

The ACMA's proposal to remove the CB emergency channels allocations will cost lives throughout Australia.

As an independent monitor of the PER05 emergency repeater, I can assure you that the emergency channels are alive, used and save lives.

UHF channels 5 and 35 we cannot do without. HF channel 9 is not used as much, however is still sometimes used and saves lives. When monitored, these channels provide a lifeline to those without mobile phone reception. Even in areas with mobile phone reception, the reception can cut out, the phone not work, the battery go flat, the person not be able to find the phone etc. Even in metropolitan areas, emergency calls still sometimes occur on the three emergency channels, particularly UHF channels 5 and 35.

The removal of the CB emergency channels would also likely cause volunteer monitoring organisations such as:

- South East Queensland UHF Emergency Service Team
- Radio Rescue Emergency Communications Inc.
- Citizens Radio Emergency Service Team Victoria
- Citizens Radio Emergency Service Team Australia/New South Wales
- Australia Citizens Radio Monitors
- Citizens Radio Emergency Service Team Queensland

to disintegrate. Without the CB emergency channels to monitor, they will more than likely also stop their other essential community services, such as bushfire, cyclone and flood emergency broadcasts on UHF channel 5 and channel 40 and also the social media updates on such incidents.

I firmly believe that the removal of the CB emergency channels allocations will cost many lives throughout Australia.

There is also the major possibility of the ACMA being sued for deaths that would have been prevented had the CB emergency channels allocations been kept in place.

Myself and many others throughout Australia would like to see the CB emergency channels allocations stay the same as it currently is and not be changed.

Kind regards,

Joshua ([REDACTED])