**Implementation of proposed changes to apparatus licence pricing**

Consultation paper

AUGUST 2023

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# Introduction

The ACMA consulted on [apparatus licence pricing structure reform proposals](https://www.acma.gov.au/consultations/2023-03/proposed-changes-apparatus-licence-pricing-structures) in March through to the end of April 2023 (the March consultation). In summary, the reforms consulted on included:

a decrease in the tax rate for television outside broadcasting network (TOBN) licences

making annual adjustments to apparatus licence tax based on changes in population rather than inflation

proposing to develop a work program to consider a range of interference protection pricing measures and changes to the application of the low- or micro-power discounts.

The ACMA received 11 submissions. This paper outlines the outcomes of the consultation and commences a consultation on the proposed tax rates to apply adjustments to changes in population rather than consumer price index (CPI) adjustments.

# Issues for comment

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

### Question 1

Do you have any comments on the proposed update to apparatus licence taxes in reference to changes in geography-specific population as outlined in Table 1 and Appendix A?

# Response to submissions

## TOBN licence tax rate

### Proposal outlined in the March consultation

Under the proposal outlined in the March consultation, the TOBN licence tax rate was proposed to be reduced from $415,889 per annum to $211,701 per annum. The proposal was put forward to better align pricing as a consequence of previous changes that reduced location weightings for the parts of the spectrum between 5.0 and 8.5 GHz, and between 8.5 GHz and 14.5 GHz, by 50% and 90%, respectively.

### Feedback received

We received one submission which supported the proposal. The submission requested the changes be made promptly, to ensure that some TOBN licensees are not disproportionately disadvantaged prior to the renewal of their licences in late September 2023.

### ACMA response

The ACMA recently made the Radiocommunications (Transmitter Licence Tax) Amendment Determination 2023 (No 2.) to reduce the TOBN licence tax rate as proposed.

## Proposed adjustments to apparatus licence tax rates

### Proposal outlined in the March consultation

Most rates of apparatus licence tax are calculated by reference to, among other things, the location of the relevant radiocommunications device authorised by the licence in a particular ‘density area’. The rates are set by the ACMA on the basis of a pricing formula that includes a ‘normalisation factor’.

Historically, apparatus licence tax rates have been adjusted annually in-line with increases (or decreases) to the consumer price index (CPI). This is done by increasing (or decreasing) the normalisation factor, which converts the relative spectrum values provided by the rest of the administrative tax formula to a dollar figure.

In the March consultation, the ACMA proposed that future changes to the normalisation factor would be made in-line with population growth in the density areas. This is because CPI updates are general in nature, and do not reflect potential changes in spectrum demand for the specific density areas. More details are available in the March consultation paper.

### Feedback received

The ACMA received 9 submissions with regard to this proposal. All submissions supported the proposal, but 2 noted some issues for the ACMA to consider in its implementation of the proposal.

One submission supported the changes, but noted that moving to a population-based approach could lead to tax increases in medium- and high-density areas being ‘excessively’ high. The submission noted that, on average, population growth was below that of CPI.

One submission raised concerns with how the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) rebases its population figures and how that may impact taxes on an ongoing basis. The ABS divides Australia into geographical areas to determine population, including what is known as ‘Significant Urban Areas’. As geographic areas change, new geographic areas are incorporated into the ABS data set (for example, Byron Bay has been added in the latest set while Melton in Melbourne has been removed). If a licensee’s licence covers one of these areas the submitter was concerned with how these changes will be applied and the tax impacts on licensees when the ABS updates its geographic areas.

### ACMA response

Given the general support for the proposal, we are further consulting on the application of the proposal.

The ACMA will use 102 Significant Urban Areas (SUAs) divided into density areas, state and HPON areas to track population growth and calculate apparatus licence taxes. The ACMA will undertake periodic updates whenever the ABS updates the SUA dataset, as has previously been done with the application of the CPI method. Where these areas are changed or the populations are rebased, we expect generally similar population growth rates to the ABS estimates even if the original estimated population is different to the observed population.

The ACMA takes note of the request for updates to the tax rate to be done consistently at the same time of the year, for example, EOFY/Q4 annually. The ACMA considers adopting a common-sense timing will provide predictability for licensees. We will consider the best timing of the annual adjustments after considering feedback to this consultation and make an announcement in Q4 2023.

## Interference protection pricing and expansion of low- and micro-powered discounts

### Proposal outlined in the March consultation

In the March consultation, the ACMA proposed developing a work program to consider introducing ‘interference protection pricing’ for receivers and potentially expanding the existing low- and micro-power discounts to tax rates for certain licences. Interference pricing protection aims to better incentivise efficient use of spectrum by reflecting the spectrum denial of a receiver and providing incentives for receiver licensees to reduce their protection footprint.

