

## EMBARGO 67

<b>FREQUENCY RANGE(S):</b>	45 - 52 MHz 56 - 70 MHz 85 - 87.5 MHz 137 - 144 MHz
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Embargo on new frequency assignments for broadcasting licence types
<b>DATE OF EFFECT:</b>	6 February 2014 (last revised 31 March 2017)
<b>COVERAGE:</b>	Australia-wide
<b>TIME FRAME:</b>	Until further notice

### INSTRUCTIONS

No new frequency assignments for any broadcasting licence types (including narrowcasting) are to be made in the above mentioned bands corresponding to former analog television channels 0, 1, 2, 3 (in part) and 5A Australia-wide.

An exemption applies to licences issued for 30 days or less to facilitate the use of this spectrum for special events.

Any applications for case-by-case exemptions are to be referred to the Manager, Spectrum Engineering Section for consideration.

### REASONS

The purpose of the embargo is to preserve planning options for the future use of these bands while they are under review.

### COMMENTS

The ACMA intends to undertake a review into future use of VHF broadcasting bands vacated by analog television services.

Non-broadcasting usage of these bands is permitted, consistent with the Australian Radiofrequency Spectrum Plan and any other planning and licensing requirements. Such use in each band is enabled by section 34 'drop throughs' (Broadcasting Services Act).

The embargo does not cover the 87.5-108 MHz FM radio broadcasting band in which a limited number of analog television services operated on channels 3, 4 and 5.

## **HISTORY**

In March 2017, this embargo was revised to include the band 85 - 87.5 MHz. When the initial embargo was put in place this band was governed by a statutory band plan *VHF mid band frequency band plan 1991* which limited the potential usage of this band for broadcasting. That frequency band plan has sunset and been replaced by RALI MS42 which under some circumstances would appear to permit broadcasting assignments. To clarify that broadcasting is not intended to occur in this band until a review is undertaken the embargo was extended to explicitly include the 85 - 87.5 MHz band.

## **EMBARGO AUTHORISATION:**

Approved 31/03/2017

Mark Arkell  
Manager  
Spectrum Engineering and Space  
Australian Communications and Media Authority