operate on the frequency 95.5 MHz at 20kW maximum effective radiated power (ERP), with a directional antenna (DA) radiation pattern and a maximum antenna height of 40 metres from the Soma Mountain site, Werris Creek.
- Make spectrum available for a new FM infill transmitter for the commercial radio broadcasting service 2TM to serve Manilla. The proposed technical specification will permit an FM transmitter to operate on the frequency 104.5 MHz at 100W ERP, with a DA radiation pattern and a maximum antenna height of 20 metres from the Broadcast site 9 Reservoir Rd, Manilla.
- Make spectrum available for a new FM transmitter for the commercial radio broadcasting service 2TM to serve Barraba. The proposed technical specification will permit an FM transmitter to operate on the frequency 105.3 MHz at 100W ERP, with a DA radiation pattern and a maximum antenna height of 20 metres from the Broadcast site21 Range Street, Barraba.
- > Vary the existing 2TM AM technical specification using the above 2TM FM technical specifications so that it ceases to have effect 28 days after a service commences. This allows a 28-day simulcast period, during which both the AM and FM transmissions may operate. This simulcast period will assist the licensee to inform listeners of the change to its radio service.
- > Vary the existing 2TTT main transmitter technical specifications to reflect what has been implemented. The proposed amendments to the technical specifications would lower the maximum antenna height and amend the output radiation pattern.
- Make spectrum available for an additional FM transmitter for the commercial radio broadcasting service 2TTT to serve Manilla. The proposed technical specification will permit an FM transmitter to operate on the frequency 107.7 MHz at 100W ERP, with a DA radiation pattern and a maximum antenna height of 20 metres from the Broadcast site 9 Reservoir Rd, Manilla.
- Make spectrum available for an additional FM transmitter for the commercial radio broadcasting service 2TTT to serve Barraba. The proposed technical specification will permit an FM transmitter to operate on the frequency 106.1 MHz at 100W ERP, with a DA radiation pattern and a maximum antenna height of 20 metres from the Broadcast site 21 Range Street, Barraba.

We consider that this proposal is an economic and efficient use of spectrum that promotes the objects of the BSA, particularly the availability of a diverse range of radio services and efficient broadcasting planning (paragraphs 3(1)(a) of the BSA). We have taken into account the planning criteria in section 23 of the BSA, especially the number of existing broadcasting services and demand for new services (paragraph

23(c)) and technical restraints relating to the delivery or reception of broadcasting services in the licence area (paragraph 23(e)).

### Background

The Tamworth RA1 licence area includes the city of Tamworth, which is approximately 300 kilometres north of Sydney and approximately 200 kilometres inland from the eastern coast of Australia.

The Tamworth RA1 licence area's northern and eastern border is adjacent to parts of the Remote Commercial Radio Service North East Zone RA1 licence area and its eastern border is adjacent to the Armidale RA1 licence area. The Tamworth RA1 licence area overlaps parts of the Gunnedah RA1 licence area to the west and parts of the Muswellbrook RA1 licence area to the south. We have determined the population of the Tamworth RA1 licence area to be 68,769.<sup>1</sup>

#### Commercial radio broadcasting services in Tamworth

In the Tamworth RA1 licence area, we have planned for the commercial radio broadcasting services of:

- > 2TM, with an AM transmitter serving Tamworth
- > 2TTT, with an FM transmitter serving Tamworth.

Both these planned services in the Tamworth RA1 licence area are licensed to Tamworth Radio Development Co Pty Ltd (a subsidiary of Super Radio Network).

The AM transmitter for the 2TM service is planned to operate on 1297 kHz, with a maximum cymomotive force (CMF) of 630 V and an omnidirectional antenna (OD) radiation pattern. The nominal location of the transmitter is at Tamworth 8Km S of Bridge, which serves the Tamworth area.

The FM transmitter for the 2TTT service is planned to operate on 92.9 MHz, with an ERP of 20 kW, a DA radiation pattern and an antenna height of 70 metres. The nominal location of the transmitter is PCCC site MT Soma near Tamworth, which serves the Tamworth area. The name of the broadcasting site has been renamed to 'Broadcast Operations Tower Soma Mountain WERRIS CREEK'; we propose to vary the LAP to reflect this.

### AM–FM conversion of the 2TM service

#### Eligibility for AM–FM conversion of 2TM service

The ACMA's published guidance, <u>Principles for planning AM to FM conversions in</u> <u>regional licence areas</u> (the AM-FM conversion principles) states that we will progress current proposals for conversions in non-competitive markets that are currently underway and where appropriate spectrum has already been identified. Conversion of the 2TM service to the FM frequency spectrum is consistent with these AM-FM conversion principles.