### Feedback received

The ACMA received 8 submissions regarding interference pricing protection, with 2 interested in exploring the idea, and 6 opposed to, or cautious about, its introduction.

Three of the 6 respondents opposed to its introduction were wary of higher prices in relation to receivers which require larger protection footprints. The other 3 were concerned with potential interference of apparatus licensed devices to neighbouring spectrum licences in geographic or frequency adjacent spectrum bands.

One submitter noted interest in exploring interference protection pricing for point-to-point and public telecommunications service licences. Another was interested in exploring pricing arrangements for high-power and low-power open narrowcasting licences.

In relation to the expansion of the low- and micro-power discounts, the ACMA received 3 submissions. One submitter believed that there is enough market pressure on operators to reduce the cost of equipment and power consumption, so that extending the power discounts is redundant. Another noted that low-power and micro-power discounts currently apply in limited circumstances and considered these to be appropriate; further consideration should be given to the impact on existing spectrum-licensed services and the potential impact of the additional cost on licensees to manage interference before extending the discounts.

### ACMA response

While we see the proposals may in some instances lead to reductions in apparatus licence tax rates, we note the concerns that some stakeholders have raised about the proposals.

Pricing of high-power open narrowcasting licences based on actual coverage is not consistent with the approach to other licences used for broadcasting and narrowcasting services, would be complex to introduce, and would have marginal utility. As most low-power open narrowcasting licences are taxed at, or close to, the minimum annual tax rate, we see limited utility in considering further discounts. As such we will not be pursuing these suggestions.

We still see merit in exploring a pricing regime that offers discounts for receiver licences that involve protection areas with smaller, more targeted footprints and will seek opportunities to pursue interference protection pricing where we consider it appropriate. Similarly, we see merit in considering, where appropriate, the expansion of the low- and micro-power discounts. We intend to pursue these matters, where appropriate, as part of individual planning, licensing or pricing reviews where the ACMA and stakeholders can consider the matters in detail.

## General comments on the apparatus licence tax regime

### Proposal outlined in the March consultation

In the March consultation, the ACMA invited submitters to comment and make suggestions on the ACMA’s apparatus licence tax structure. Responses varied from broad requests to specific feedback.

### Feedback received

One submission critiqued the ACMA’s use of an opportunity cost recovery model. The submission suggested that the ACMA move to a direct cost recovery model.

With regards to satellite services, one respondent pointed out that the ACMA has set relatively high taxes for licences for satellite-based services, when compared to other jurisdictions. While the respondent acknowledged licences above 5 GHz have had a significant reduction in tax rates, they made note of C-band tax rates being relatively high.

One submitter commented about the administrative burden for the television outside broadcasting (TOB) industry when considering sharing between mobile satellite services (MSS) and TOB operations and the need for a fee discount reflective of this burden.

Another submission raised the suggestion to introduce penalties for users who engage in ’spectrum squatting’.

### ACMA response

The ACMA aims to provide pricing structures that incentivise efficient use of spectrum, and higher tax rates in some parts of the band reflect higher demand and are designed to encourage uptake in less congested (and therefore less expensive) parts of the band. As noted in the [draft Five-year spectrum outlook](https://www.acma.gov.au/consultations/2023-03/draft-five-year-spectrum-outlook-2023-28), the ACMA is planning to conduct reviews into tax rates for services below 5 GHz, as well as ongoing proposals to reflect updates in licensing and planning arrangements. For example, as part of the recent consultation process associated with the allocation of area-wide licences in the 3.8 GHz to 3.95 GHz band, the ACMA proposed setting tax rates for services in the 4 GHz to 4.2 GHz band at the minimum annual tax.

Currently, the ACMA is working on arrangements to support the introduction of 2 GHz MSS in 1980–2010/2170–2200 MHz band. Arrangements for narrowband MSS in 2005–2010/2195–2200 MHz have already been introduced and TOB services are clearing the band under a staged arrangement.[[1]](#footnote-2) There is no requirement for TOB operators to undertake coordination with MSS operators in these bands.

In the 2025–2110/2200–2300 MHz bands, spectrum planning arrangements[[2]](#footnote-3) are intended to support long-term certainty of access to spectrum for TOB services, along with support for earth stations in certain locations (for example, New Norcia, Tidbinbilla, and Mingenew), fixed point-to-point links and aeronautical mobile telemetry services operated by the Department of Defence. Additional earth stations are considered on a case-by-case basis in accordance with [Spectrum Embargo 23](https://www.acma.gov.au/current-and-past-spectrum-embargoes). As part of this process, potential earth station applicants are advised to seek the views of existing TOB licensees. How TOB licensees consider such requests is a matter for the licensee. It is not uncommon for there to be a need to seek the views of existing licensees as part of the licence application process.

