

Brendon Agpasa

17 January 2025

The Manager, Broadcasting Carriage Policy Section
Australian Communications and Media Authority

via on-line submission at: <https://www.acma.gov.au/consultations/2024-11/proposal-vary-wangaratta-licence-area-plan>

Dear Madam/Sir,

Proposal to vary the Wangaratta licence area plan

Brendon Agpasa welcomes the opportunity to provide a response to the Proposal to vary the Wangaratta licence area plan.

We propose to vary the Wangaratta LAP Variation to allocate the new and existing broadcasting licences for the commercial radio broadcasting service is provided by North East Broadcasters Pty Ltd.

We are proposing to vary the Wangaratta LAP to expand their radio services, in summary:

- 3NE to broadcast their main FM service on 92.1 MHz out of Warby Ranges, west of Wangaratta.
- 102.1 Edge FM would move their transmitter from Mt Stanley to Warby Ranges in order to be co-sited with 3NE's proposed main FM service.
- Four new FM translators for 3NE in Wodonga (93.7), Bright (91.3), Myrtleford (90.1), and Yarrawonga (88.9).
- To accommodate 3NE's main FM service, Edge FM's Bright translator would be re-allocated from 92.1 to 93.7 MHz.

The proposed minor amendments to the Wangaratta LAP Variation are intended to allow 3NE 1566 is converted from the AM band (1566 kHz) to the FM band (92.1 MHz), as well as 3NNN FM will be converted as re-allocated from 92.1 MHz to 93.7 MHz. They would allow 1566 3NE to provide radio broadcasting services with an FM conversion by the ACMA.

The ACMA is requesting a broadcasting licences for the broadcasting services to enable the commercial radio station 3NE in the Wangaratta RA1 licence area to convert transmission from AM to FM, make spectrum available for 4 new FM infill transmitters for the commercial radio broadcasting service 3NE to serve the Wangaratta RA1 licence area, vary the technical specification for the existing 3NE AM Wangaratta transmitter to make transition from AM transmission to FM transmission, vary the technical specification for the Wangaratta FM transmitter for commercial radio broadcasting service 3NNN so it can be co-located with the proposed 3NE FM Wangaratta transmitter, and vary the technical specification of the 3NNN FM transmitter at Bright to accommodate the AM to FM conversion of 3NE.

We consider that proposal to extend its broadcast area for our extended coverage area of the commercial radio broadcasting service 3NE on the FM band (92.1 MHz) from Wangaratta in the Wangaratta RA1 licence area to the surrounding areas of North East Victoria, Corowa (NSW), Yarrawonga, Chiltern, Rutherglen, Beechworth, Myrtleford, Mulwala, Benalla, Violet Town, Mount Beauty, Bright, Falls Creek, Mount Hotham, Dinner Plain, Omeo, Mansfield, Mount Buller, Alexandra, Eildon, Yea, Marysville, Kinglake West, Kinglake, Healesville, Yarra Glen, Woori Yallock, Warburton, Yarra Junction, Howlong (NSW), Albury (NSW), Wodonga, Mulwala (NSW), Tocumwal (NSW), Cobram, Numurkah, Tatura, Shepparton, Euroa, Nagambie, Corryong, Tallangatta, Tungamah, Yackandandah, Tungamah, Mount Buffalo, Seymour, Holbrook (NSW), Dockers Plains, and Mount Baranduda.

We need to accommodate 3NE's proposed main FM service, 3NE's proposed main FM service has co-frequency interference from 2HAY Hay (NSW) 92.1 MHz and 2XXL Thredbo (NSW) 92.1 MHz.

The 3NNN Bright FM transmitter would be re-allocated from 92.1 MHz to 93.7 MHz, to enable the use of 92.1 MHz for the AM to FM conversion of 3NE. The 3NE's main FM service and the 3NNN Bright FM transmitter is serving Wangaratta, north east Victoria and regions extending to selected parts of regional Victoria and regional New South Wales.

On successful completion of the Wangaratta LAP, 3NE would convert transmission from AM band to FM band for the Wangaratta region and north east Victoria in a new and improved licence area plan, on your behalf of Ace Radio Broadcasters (North East Broadcasters Pty Ltd).

Yours sincerely,

Brendon Agpasa