Ms Joanna Abhayaratna

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Dear Ms Abhayaratna

Certification as Impact Analysis Equivalent – Future use of the upper 6 GHz band

The ACMA has undertaken an extensive review of planning options for the future use of the upper 6GHz radiocommunications spectrum band. I am writing to certify that this review has undertaken a process and analysis equivalent to an Impact Analysis (IA).

I certify that the documents listed below adequately address all seven IA questions for the purposes of informing a planning decision on the future use of the upper 6 GHz band. The Annexure provides more details on where each of the seven IA questions have been addressed.

[Options paper: Future use of the upper 6 GHz band](https://www.acma.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-06/future_use_of_the_upper_6_ghz_band_options_paper.pdf)

[Submissions - Planning options in the upper 6 GHz band](https://www.acma.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-11/Submissions%20%E2%80%93%20Planning%20options%20in%20the%20upper%206%20GHz%20band.zip)

Outcomes paper: Future use of upper 6 GHz band (draft attached to this letter)

I am satisfied that the scope of the problem and the recommendations identified in the Impact Analysis Equivalent are substantially the same as the identified problem and recommendations in the policy proposal.

The preferred planning decision is expected to yield significant social and economic benefits for Australian business and the community. While the economic benefit projections are difficult to produce with high degree of accuracy, the impact analysis in the Outcomes paper indicates that the economic benefits of the preferred planning decision will outweigh the regulatory costs by an order of magnitude. The regulatory burden to business, community organisations or individuals is quantified using the Australian Government’s *Regulatory Burden Measurement* framework and is provided below.

## Regulatory burden estimate table

|  |
| --- |
| Average annual regulatory costs (from business as usual) |
| Change in costs ($ million) | Business | Community organisations | Individuals | Total change in costs |
| Total, by sector | $33m | $0 | $0 | $33m |

Accordingly, I am satisfied that the attached report is consistent with the *Australian Government Guide to Policy Impact Analysis*.

Yours sincerely

Nerida O’Loughlin PSM

December 2024

Attachment: Draft: Future use of the upper 6GHz Band – Outcomes Paper

**ANNEXURE**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Question** | **Document used to address question** | **Evidence** |
| 1. What is the policy problem you are trying to solve and what data is available? | Options paper | Legislative and policy environment (p. 6)Case for action (p. 09-10) |
| Outcomes paper | Introduction (p.3) and Quantitative cost benefit analysis (p. 14-16)  |
| 2. What are the objectives, why is government intervention needed to achieve them, and how will success be measured? | Options paper | Case for action (p. 09-10) |
| Outcomes paper | Introduction (p. 3) and Assessment against the desirable planning outcomes (p. 12) |
| 3. What policy options are you considering? | Options paper | Planning options for the upper 6 GHz band (p. 15-29) |
| Outcomes paper  | Refinement of planning options (p. 9-11) |
| 4. What is the likely net benefit of each option? | Options paper | Planning options for the upper 6 GHz band (p. 15-29) |
| Outcomes paper  | Assessment of Options (p. 12-16).  |
| 5. Who will you consult and how will you consult them? | Options paper | Invitation to comment (p. 32) |
| Communications material | * ACMA e-bulletin directed to previous 6 GHz band consultation respondents and subscribers to radiocommunications issues.
* ACMA ‘tune-up’ with stakeholders held on 29 February 202.
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| Outcomes paper  | Summary of submissions (p. 4-7) |
| 6. What is the best option from those you have considered and how will it be implemented? | Outcomes paper  | The way forward (p. 17-18) |
| 7. How you will evaluate your chosen option against the success metrics? | Outcomes paper  | Evaluation of outcomes (p. 18) |