The ACMA considers there is little justification for introducing penalties for ‘spectrum squatting’. Pricing structures designed to incentivise efficient use of spectrum should already assist in providing a disincentive for spectrum squatting. The ACMA also considers suggestions relating to spectrum use matters like spectrum squatting are better considered in the context of specific allocation, licensing and/or planning initiatives where the use issues can be considered in the context of the particular band and relevant licence obligations.

# Proposed adjustments to apparatus licence tax rates

The ACMA plans to update annual apparatus licence taxes in line with the population update methods we elaborated on in our [March consultation paper](https://www.acma.gov.au/consultations/2023-03/proposed-changes-apparatus-licence-pricing-structures). These changes are detailed below. As noted earlier in this paper, we will consider the best timing of the annual adjustments after considering feedback to this consultation and make an announcement in Q4 2023.

## Methodology

Apparatus licence taxes are derived by multiplying a number of weight-based measures, including a normalisation factor that converts the relative spectrum values into a dollar figure. This normalisation factor was previously updated annually in-line with CPI.

In the March consultation, we proposed to:

remove the link between the normalisation factor and adjustments to CPI

introduce unique normalisation factors for high, medium, low and remote-density areas and Australia-wide which are linked to adjustments in population. The density area a radiocommunications device is in affects the rate of tax imposed in relation to the licence for that device

adjust each normalisation factor annually on a more granular level by changes in area-specific population for each density area

use the ABS dataset ‘Population estimates by significant urban areas’ to track annual changes in area-specific population.

### Dataset information

Significant Urban Areas (SUAs) are a geographic statistical construct of the ABS that divides the population of Australia into urban centres or groups of urban centres. They classify the Australian population as belonging to one of 110 SUAs. Further information about [SUAs](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/standards/australian-statistical-geography-standard-asgs-edition-3/jul2021-jun2026/significant-urban-areas-urban-centres-and-localities-section-state/significant-urban-areas) can be found on the ABS website.

The dataset we intend to use to generate the new tax figures is the ABS’s ‘Population estimates by LGA, Significant Urban Area, Remoteness Area and electoral division, 2001 to 2022‘, which can be found and downloaded on the [ABS website](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/regional-population/latest-release). The latest dataset was released on 20 April 2023, and we plan to make annual adjustments using this dataset as the reference point.

Annual adjustments to the normalisation factor for a particular density area will take into account population changes in the SUAs that fall within that density area.

### Updated SUA information

From time to time the ABS will change its figures for SUAs. It may, for example, ‘redistrict’ areas into different SUAs, add and remove SUAs, and rebase its data based on new information. The latest dataset from the ABS, for example, makes minor adjustments and retroactively adjusts their previous estimates of populations for an SUA based on the new areas defined in the SUA. For example, the newest dataset has added Byron Bay, Medowie, Castlemaine and Airlie Beach – Cannonvale as new SUAs and removed Parkes, Melton and Yanchep as compared to the previous dataset that we considered in the March consultation. These changes are detailed on the [ABS website](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/standards/australian-statistical-geography-standard-asgs-edition-3/jul2021-jun2026/significant-urban-areas-urban-centres-and-localities-section-state/significant-urban-areas#:~:text=Population%20(ERP).-,SUA%20design%20criteria,to%20be%20Significant%20Urban%20Areas.). This new population data was taken into consideration and used to calculate the tax rates set out later in this paper. The updated SUAs are summarised in Appendix A in this paper.

### New normalisation figures

The ACMA uses estimated population growth in SUAs to adjust for new normalisation factors for each density area. The new normalisation factors used in our calculations are as follows:

New normalisation figures

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Area** | **Current normalisation factor** | **New normalisation  factor** | **Percentage change** |
| Australia-wide | 0.28209675121524 | 0.285450017567770 | 1.19% |
| High density | 0.28209675121524 | 0.285564174833830 | 1.23% |
| Medium density | 0.28209675121524 | 0.285989601746197 | 1.38% |
| Low density | 0.28209675121524 | 0.285161444692269 | 1.09% |
| Remote density | 0.28209675121524 | 0.284710126194149 | 0.93% |

The ACMA intends to use these new factors to calculate the tax rates for apparatus licences, where the rates depend on the density areas.

Our proposed updates to tax rates are in Appendix B for most transmitter and receiver licences.

## Minimum tax

The ACMA proposes to increase the minimum tax amount from $41.37 to $41.86.

### Question 1

Do you have any comments on the proposed update to apparatus licence taxes in reference to changes in geography-specific population as outlined in Table 1 and Appendix A?

# 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

Economics Advisory

Australian Communications and Media Authority

PO Box 13112 Law Courts

Melbourne Victoria 8010

The closing date for submissions is **COB, 28 September 2023**.

Consultation enquiries can be emailed to [spectrumpricing@acma.gov.au](mailto:spectrumpricing@acma.gov.au).

