Addendum

Proposal to vary the Tamworth licence area plan – consultation 41/2022

July 2023

Canberra

Red Building
Benjamin Offices
Chan Street
Belconnen ACT

PO Box 78
Belconnen ACT 2616

T +61 2 6219 5555
F +61 2 6219 5353

Melbourne

Level 32
Melbourne Central Tower
360 Elizabeth Street
Melbourne VIC

PO Box 13112
Law Courts
Melbourne VIC 8010

T +61 3 9963 6800
F +61 3 9963 6899

Sydney

Level 5
The Bay Centre
65 Pirrama Road
Pyrmont NSW

PO Box Q500
Queen Victoria Building
NSW 1230

T +61 2 9334 7700 or 1800 226 667
F +61 2 9334 7799

Copyright notice



<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

With the exception of coats of arms, logos, emblems, images, other third-party material or devices protected by a trademark, this content is made available under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0) licence.

We request attribution as © Commonwealth of Australia (Australian Communications and Media Authority) 2023.

All other rights are reserved.

The Australian Communications and Media Authority has undertaken reasonable enquiries to identify material owned by third parties and secure permission for its reproduction. Permission may need to be obtained from third parties to re-use their material.

Written enquiries may be sent to:

Manager, Editorial Services
PO Box 13112
Law Courts
Melbourne VIC 8010
Email: info@acma.gov.au

Summary

In December 2022, the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) released a consultation paper regarding proposed changes to the [Licence Area Plan – Tamworth (Radio) August 1998](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2005B00629) (Tamworth LAP).

The consultation paper and draft instrument proposed a maximum antenna height of 40 m for the main transmitters of both 2TM and 2TTT commercial radio broadcasting services as part of an AM–FM conversion. The proposed maximum antenna height should have been 46 m.

We have conducted further engineering assessments and confirm that there is negligible difference between coverage, overspill and interference risk to details provided in the consultation paper. Specific findings are summarised below:

The combined coverage loss as a percentage of the Tamworth RA1 population remains consistent with the consultation paper. However, the underlying prediction modelling presents slightly different figures with an increase of approximately
100 people using the ITU 15461-1 model and decrease by approximately
130 people using the CRC predict model.

Overspill is predicted to increase by up to approximately 40 additional people in the Armidale RA1 licence area, and up to approximately 110 additional people within the Gunnedah RA1 licence area. However, this overspill remains a reduction when compared to AM overspill. There is no change to overspill figures to the Remote Commercial Radio Service North East Zone RA1 licence area.

Interference to the 2TM main transmitter is predicted to reduce by approximately 120 people using the ITU 15461-1 model and increase by approximately
110 people using the CRC predict model.

There is a very minor increase to interference caused to the high-power open narrowcasting (HPON) service that serves Gunnedah, affecting less than
20 additional people.

There are no other predicted effects resulting from the increased antenna height.

The draft variation instrument, Variation to Licence Area Plan – Tamworth Radio
2023 (No.1), which would give effect to the proposed changes, has been modified
and is available alongside this paper on the consultation web page. Specific modifications are:

Attachment 1.6 ‘maximum antenna height’ will increase from 40 m to 46 m.

Attachment 1.7A ‘maximum antenna height’ will increase from 40 m to 46 m.

# Invitation to comment

## Making a submission

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

[Online submissions](https://www.acma.gov.au/have-your-say) 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,** **Wednesday 26 July**.

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

#### Publication of submissions

We publish submissions on our website, including personal information (such as names and contact details), except for information that you have claimed (and we have accepted) is confidential.

Confidential information will not be published or otherwise released unless required or authorised by law.

#### Privacy

View information about our policy on the [publication of submissions](https://www.acma.gov.au/publication-submissions), including collection of personal information during consultation and how we handle that information.

Information on the *Privacy Act 1988,* how to access or correct personal information, how to make a privacy complaint and how we will deal with any complaints, is available in our [privacy policy](https://www.acma.gov.au/privacy-policy).