#### Coverage analysis of 2TM service

Coverage modelling shows that the 2TM AM transmitter will provide daytime coverage to 100% of the population of the Tamworth RA1 licence area.<sup>2</sup> Coverage will also

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Section 30 of the BSA provides that the ACMA, having regard to the census data prepared by the ABS, may determine the population of a licence area. The ACMA last determined the population of the Tamworth RA1 licence area in 2021 to be 68,769, using 2016 Census population data.

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  Population figures are estimated using the AM > 0.5 mV/m contour, the Tamworth RA1 licence area boundary and 2016 Census data.

extend beyond the licence area boundary into adjacent licence areas (see 'Overspill analysis').

The combined predicted coverage loss for all 3 of the proposed 2TM FM transmitters within the Tamworth RA1 licence area is predicted to affect between approximately 1,370 and 4,130 people<sup>3</sup>, or between approximately 2% and 6% of the population currently served by the 2TM AM radio broadcasting service within the Tamworth RA1 licence area.

Coverage loss is predicted to increase when considering potential interference, affecting between approximately 3,440 and 6,190 people<sup>4</sup>, or between approximately 5% and 9% of the same population. The affected population is scattered throughout the Tamworth RA1 licence area.

The ACMA recognises the potential coverage loss of this proposed AM to FM conversion could be significant. However, due to the dispersed nature of the predicted coverage loss, an additional FM transmitter for the 2TM service would not address this concern, but other technical solutions may be useful to explore with the licensee. The ACMA welcomes any comment on this issue.

#### **Overspill analysis**

Analysis of the predicted signal overspill from the proposed 2TM FM transmitters indicates there will be less overspill into adjacent licence areas when compared with existing AM overspill.

Coverage modelling shows that the proposed 2TM FM transmitters are predicted to overspill to between approximately 130 and 450 people<sup>5</sup> in the Armidale RA1 licence area, which will be a significant reduction when compared to the AM overspill of approximately 5,720 people in the same licence area.<sup>6</sup> Less overspill is expected for the Remote Commercial North East Zone RA1 licence area, with overspill predicted to reach between approximately 310 and 390 people<sup>7</sup>, compared to the AM overspill of approximately 630 people.<sup>8</sup>

Less overspill is also predicted for the Gunnedah RA1 and Muswellbrook RA1 licence areas, which both partially overlap the Tamworth RA1 licence area. Coverage modelling shows that, excluding the areas that overlap, the proposed 2TM FM transmitters are predicted to overspill to between approximately 9,370 and 10,930 people<sup>9</sup> in the Gunnedah RA1 licence area, which will be a reduction compared to the AM overspill of approximately 12,984 people.<sup>10</sup> The township of Gunnedah with a population of 7,984 people<sup>11</sup> is on the boundary of the Tamworth RA1 licence area and most of the predicted overspill would occur in this one location. The same modelling shows that, excluding the areas that overlap, overspill is predicted to reach between approximately 210 and 270 people<sup>12</sup> within the Muswellbrook RA1 licence area, which is also a reduction compared to the AM overspill of approximately 1,174 people.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> ITU 1546-1 and CRC Predict respectively.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> ITU 1546-1 and CRC Predict respectively.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> ITU 1546-1 and CRC Predict respectively.

 $<sup>^{6}</sup>$  Population figures are estimated using the AM > 0.5 mV/m contour and 2016 Census data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> CRC Predict and ITU 1546-1 respectively.

 $<sup>^{8}</sup>$  Population figures are estimated using the AM > 0.5 mV/m contour and 2016 Census data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> ITU 1546-1 and CRC Predict respectively.

 $<sup>^{10}</sup>$  Population figures are estimated using the AM > 0.5 mV/m contour and 2016 Census data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Gunnedah - Urban Centres and Localities – 2016 census.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> CRC Predict and ITU 1546-1 respectively.

 $<sup>^{13}</sup>$  Population figures are estimated using the AM > 0.5 mV/m contour and 2016 Census data.

We consider the amount of predicted overspill that will result from converting the 2TM commercial broadcasting service to be a necessary consequence of serving the Tamworth RA1 licence area. The <u>ACMA's approach to broadcast planning and varying licence area plans</u> states that the ACMA does not afford planning protection to fortuitous reception. We note there may be some people in neighbouring licence areas who may lose fortuitous reception of the 2TM service.

