

[REDACTED]

From: Wilson, Carol (S&A, Marsfield)
Sent: Tuesday, 8 August 2023 5:51 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Sunsetting of the 4.9 GHz class licence [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Dear [REDACTED],

I regret that CSIRO missed the deadline for the consultation on the 4.9 GHz Public Safety and Emergency Response Class Licence.

We were pleased to see that the protection for radioastronomy, based on the locations, frequencies and thresholds in RALI MS 31, was being retained in the Class Licence, and had no comment on the specifics of the use of the PSER system.

As one example of the importance of this protection, 40% of the observations at the Paul Wild Observatory (ATCA) in Narrabri use the 4.9 GHz band.

In 2019, [REDACTED] agreed to the use of 2 base stations in the 4940 – 4990 MHz band on the condition of filters with at least 25 dB suppression of harmonics; in 2020 he agreed to the relocation of these base stations. These are used by the ACT Rural Fire Service for real-time video from aircraft. While the 4.9 GHz band is not currently in use at Tidbinbilla, this important band for radio astronomy should remain protected for future science exploration at all radio astronomical sites.

Although we have missed the deadline for formal submissions to the consultation, this email can be available publicly if required.

Best regards,
Carol

Carol Wilson BSEE MSEE

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Space and Astronomy | CSIRO

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