



**The ABA is proposing to increase the availability of radio services in the Mount Tamborine region of Queensland by making available one medium power frequency and additional low power in-fill frequencies.**

# Availability of radio services to increase for Mt Tamborine

The ABA is proposing to increase the availability of radio services in the Mount Tamborine region of Queensland by making one medium power frequency available at Mount Tamborine and additional low power in-fill frequencies available at Eagle Heights and Canungra for the 4SUN service.

The ABA is also proposing to make frequencies available at Mount Tamborine, Eagle Heights and Canungra for 4RBL, the additional commercial radio service made available to 4SUN under s.39 of the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* (the Act).

The proposals are contained in a draft variation to the Remote North East Zone licence area plan, released on 11 June 2002 for public comment. An explanatory paper accompanied the draft variation.

Comments on the proposed changes were due by 5 July 2002. A copy of the explanatory paper and draft variation to the licence area plan is available from the ABA website at [www.aba.gov.au](http://www.aba.gov.au) or

by calling Freecall 1800 810 241.

## Background

The ABA determined the Remote North East Zone licence area plan in October 1996 and varied the plan in November 1998, December 2000 and November 2001.

In determining the variation to the licence area plan in November 2001, the ABA made available medium power FM channel capacity for the commercial radio service 4SUN at Mt Tamborine. The ABA also made medium power FM channel capacity at Mt Tamborine for the additional commercial radio licence to be allocated to 4SUN under s.39 of the Act. 4SUN requested that a further test transmission be undertaken after the variation was finalised to determine the efficacy of the frequencies.

In making this decision, the ABA was aware that 4SUN did not consider that the proposed frequencies and technical specifications were adequate to serve the Mount Tamborine area. 4SUN requested that a further test transmission be

undertaken after the variation was finalised to determine whether the proposed frequencies were suitable.

Further engineering work and test transmissions have been undertaken to determine the most suitable channel capacity for transmitters to serve the Mount Tamborine area. The ABA believes that the best solution to provide a suburban coverage to the populated areas of Mount Tamborine and to maximise mobile reception of the 4SUN service, is to use a medium power frequency at Mt Tamborine with additional low power in-fill translators to serve Eagle Heights/North Tamborine and Canungra.

Channel capacity is proposed to be made available as follows:

- 4SUN to operate on 99.4 MHz from the Broadcast Site Golf Course Road, Mount Tamborine, with a maximum ERP of 2 kW (directional);
- 4SUN to operate on 91.3 MHz from, Telstra Radio Terminal Eagle Heights Mount Tamborine, with a maximum ERP of 50 W (directional); and

- 4SUN to operate on 93.7 MHz from Council Site Lahey's Lookout, Mount Tamborine, with a maximum ERP of 100 W (omnidirectional).

The licence available to the licensee of the Remote Commercial Radio Service for the North East Zone under s.39 of the Act is proposed to be varied to operate as follows:

- 4RBL to operate on 100.6 MHz from Broadcast Site Golf Course Road, Mount Tamborine, with a maximum ERP of 2 kW (directional). The availability of 100.6 MHz is subject to test transmissions.
- 4RBL to operate on 88.9 MHz from, Telstra Radio Terminal Eagle Heights Mount Tamborine, with a maximum ERP of 50 W (directional); and
- 4SUN to operate on 92.9 MHz from Council Site Lahey's Lookout, Mount Tamborine, with a maximum ERP of 100 W (omnidirectional).