#### Interference analysis

The proposed 2TM main transmitter operating on 95.5 MHz serving the Tamworth area is predicted to receive interference from other broadcasting services that may affect between approximately 2,490 and 3,040 people.<sup>14</sup>

There is potential for co-channel interference to the 4RBL Yelarbon commercial service. Predictions indicate that between approximately 40 and 70 people may suffer interference to the reception of the 4RBL Yelarbon transmission where the signal levels exceed 54 dBuV/m. Interference may occur on the periphery of the 4RBL coverage, however, the Yelarbon township is not predicted to receive interference.

There is potential for adjacent channel interference to the 2TRR Coolah community service. Predictions indicate that between approximately 20 and 25 people may suffer interference to the reception of the 2TRR Coolah transmission where the signal levels exceed the protected signal level of 66 dBuV/m within the Dunedoo RA1 licence area. However, engineering analysis predicts patchy coverage in Coolah that is interference free.

There is potential for adjacent channel interference to a high-power open narrowcasting (HPON) service planned in the Gunnedah area. Predictions indicate that between approximately 80 and 330 people within the coverage radius (100 kilometres) area served) may suffer interference where the signal levels exceed the signal level of 54 dBuV/m.<sup>15</sup> This interference, if it were to occur, is not predicted to affect listeners in Gunnedah.

There is potential for adjacent channel interference to the current retransmission of the 2YOU community service at Quirindi on 96.3 MHz. This is why Proposal 2 plans an equivalent service on the frequency 99.5 MHz, which would replace the current retransmission.

The proposed 2TM additional transmitters serving Manilla and Barraba have a low potential to cause interference. However, as there is a risk of these transmissions receiving interference within 54 dBuV/m contour, we propose protecting these services to the 66 dBuV/m contour.

### Varying the 2TTT service

The 2TTT service has one FM transmitter planned to operate on 92.9 MHz, with an ERP of 20 kW with an DA radiation pattern from the nominal location of PCCC site MT Soma near Tamworth, at an antenna height of 70 metres. The name of the broadcasting site has been renamed to 'Broadcast Operations Tower Soma Mountain WERRIS CREEK'; we propose to vary the LAP technical specification to reflect this change.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Aggregate figures predicted within the 0.5 mV/m AM contour and the Tamworth RA1 licence area using ITU 1546-1 and CRC Predict respectively. Potential for co-channel and adjacent channel interference between 569 people (CRC Predict) and 1,654 people (ITU 1546-1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> CRC Predict and ITU 1546-1 respectively.

We are proposing that the technical specification for the 2TTT transmitter serving the Tamworth area be varied to reflect the actual implementation by the broadcaster. The changes proposed are a reduction in transmitter antenna height from 70 to 40 metres and an amended antenna radiation pattern. These proposed changes would be identical to the technical specifications proposed for the 2TM FM transmitter that serves the same area. The licensee has requested 2 additional transmitters to serve Manilla and Barraba with similar technical specifications as those proposed for the 2TM service.

#### Coverage, overspill and interference analysis of the proposed 2TTT service

It is predicted that the overall coverage within the Tamworth RA1 licence area of the 2TTT service would increase if the 2 proposed additional transmitters are implemented. Interference-free coverage would be similar to the proposed 2TM FM transmitters discussed within this consultation paper, and overspill is only expected to increase marginally around the Barraba coverage extension transmitter in the immediate surrounds of the town.

Interference analysis predicts that the proposed 2TTT additional transmitters operating on 107.7 MHz serving Manilla and 106.1 MHz serving Barraba have a low potential to cause interference. However, as there is a risk of these frequencies receiving interference within 54 dBuV/m contour, we propose protecting these services to the 66dBuV/m contour.

### **Preliminary view**

We consider the proposal to vary the Tamworth LAP to convert the commercial radio broadcasting service 2TM to the FM frequency spectrum, vary the technical specification of the commercial radio broadcasting service 2TTT and to make spectrum available for additional transmitters for both the 2TM and 2TTT commercial radio broadcasting services at Manilla and Barraba to be an efficient and effective use of spectrum. The proposal promotes the objects of the BSA, especially paragraph 3(1)(a), by continuing to provide a significant proportion of the population of Tamworth and surrounding areas with a diverse range of radio services. We consider that the proposals are consistent with the AM-FM conversion principles.

The draft Variation to Licence Area Plan – Tamworth Radio 2022 (No.1) is available alongside this paper on the <u>ACMA website</u>.

