



## **New community radio licences:**

### **Deepwater**

The ABA has allocated a community radio licence for Deepwater, New South Wales.

The licence was allocated to Deepwater and Districts Community FM Radio Inc and the new service will broadcast on 91.1 MHz on the FM band.

'The applicant satisfied the ABA it would meet the existing and perceived future needs of the local community', said Professor David Flint, ABA Chairman

The ABA has allocated this licence after consulting with the people of the Deepwater region to seek their views on what additional broadcasting services were needed in their area.

The ABA understands the proposed service will operate full time, and will reflect the range of needs and interests of the local print handicapped community. It will provide entertainment, information, book readings, magazine and newspaper readings, and some religious programming. It will include programming of relevance to the local community in Shepparton.

The ABA invited applications for the new community radio licence in a public notice in the *Northern Daily Leader* on 23 April 1999. There was one application, which the ABA assessed, giving particular regard to whether the proposed service would meet existing and future community needs.

The Deepwater and Districts Community FM Radio Inc. service currently operates 38 hours per week as a temporary community broadcaster. However, with the allocation of the permanent community licence, Deepwater and Districts Community FM Radio Inc. anticipates increasing this service. The programming for the service is expected to include a wide range of music programs and local and national current affairs.

### **Shepparton**

The ABA has allocated a new community radio licence for Shepparton, Victoria.

The licence was allocated to the Vision Australia Foundation to operate a service on 100.1 MHz on the FM band.

'The applicant satisfied the ABA that it would meet the existing and perceived future needs

of the print handicapped community within the Shepparton licence area', said Professor David Flint, ABA Chairman.

The ABA received two applications for the new community radio licence. One was from the Association for the Blind (now known as



Vision Australia Foundation) aimed at the print handicapped community. The other was from Greater Shepparton Christian Broadcasters aimed at the Christian community.

The ABA concluded that the print handicapped community, which makes up 10 per cent of the licence area population, is less well served than the Christian community. The ABA held the view that the Christian community is served by other broadcasting services (including national services) available in the Shepparton licence area, specifically the community broadcaster 3One FM. Nevertheless, the ABA believes some programming on the new station should target the Christian community. The ABA therefore has invited Vision Australia to indicate how this will be achieved.

The new licensees have 12 months to get the new services up and running.

## **Applications invited for new community radio licences**

### **Lightning Ridge**

The ABA has invited applications for a new community radio licence to serve Lightning Ridge, New South Wales.



# News Update

Applications for the licences must be received before 5 p.m. on Wednesday 15 September 1999. From 22 September 1999, copies of any applications received will be placed in the Lightning Ridge Library, Pandora Street, Lightning Ridge for public perusal. The ABA welcomes written submissions from members of the public in relation to the applications received. Submissions should be lodged with the ABA by Wednesday 6 October 1999.

## Cessnock/Maitland and Lake Macquarie

The ABA has invited applications for new community radio broadcasting licences in the Cessnock/Maitland and Lake Macquarie regions of New South Wales.

Applications for the licences must be received before 5 pm Wednesday 15 September 1999.

'Allocation of these new community radio licences has begun as a result of the ABA's public planning process being finalised in these areas,' said Professor David Flint, ABA Chairman. 'The planning process identified demand for new community broadcasting services operated by people living in the Lightning Ridge, Cessnock/Maitland and Lake Macquarie areas.'

## Bowen

The ABA has advertised for applications for a new community radio broadcasting licence in the Bowen area of Queensland.

'This is the first new community radio broadcasting licence to be offered in Bowen under the ABA's community licence allocation system,' said ABA Chairman, Professor David Flint.

Applications for the licences must be received before 5.00 p.m. Wednesday 22 September 1999. From 29 September, copies of any applications received will be placed in the Bowen Shire Library, 67 Herbert Street, Bowen. The ABA welcomes written submissions from members of the public in relation to the applications received. Submissions should be lodged with the ABA by 5.00 p.m. Wednesday 13 October 1999.

## Community broadcasting licence applications

Applications must be lodged with the ABA by the dates advertised and they must be on the approved form: *Form ABA 32—Allocation of Community Broadcasting Licences (Broadcasting Services Bands)*.

For copies of the booklet, *Allocation of Community Broadcasting Licences (Broadcasting Services Bands)*, and information about how to apply for a community broadcasting licence, call the ABA's Licensing Section on (02) 9334 7700.

The ABA will usually publicise the details of applications received and advise when these will be available for public comment. Written comments on applications must be lodged with the ABA within 21 days from the date the ABA publicises their receipt.

Free-to-air community broadcasting service licences must be allocated on the basis of merit. Under this system, in areas where there is only one applicant for a community broadcasting licence, the ABA need only decide if the applicant merits a licence.

When there is more than one applicant, the ABA may also have to choose on the basis of comparative merit. Alternatively, applicants could combine to present a unified application.

### Closing date for applications

Lightning Ridge,  
Cessnock/Maitland,  
Lake Macquarie:  
**5 p.m. Wednesday  
15 September 1999**

Bowen:

**5 p.m. Wednesday  
22 September 1999**

## C or P programs

**Programs granted C or P classification between 1 July and 17 August 1999. Producers interested in submitting programs for classification should contact Nadia Mencinsky on (02) 9334 7480.**

Program title	Origin	Class	New/renewal	Decision date	Applicant
FLIPPER & LOPAKA (SERIES 1 EP 1)	Australia	CD	new	4-8-99	Yoram Gross-EM.TV
HIGH 8	Australia	PRC	new	4-8-99	Burberry Productions
WIPEOUT (SERIES 4)	Australia	C	new	6-8-99	Southern Star Concept
WIPEOUT (SERIES 5)	Australia	C	new	6-8-99	Southern Star Concept

C - children's program, CD - C drama, P - preschool, PRC - provisional C. Class - classification