



## **SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND UHF EMERGENCY SERVICE TEAM**

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Manager

National Interest Planning Section

Australian Communications and Media Authority

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To Whom It May Concern,

We at the South East Queensland UHF Emergency Service Team (SEQUEST) are writing in regards to the 400 MHz Band Review following the release of "The way ahead – Decisions and implementation options for the 400 MHz band"

Although SEQUEST does agree that the CBRS Band is largely congested in Capital Areas due to Business demand for Licence Free cheap and reliable communication, as well as the use of Construction Companies and Transport companies are now being forced to seek other channels due to other users advising that and I quote "this is our channel please vacate" however Emergency Channels are becoming more active with user interference due to lack of Education as well as lack of Enforcement from Government Agencies however the Proposal of 5a/35a as well as 5b/35b as chat channels is going to be greatly difficult to educate many users.

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On the topic of Enforcement on the CBRS Emergency Frequencies we feel that a more active role should be taken by both the ACMA as well as Law Enforcement Agencies and stricter penalties should be imposed on people who deliberately cause interference on Emergency Channels as well as further education efforts from manufactures and retailers who sell this equipment as many of our members who offer there time and equipment to make sure that emergency channels are keep clear for emergency use are coping abuse from other users.

The Channel number is of great concern to SEQUEST due to possible confusion of communication users. SEQUEST proposes to the ACMA that they keep the existing 1-40 channel numbering the way they are and place channel 41-80 being the new channels on top of this. Our reasoning behind this is that many users whilst the transition in place will still be able to communicate with newer equipment without the use of conversion charts which can take large amounts of time.

We also feel that the relaxation of CBRS Repeater Licensing is fantastic however SEQUEST would like to see that if a Emergency Repeater is offline for extended periods that the licensee should loss the licence to the repeater.

In conclusion SEQUEST would like to thank the ACMA for allowing Stakeholder Feedback in regards to the proposal and feel that the extension of CBRS channels is greatly needed and will be well regarded from many users who are victims of abuse for using channels.

Kindest Regards

Phil Adie

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Acting Director

South East Old Emergency Service Team

SEQUEST