## Proposal 2: community radio – Tamworth

### Summary

We propose to vary the Tamworth LAP to make spectrum available for an additional FM transmitter for the community radio broadcasting service 2YOU to serve Quirindi within the Tamworth RA2 licence area. The proposed technical specification will permit an FM transmitter to operate on the frequency 99.5 MHz at 150W ERP, with an omnidirectional antenna radiation pattern and a maximum antenna height of 30 metres from the council site, Who-Da-Thought-It Lookout, Quirindi.

We consider that this proposal is an economic and efficient use of spectrum that promotes the objects of the BSA, particularly the availability of a diverse range of radio services and efficient broadcasting planning (paragraphs 3(1)(a) and (b) of the BSA). We have taken into account the planning criteria in section 23 of the BSA, especially the number of existing broadcasting services and demand for new services (paragraph 23(c)) and technical restraints relating to the delivery or reception of broadcasting services in the licence area (paragraph 23(e)).

## Background

#### Community radio broadcasting services in Tamworth

In the Tamworth RA2 licence area, we have planned for 2 community broadcasting services: the 2YOU community radio broadcasting services licensed to Tamworth Broadcasting Society Inc and the 2HIM community radio broadcasting service licensed to RHEMA FM Tamworth Inc. Both services have FM transmitters that are planned to operate with a maximum ERP of 1kW with a DA antenna radiation pattern. The nominal location of both transmitters is Signal One Communications site, Bald Hill, Tamworth and both serve the Tamworth area.

The Tamworth RA2 licence area covers the city of Tamworth and township of Manilla to the north and townships of Werris Creek, Quirindi and Nundle to the south. The Tamworth RA2 licence area shares a small portion of its border with the Gunnedah RA2 licence area and overlaps parts of the Muswellbrook RA2 licence area to the south west. We estimate the population of the Tamworth RA2 licence area to be approximately 59,100 people.<sup>16</sup>

## Infill transmitter for the 2YOU community radio broadcasting service

The Liverpool Plains Shire Council currently retransmits the 2YOU community radio broadcasting service at Quirindi on frequency 96.3 MHz with 150W ERP, and an omnidirectional antenna radiation pattern at a maximum height of 30 metres from the council site, Who-Da-Thought-It Lookout, Quirindi.

The licensee for the 2YOU community radio broadcasting service has previously requested the ACMA to vary the Tamworth LAP to address deficient signal in the lower parts of the Tamworth RA2 licence area.

To address some of the coverage deficiencies within the Tamworth RA2 licence area, we have developed a proposal for an additional FM transmitter operating on frequency

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Based on 2016 Census data.

99.5 MHz with 150W effective radiated power, and an omnidirectional antenna radiation pattern at a maximum height of 30 metres from the council site, Who-Da-Thought-It Lookout, Quirindi. This service would need to be planned on an interference-limited basis.

Planning for a transmitter in the LAP removes the need for the Liverpool Plains Shire Council's current retransmission of the 2YOU service at Quirindi, while formally securing a technical specification to enable 2YOU to provide equivalent coverage to the current retransmission within its licence area. As discussed in Proposal 1, it is necessary to change the frequency of the Quirindi transmitter from 96.3 MHz to 99.5 MHz because of potential for interference from the newly planned 2TM FM transmitter.

This proposal would assist the Quirindi community to continue to receive local content, while promoting the diversity of broadcasting services within the area. The proposal is consistent with the planning criteria and objects of the BSA, and the ACMA's stated priorities and polices.

#### Coverage, overspill and interference analysis

Coverage modelling shows that the proposed transmitter at Quirindi would provide coverage to approximately 2,530 people<sup>17</sup> within the Tamworth RA2 licence area. The proposed transmitter is predicted to provide adequate coverage to the Quirindi area.

An analysis of the predicted signal overspill indicates there will be overspill into adjacent licence areas. Overspill is predicted to be received by approximately 1,190 people within the Gunnedah RA1 licence area, approximately 190 people within the Gunnedah RA2 licence area and approximately 110 people within the Muswellbrook RA1 licence area.<sup>18</sup> This predicted level of overspill is consistent with the current retransmission of the 2YOU service at Quirindi. This overspill is because Quirindi is located on the Tamworth RA2 licence area boundary and any transmission will overspill into adjacent licence areas. There is residential population in the immediate surrounds of Quirindi in the adjacent licence areas, however, we consider that this overspill is a necessary consequence of serving the Tamworth RA2 licence area.