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# Appendix A: List of Significant Urban Areas with changes

**Key: Highlighted – new SUAs**

**Red and crossed out – removed SUAs**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **High-density area**  Central Coast  Sydney  Wollongong  Bacchus Marsh  Geelong  Gisborne  Melbourne  Brisbane  Gold Coast - Tweed Heads | **Low-density area (cont.)**  ~~Parkes~~  Port Macquarie  Singleton  St Georges Basin - Sanctuary Point  Tamworth  Taree  Ulladulla  Wagga Wagga  Not in any Significant Urban Area (Vic.)  Bairnsdale  Ballarat  Bendigo  Castlemaine  Colac  Echuca - Moama  Horsham  ~~Melton~~  Mildura - Buronga  Moe - Newborough  Portland  Sale  Shepparton - Mooroopna  Swan Hill  Traralgon - Morwell  Wangaratta  Warragul - Drouin  Warrnambool  Airlie Beach - Cannonvale  Bundaberg  Cairns  Emerald  Gladstone  Gympie  Hervey Bay  Kingaroy  Mackay  Maryborough  Rockhampton  Sunshine Coast  Toowoomba | **Low-density area (cont.)** Townsville  Warwick  Yeppoon  Mount Gambier  Murray Bridge  Port Augusta  Port Pirie  Victor Harbor - Goolwa  Whyalla  Albany  Bunbury  Busselton  Geraldton  ~~Yanchep~~  Burnie - Somerset  Devonport  Hobart  Launceston  Ulverstone  Darwin  Not in any Significant Urban Area (ACT)  Canberra - Queanbeyan  **Remote-density area**  Locations not in any Significant Urban Area (NSW)  Broken Hill  Locations not in any Significant Urban Area (Qld)  Mount Isa  Locations not in any Significant Urban Area (SA)  Port Lincoln  Locations not in any Significant Urban Area (WA)  Broome  Esperance  Kalgoorlie - Boulder  Karratha  Port Hedland  Locations not in any Significant Urban Area (Tas.)  Locations not in any Significant Urban Area (NT)  Alice Springs  Locations not in any Significant Urban Area (OT) |
|  |
| **Medium-density area**  Medowie  Morisset - Cooranbong  Nelson Bay  Newcastle - Maitland  Adelaide  Perth |
|  |
| **Low-density area**  Albury - Wodonga  Armidale  Ballina  Batemans Bay  Bathurst  Bowral - Mittagong  Byron Bay  Camden Haven  Coffs Harbour  Dubbo  Forster - Tuncurry  Goulburn  Grafton  Griffith  Kempsey  Lismore  Lithgow  Mudgee  Muswellbrook  Nowra - Bomaderry  Orange |

# Appendix B: Proposed changes to the transmitter and receiver tax determinations

**Proposed amendments to the Radiocommunications (Transmitter Licence Tax) Determination 2015:**

*In section 1.3 change the definition of the minimum annual amount to:*

***minimum annual amount*** means $41.86.

*Repeal and replace Table 202 with the following table:*

***Table 202***

| **Frequency range** | **Amount ($)** | | | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Area density* | | | | | | | | |
|  | | *Australia wide* | *High density* | | *Medium density* | | *Low density* | *Remote density* | |
| **MHz** | | | | | | | | |
| 0–30 | 1.2317 | | 1.2322 | | | 1.2340 | 1.2305 | 1.2285 |
| >30–403 | 2.7823 | | 1.0871 | | | 0.5371 | 0.1201 | 0.0598 |
| >403–520 | 2.8545 | | 2.1164 | | | 0.7327 | 0.1246 | 0.0000 |
| >520–960 | 2.8545 | | 1.5992 | | | 0.7327 | 0.1246 | 0.0621 |
| >960–2 690 | 2.8502 | | 0.6399 | | | 0.2963 | 0.1486 | 0.0740 |
| **GHz** | | | | | | | | |
| >2.69–5.0 | 2.8471 | | | 0.5292 | | 0.2148 | 0.1774 | 0.0885 |
| >5.0–8.5 | 1.2019 | | | 0.2223 | | 0.1037 | 0.0471 | 0.0228 |
| >8.5–14.5 | 0.1059 | | | 0.0382 | | 0.0090 | 0.0007 | 0.0003 |
| >14.5–31.3 | 0.1059 | | | 0.0282 | | 0.0062 | 0.0007 | 0.0003 |
| >31.3–51.4 | 0.0289 | | | 0.0154 | | 0.0033 | 0.0001 | 0.0001 |
| >51.4-100 | 0.0029 | | | 0.0003 | | 0.0003 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| >100 | 0.0000 | | | 0.0000 | | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |

*Repeal and replace Table 206 with the following table:*

***Table 206***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Frequency range** | **Amount ($)** | | | | |
| *Area density* | | | | |
|  | *Australia wide* | *High density* | *Medium density* | *Low density* | *Remote density* |
| **MHz** | | | | | |
| 0–30 | 0.1232 | 0.1232 | 0.1234 | 0.1230 | 0.1229 |
| >30–403 | 0.2782 | 0.1087 | 0.0537 | 0.0120 | 0.0060 |
| >403–520 | 0.2855 | 0.2116 | 0.0733 | 0.0125 | 0.0000 |
| >520–960 | 0.2855 | 0.1599 | 0.0733 | 0.0125 | 0.0062 |
| >960–2 690 | 0.2850 | 0.0640 | 0.0296 | 0.0149 | 0.0074 |
| **GHz** |  |  |  |  |  |
| >2.69–5.0 | 0.2847 | 0.0529 | 0.0215 | 0.0177 | 0.0089 |
| >5.0–8.5 | 0.1202 | 0.0222 | 0.0104 | 0.0047 | 0.0023 |
| >8.5–14.5 | 0.0106 | 0.0038 | 0.0009 | 0.0001 | 0.0000 |
| >14.5–31.3 | 0.0106 | 0.0028 | 0.0006 | 0.0001 | 0.0000 |
| >31.3–51.4 | 0.0029 | 0.0015 | 0.0003 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| >51.4-100 | 0.0003 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| >100 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |

*Repeal and replace Table 302 with the following table:*

***Table 302***

| **Frequency range** | **Amount ($)** | | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Area density* | | | | | | | |
|  | | *Australia wide* | *High density* | | *Medium density* | *Low density* | *Remote density* | |
| **MHz** | | | | | | | |
| 0–30 | 91.0688 | | | 91.1052 | 91.2409 | 90.9767 | 90.8327 |
| >30–403 | 205.7120 | | | 80.3795 | 39.7104 | 8.8763 | 4.4206 |
| >403–520 | 211.0516 | | | 156.4814 | 54.1736 | 9.2136 | 0.0000 |
| >520–960 | 211.0516 | | | 118.2362 | 54.1736 | 9.2136 | 4.5890 |
| >960–2 690 | 210.7351 | | | 47.3156 | 21.9063 | 10.9847 | 5.4731 |
| **GHz** | | | | | | | |
| >2.69–5.0 | 210.5029 | | 39.1235 | | 15.8799 | 13.1141 | 6.5467 |
| >5.0–8.5 | 88.8633 | | 16.4369 | | 7.6651 | 3.4788 | 1.6840 |
| >8.5–14.5 | 7.8321 | | 2.8208 | | 0.6682 | 0.0485 | 0.0232 |
| >14.5–31.3 | 7.8321 | | 2.0860 | | 0.4588 | 0.0485 | 0.0232 |
| >31.3–51.4 | 2.1358 | | 1.1380 | | 0.2474 | 0.0084 | 0.0042 |
| >51.4-100 | 0.2111 | | 0.0211 | | 0.0211 | 0.0021 | 0.0021 |
| >100 | 0.0000 | | 0.0000 | | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |

*Repeal and replace Table 305A with the following table:*

***Table 305A***

| **Column 1**  **State or territory of the licence** | **Column 2**  **Tax rate ($)** |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Australian Capital Territory | $1,268 |  |
| New South Wales | $120,176 |  |
| Northern Territory | $3,355 |  |
| Queensland | $90,200 |  |
| South Australia | $20,292 |  |
| Tasmania | $483 |  |
| Victoria | $103,239 |  |
| Western Australia | $22,999 |  |

*Repeal and replace Table 402 with the following table:*

***Table 402***

| **Frequency range** | **Amount ($)** | | | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Area density* | | | | | | | | |
|  | | *Australia wide* | *High density* | *Medium density* | | *Low density* | *Remote density* | | |
| **MHz** | | | | | | | | |
| 0–30 | 22.7672 | | 22.7763 | | 22.8102 | 22.7442 | | 14.4194 |
| >30–403 | 51.4280 | | 20.0949 | | 9.9276 | 2.2191 | | 0.7018 |
| >403–520 | 52.7629 | | 39.1203 | | 13.5434 | 2.3034 | | 0.0000 |
| >520–960 | 52.7629 | | 29.5590 | | 13.5434 | 2.3034 | | 0.7285 |
| >960–2 690 | 1.2454 | | 0.2796 | | 0.1295 | 0.0649 | | 0.0323 |
| **GHz** | | | | | | | | |
| >2.69–5.0 | 1.2440 | | 0.2312 | | 0.0938 | 0.0775 | | 0.0387 |
| >5.0–8.5 | 0.5251 | | 0.0971 | | 0.0453 | 0.0206 | | 0.0100 |
| >8.5–14.5 | 0.0463 | | 0.0167 | | 0.0039 | 0.0003 | | 0.0001 |
| >14.5–31.3 | 0.0463 | | 0.0123 | | 0.0027 | 0.0003 | | 0.0001 |
| >31.3–51.4 | 0.0126 | | 0.0067 | | 0.0015 | 0.0000 | | 0.0000 |
| >51.4-100 | 0.0012 | | 0.0001 | | 0.0001 | 0.0000 | | 0.0000 |
| >100 | 0.0000 | | 0.0000 | | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | | 0.0000 |

