Southern Cross Austereo (SCA) would like to make a submission to the above mentioned Consultation Paper. In particular, SCA would like to comment on the sections of the paper that refer to Toowoomba/Warwick radio. SCA is the existing licensee of 4RGD which is a FM commercial radio licence (SL1150094) and 4GR (SL4174) which is an AM commercial radio licence.

The Consultation Paper proposes that the technical specifications for the 4WK (SL4187) at Toowoomba in the Toowoomba LAP be changed to facilitate a change in the nominal location and convert the frequency band from AM to FM.

We understand that 4WK needs a new site for its 1359kHz AM transmitter on the basis that the land on which it is currently situated which is owned by Super Radio (not the local Council) which operates 4WK is to be re-zoned by the Toowoomba Council and will not be able to cater for the AM transmitter.

SCA opposes the conversion from AM to FM on the basis that this change is not needed to address the problem caused by the proposed rezoning of the land on which the current transmitter is located. We are concerned that the supposed need for a new site for 4WK is being incorrectly used as a reason to upgrade the licence to a FM licence.

SCA contends that there is a viable alternative without the need for an AM to FM conversion. The 4WK 1359kHz AM transmitter can be relocated to the SCA AM transmitter site and combined into the antenna system currently used by 4GR at Drayton. SCA is happy to have a conversation with Super Radio regarding how this co-location can be accommodated.

Yours sincerely,

Rick Lenarcic
Head of Regional Media