

18 May 2020

The Manager  
Spectrum Licensing Policy  
Australian Communications and Media Authority  
PO Box 13112 Law Courts  
Melbourne Vic 8010

**RE: Arrangements for jamming devices and radiocommunications device exemptions - consultation  
15/2020**

Dear sir/madam

DroneShield Limited (ASX:DRO) is a publicly listed global leader in drone countermeasure solutions, headquartered in Sydney. We produce a range of products to detect and neutralise consumer and commercial grade drones, used in a nefarious manner. Our customers include defence forces, law enforcement agencies, critical infrastructure owners and airports, around the world. DroneShield's publicly referenced product deployments in Australia include several recent purchases by the Australian Defence Force, and deployments by Federal and State police agencies, including at the Commonwealth Games.

This letter is in response to ACMA's invitation for comments on the arrangements for jamming devices in Australia.

**Law Enforcement Use of Counterdrone Jammers**

We strongly support the proposal to enable Australian law enforcement agencies to deploy drone jammers, as an effective, low collateral damage countermeasure against nefarious drones.

**Critical Infrastructure Use of Counterdrone Jammers**

We would like to encourage to expand this framework to critical infrastructure providers such as stadiums, and airports – for reasons of it not always being feasible for law enforcement to acquire and operate drone jammers at those venues. Such exemptions can be carefully managed to avoid misuse, and the counterdrone systems be certified for minimised interference to critical functions of the venue.

**Enabling Jammer Manufacturing in Australia**

We advocate to expand the framework to allow counterdrone manufacturers such as DroneShield, to manufacture jamming devices in Australia, through legalising possession of jammers for the manufacturers. As it stands, the law today only enables Australian based jammer manufacturing for existing Australian defence

orders, hampering Australian Government's objective to foster home-grown defence industry, that can export high-tech products to approved customers globally, and promoting highly skilled jobs in Australia. The manufacturing and possession of the jamming products would take place in a manner that minimises interference with the broader environment (eg Faraday chambers) and the products would be stored in an agreed secure manner.

Examples of legal frameworks which foster local jammer manufacturing industry exist overseas, such as in the UK and the US, and we urge the Australian legislation to follow their lead.

To conclude, we again commend ACMA for responding to the national security requirements, and look forward seeing the outcomes of this process.

Kind regards,

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