*Repeal and replace Table 502 with the following table:*

***Table 502***

| **Frequency range** | **Amount ($)** | | | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Area density* | | | | | | | | |
|  | | *Australia wide* | *High density* | *Medium density* | *Low density* | | *Remote density* | | |
| **MHz** | | | | | | | | |
| 0–30 | 91.0688 | | 91.1052 | 91.2409 | | 90.9767 | 56.9441 |
| >30–403 | 205.7120 | | 80.3795 | 39.7104 | | 8.8763 | 2.7713 |
| >403–520 | 211.0516 | | 156.4814 | 54.1736 | | 9.2136 | 0.0000 |
| >520–960 | 211.0516 | | 118.2362 | 54.1736 | | 9.2136 | 2.8769 |
| >960–2 690 | 1.2454 | | 0.2796 | 0.1295 | | 0.0649 | 0.0323 |
| **GHz** | | | | | | | | |
| >2.69–5.0 | | 1.2440 | 0.2312 | 0.0938 | | 0.0775 | 0.0387 |
| >5.0–8.5 | | 0.5251 | 0.0971 | 0.0453 | | 0.0206 | 0.0100 |
| >8.5–14.5 | | 0.0463 | 0.0167 | 0.0039 | | 0.0003 | 0.0001 |
| >14.5–31.3 | | 0.0463 | 0.0123 | 0.0027 | | 0.0003 | 0.0001 |
| >31.3–51.4 | | 0.0126 | 0.0067 | 0.0015 | | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| >51.4-100 | | 0.0012 | 0.0001 | 0.0001 | | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| >100 | | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |

*Repeal and replace Table 602 with the following table:*

***Table 602***

| **Frequency range** | **Amount ($)** | | | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Area density* | | | | | | | | |
|  | | *Australia wide* | *High density* | | *Medium density* | | *Low density* | *Remote density* | |
| **MHz** | | | | | | | | |
| 0–30 | 0.6319 | | 0.6321 | | | 0.6331 | 0.6312 | 0.6302 |
| >30–70 | 1.4273 | | 0.5577 | | | 0.2755 | 0.0616 | 0.0307 |
| >70–399.9 | 1.4644 | | 1.0857 | | | 0.3759 | 0.0639 | 0.0000 |
| >399.9–960 | 1.4644 | | 0.8204 | | | 0.3759 | 0.0639 | 0.0318 |
| >960–2 690 | 1.4622 | | 0.3283 | | | 0.1520 | 0.0762 | 0.0380 |
| **GHz** | | | | | | | | |
| >2.69–5.0 | 1.4606 | | | 0.2715 | 0.1102 | | 0.0910 | 0.0454 |
| >5.0–8.5 | 0.6166 | | | 0.1140 | 0.0532 | | 0.0241 | 0.0117 |
| >8.5–14.5 | 0.0543 | | | 0.0196 | 0.0046 | | 0.0003 | 0.0002 |
| >14.5–31.3 | 0.0543 | | | 0.0145 | 0.0032 | | 0.0003 | 0.0002 |
| >31.3–51.4 | 0.0148 | | | 0.0079 | 0.0017 | | 0.0001 | 0.0000 |
| >51.4-100 | 0.0015 | | | 0.0001 | 0.0001 | | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| >100 | 0.0000 | | | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |

*Repeal and replace Table 702 with the following table:*

***Table 702***

| **Item** | **Service** | **Amount** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Broadcasting licence, other than:  (a) a broadcasting licence for a service operated in the frequency range 2.3 MHz – 26.1 MHz; and  (b) a broadcasting licence to which another Part of this Schedule applies. | $41.86 per transmitter |
| 2 | Datacasting licence | $41.86 per transmitter |
| 3 | Licence that authorises the operation of point to point (5.8 GHz band) stations | $41.86 per pair of spectrum accesses |
| 4 | Licence that authorises the operation of point to point (self‑coordinated) stations | $239 per pair of spectrum accesses |
| 5 | Television outside broadcast network | $214,217[[3]](#footnote-4) |
| 6 | Television outside broadcast system (Australia wide density area) | $45,093 |
| 7 | Television outside broadcast system (high density area) | $8,342 |
| 8 | Television outside broadcast system (medium density area) | $3,889 |
| 9 | Television outside broadcast system (low density area) | $1,767 |
| 10 | Television outside broadcast system (remote density area) | $883 |
| 11 | PABX cordless telephone service | $41.86 |
| 12 | Subject to sub-item 702(2), PMTS Class B operated in the frequency range 935–960 MHz (paired) | $3,414,318 for each MHz on which the service may be operated |
| 13 | PMTS Class C | $41.86 |
| 14 | Wireless audio system | $41.86 |