There is potential for the 2YOU infill transmitter to receive interference to field strengths above the rural grade level of 54 dBuV/m. Therefore, we propose that the service is planned on an interference-limited basis.

## **Preliminary view**

We consider the proposal to plan a new transmitter for the community radio broadcasting service 2YOU planned in the Tamworth RA2 licence area to be an efficient and effective use of spectrum. The proposal promotes the objects of the BSA, especially paragraph 3(1)(a), by continuing to provide a significant proportion of the population of Tamworth and surrounding areas with a diverse range of radio services.

The draft variation to Licence Area Plan – Tamworth Radio 2022 (No.1) is available alongside this paper on the <u>ACMA website</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> ITU 1546-1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> ITU 1546-1

## Proposal 3: national radio – Tamworth

### Summary

We propose to vary the Tamworth LAP to make spectrum available for a new FM transmitter for the ABC national radio broadcasting service 2PNN to serve Tamworth. The proposed technical specification will permit an FM transmitter to operate on the frequency 91.7 MHz at 10kW ERP, with a directional antenna radiation pattern and a maximum antenna height of 65 metres from the Prime site, Soma Mountain.

We consider that this proposal is an economic and efficient use of spectrum that promotes the objects of the BSA, particularly the availability of a diverse range of radio services and efficient broadcasting planning (paragraphs 3(1)(a) and (b) of the BSA). We have taken into account the planning criteria in section 23 of the BSA, especially the number of existing broadcasting services and demand for new services (paragraph 23(c)).

## Background

### National radio broadcasting services in Tamworth

The Tamworth LAP allows for 4 national radio broadcasting services that serve Tamworth and surrounds. A fifth service has been providing the ABC News Radio program to Tamworth for many years. The proposal seeks to formally plan the technical specification that has been providing this service.

National services are not planned within licence areas; therefore, we have no concerns regarding overspill. As this transmission was originally planned by the ACMA as part of the Australia-wide ABC News Radio (Call sign PNN) rollout and has been operating for a number of years without any known interference complaints, we have no concerns regarding interference to, or caused by, this transmission.

## **Preliminary view**

We consider the proposal to plan a new transmitter for the ABC national radio broadcasting service to serve Tamworth to be an efficient and effective use of spectrum. The proposal promotes the objects of the BSA, especially paragraph 3(1)(a), by continuing to provide a significant proportion of the population of Tamworth and surrounding areas with a diverse range of radio services.

The draft variation to Licence Area Plan – Tamworth Radio 2022 (No.1) is available alongside this paper on the <u>ACMA website</u>.

## Proposal 4: minor amendments

We propose to make the following minor amendments to the text, schedules and attachments of the Tamworth LAP:

- > Amend the title of the Tamworth LAP.
- > Reorder and retitle certain attachments to follow a consistent naming convention and to group national and commercial services.
- > Insert Attachment 1.4A, which formally provides a technical specification for a national radio broadcasting service serving the Tamworth area.
- Remove the minimum level of service requirements special condition from attachments 1.8, 2.3 and 2.4 as they are no longer relevant.
- Remove Attachment 2.2, which is not in use and has been replaced by a new technical specification provided at Attachment 2.3 in accordance with the special condition. Attachment 2.3 will also be retitled Attachment 2.2.
- > Vary the output radiation pattern in attachments 1.8, 2.2 and 2.4 to remove an ERP restriction in the direction of 177°. These restrictions were planned to protect off-air input feeds for analog television services that are no longer operating.
- > Update the names of various transmitter site nominal locations to reflect the current names of these sites.
- Update all site coordinates to latitude and longitude format using the Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994 (GDA94).
- > Update nominal coordinates to better represent the infrastructure at the planned nominal site. These amendments will not affect the operation of services.
- > Make consequential amendments to schedules as a result of amendments to the attachments.
- > Make formatting changes to various attachments.

The draft Variation to Licence Area Plan – Tamworth Radio 2022 (No.1) is available alongside this paper on the <u>ACMA website</u>.

## Invitation to comment

### Making a submission

We invite comments on the issues set out in this consultation paper.

- Online submissions can be made by uploading a document. Submissions in PDF, Microsoft Word or Rich Text Format are preferred.
- > Submissions by post can be sent to:

The Manager Broadcast Carriage Policy Section Australian Communications and Media Authority PO Box 78 Belconnen ACT 2616

The closing date for submissions is COB, Friday 27 January 2023.

Consultation enquiries can be emailed to BCP@acma.gov.au.

#### Publication of submissions

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