



Australian Government
Department of Defence

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The Manager

Spectrum Planning Section
Australian Communications and Media Authority
Spectrum Planning and Engineering Branch
Communications Infrastructure Division
PO Box 78, Belconnen, ACT 2616

Dear Nevio

IFC 22/17 SPECTRUM FOR BROADBAND IN THE MILLIMETER WAVE BANDS

1. The Department of Defence (Defence) welcomes the opportunity to attend the Spectrum Tune-Up session and the opportunity to respond to the consultation on Spectrum for 5G broadband services in the millimetre wave bands.
2. Defence acknowledges that there is significant pressure on the ACMA to fast-track spectrum to support 5G. However, Defence notes that this approach increases the risk that Australia will adopt arrangements that do not maximise the benefits of harmonisation. This could have significant consequences both to users of 5G technology as well as to current and future users of other applications in the affected bands, including potential future Defence applications.
3. Although the availability of 5G standards is one indication of the potential for the development of a suitably large market with which Australia could harmonise its spectrum allocations, the existence of standards alone is insufficient justification to commit to the re-allocation of spectrum at this point in time. Defence acknowledges the ACMA's contributions to complex compatibility studies within Task Group 5/1 in preparation for the 2019 World Radiocommunication Conference. The conclusions of these studies should be taken into account before making firm decisions on spectrum re-allocation.

Yours sincerely,

David Murray

Director
Defence Spectrum Office
Chief Information Officer Group

Department of Defence
APW-G-173 Anzac Park West
PO Box 7953
CANBERRA BC ACT 2610
(02) 6144 4522, fax (02) 6144 5472
david.murray8@defence.gov.au

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