*Repeal and replace Table 802 with the following table:*

***Table 802***

|  | **Column 1** | **Column 2** | **Column 3** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Significant urban area** | **FM/TV** | **AM** |
| 1 | Melbourne | $7,737 | $697 |
| 2 | Sydney | $7,705 | $693 |
| 3 | Brisbane | $3,813 | $343 |
| 4 | Perth | $3,256 | $293 |
| 5 | Adelaide | $2,115 | $190 |
| 6 | Gold Coast – Tweed Heads | $1,115 | $100 |
| 7 | Newcastle – Maitland | $779 | $70 |
| 8 | Canberra – Queanbeyan | $721 | $64 |
| 9 | Sunshine Coast | $549 | $49 |
| 10 | Central Coast | $520 | $47 |
| 11 | Wollongong | $481 | $43 |
| 12 | Geelong | $444 | $42 |
| 13 | Hobart | $339 | $41 |
| 14 | Townsville | $286 | $42 |
| 15 | Cairns | $243 | $42 |

*Repeal and replace Table 802A with the following table:*

***Table 802A***

| **Frequency range** | **Amount ($)** | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Area density* | | | | | | | |
|  | | *Australia wide* | *High density* | *Medium density* | *Low  density* | *Remote density* | |
| **MHz** | | | | | | |  |
| 0–30 | 1.2317 | | 1.2322 | 1.2340 | 1.2305 | 1.2285 |  |
| >30–403 | 2.7823 | | 1.0871 | 0.5371 | 0.1201 | 0.0598 |  |
| >403–520 | 2.8545 | | 2.1164 | 0.7327 | 0.1246 | 0.0000 |  |
| >520–960 | 2.8545 | | 1.5992 | 0.7327 | 0.1246 | 0.0621 |  |
| >960–2 690 | 2.8502 | | 0.6399 | 0.2963 | 0.1486 | 0.0740 |  |
| **GHz** | | | | | | |  |
| >2.69–5.0 | 2.8471 | | 0.5292 | 0.2148 | 0.1774 | 0.0885 |  |
| >5.0–8.5 | 1.2019 | | 0.2223 | 0.1037 | 0.0471 | 0.0228 |  |
| >8.5–17.3 | 0.1059 | | 0.0382 | 0.0090 | 0.0007 | 0.0003 |  |
| >17.3–31.3 | 0.0742 | | 0.0198 | 0.0031 | 0.0003 | 0.0000 |  |
| >31.3–51.4 | 0.0202 | | 0.0108 | 0.0017 | 0.0001 | 0.0000 |  |
| >51.4-100 | 0.0029 | | 0.0003 | 0.0003 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |  |
| >100 | 0.0000 | | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |  |

*Repeal and replace Table 902A with the following table:*

***Table 902***

| Item | Station | Amount ($) |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Amateur station | $51.36 |
| 2 | Limited coast marine rescue station | $41.86 |
| 3 | Limited coast non‑assigned station | $41.86 |
| 4 | Outpost non‑assigned station | $41.86 |
| 5 | Scientific non‑assigned station | $41.86 |
| 6 | Ship station class B non‑assigned | $41.86 |
| 7 | Ship station class C non‑assigned | $41.86 |
| 8 | Sound outside broadcast station | $41.86 |
| 9 | Temporary fixed link station | $2,331.90 |

**Amendments to the Radiocommunications (Receiver Licence Tax) Determination 2015**

*In section 3, change the definition of the minimum annual amount to:*

***minimum annual amount*** means $41.86.

*Repeal and replace Table 202 with the following table:*

***Table 202***

| **Frequency range** | **Amount ($)** | | | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Area density* | | | | | | | | |
|  | | *Australia wide* | *High density* | | *Medium density* | | *Low density* | *Remote density* | |
| **MHz** | | | | | | | | |
| 0–30 | 1.2317 | | 1.2322 | | | 1.2340 | 1.2305 | 1.2285 |
| >30–403 | 2.7823 | | 1.0871 | | | 0.5371 | 0.1201 | 0.0598 |
| >403–520 | 2.8545 | | 2.1164 | | | 0.7327 | 0.1246 | 0.0000 |
| >520–960 | 2.8545 | | 1.5992 | | | 0.7327 | 0.1246 | 0.0621 |
| >960–2 690 | 2.8502 | | 0.6399 | | | 0.2963 | 0.1486 | 0.0740 |
| **GHz** | | | | | | | | |
| >2.69–5.0 | 2.8471 | | | 0.5292 | | 0.2148 | 0.1774 | 0.0885 |
| >5.0–8.5 | 1.2019 | | | 0.2223 | | 0.1037 | 0.0471 | 0.0228 |
| >8.5–14.5 | 0.1059 | | | 0.0382 | | 0.0090 | 0.0007 | 0.0003 |
| >14.5–31.3 | 0.1059 | | | 0.0282 | | 0.0062 | 0.0007 | 0.0003 |
| >31.3–51.4 | 0.0289 | | | 0.0154 | | 0.0033 | 0.0001 | 0.0001 |
| >51.4-100 | 0.0029 | | | 0.0003 | | 0.0003 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| >100 | 0.0000 | | | 0.0000 | | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |

*Repeal and replace Table 302 with the following table:*

***Table 302***

| **Frequency range** | **Amount ($)** | | | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Area density* | | | | | | | | |
|  | | *Australia wide* | *High density* | *Medium density* | | *Low density* | *Remote density* | | |
| **MHz** | | | | | | | | |
| 0–30 | 22.7672 | | 22.7763 | | 22.8102 | 22.7442 | | 14.4194 |
| >30–403 | 51.4280 | | 20.0949 | | 9.9276 | 2.2191 | | 0.7018 |
| >403–520 | 52.7629 | | 39.1203 | | 13.5434 | 2.3034 | | 0.0000 |
| >520–960 | 52.7629 | | 29.5590 | | 13.5434 | 2.3034 | | 0.7285 |
| >960–2 690 | 1.2454 | | 0.2796 | | 0.1295 | 0.0649 | | 0.0323 |
| **GHz** | | | | | | | | |
| 2.69–5.0 | 1.2440 | | 0.2312 | | 0.0938 | 0.0775 | | 0.0387 |
| >5.0–8.5 | 0.5251 | | 0.0971 | | 0.0453 | 0.0206 | | 0.0100 |
| >8.5–14.5 | 0.0463 | | 0.0167 | | 0.0039 | 0.0003 | | 0.0001 |
| >14.5–31.3 | 0.0463 | | 0.0123 | | 0.0027 | 0.0003 | | 0.0001 |
| >31.3–51.4 | 0.0126 | | 0.0067 | | 0.0015 | 0.0000 | | 0.0000 |
| >51.4-100 | 0.0012 | | 0.0001 | | 0.0001 | 0.0000 | | 0.0000 |
| >100 | 0.0000 | | 0.0000 | | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | | 0.0000 |

*Repeal and replace Table 402 with the following table:*

*Table 402*

| **Frequency range** | **Amount ($)** | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Area density* | | | | | | | |
|  | | *Australia wide* | *High density* | *Medium density* | *Low  density* | *Remote density* | |
| **MHz** | | | | | | |  |
| 0–30 | 1.2317 | | 1.2322 | 1.2340 | 1.2305 | 1.2285 |  |
| >30–403 | 2.7823 | | 1.0871 | 0.5371 | 0.1201 | 0.0598 |  |
| >403–520 | 2.8545 | | 2.1164 | 0.7327 | 0.1246 | 0.0000 |  |
| >520–960 | 2.8545 | | 1.5992 | 0.7327 | 0.1246 | 0.0621 |  |
| >960–2 690 | 2.8502 | | 0.6399 | 0.2963 | 0.1486 | 0.0740 |  |
| **GHz** | | | | | | |  |
| >2.69–5.0 | 2.8471 | | 0.5292 | 0.2148 | 0.1774 | 0.0885 |  |
| >5.0–8.5 | 1.2019 | | 0.2223 | 0.1037 | 0.0471 | 0.0228 |  |
| >8.5–17.3 | 0.1059 | | 0.0382 | 0.0090 | 0.0007 | 0.0003 |  |
| >17.3–31.3 | 0.0742 | | 0.0198 | 0.0031 | 0.0003 | 0.0000 |  |
| >31.3–51.4 | 0.0202 | | 0.0108 | 0.0017 | 0.0001 | 0.0000 |  |
| >51.4-100 | 0.0029 | | 0.0003 | 0.0003 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |  |
| >100 | 0.0000 | | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |  | |

1. Refer Radiocommunications ([Mobile-Satellite Service](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Series/F2022L00843)) (1980-2010 MHz and 2170-2200 MHz) Frequency Band Plan 2022. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Refer [spectrum embargo](https://www.acma.gov.au/current-and-past-spectrum-embargoes) 23 and Radiocommunications Assignment and Licensing Instruction [FX 21](https://www.acma.gov.au/publications/2019-09/instruction/rali-fx21-television-outside-broadcasting-services): Television outside broadcasting services, 1980–2110 MHz and 2170–2300 MHz. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. This tax amount will increase to $214,217 from $211,701 following the proposed update. Prior to this change, it has been reduced from $415,889 to $211,701. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)