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Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
Webform Submission

Submission

12 April 2024

Re: Ministerial Policy Statement—Expiring Spectrum Licences

The Australian Communications Consumer Action Network (**ACCAN**) thanks the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (**the Department**) for the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft Ministerial Policy Statement—Expiring Spectrum Licences (**the Draft**).

ACCAN is the peak body that represents consumers on communications issues including telecommunications, broadband, and emerging new services. ACCAN provides a strong unified voice to industry and government as consumers work towards communications services that are trusted, inclusive and available for all.

ACCAN supports the Draft and welcomes further engagement from the Department on this topic. ACCAN would support additions and clarifications to the Draft. The Draft should:

- Encourage the Australian Communications and Media Authority (**ACMA**) to consider information on the utilisation of spectrum to inform it's understanding of actual and potential competition amongst incumbent and prospective spectrum licensees to inform its application of the public interest criteria.
- Recommend that the ACMA consider developing public interest criteria for the use of low earth orbit satellites due to the potentially significant benefits of low earth orbit satellites in improving communications reliability.

For ACCAN's extended comments, please see the attached copy of the Draft.

We thank the Department for the opportunity to comment on the Draft. Should you wish to discuss any of the issues raised in this submission further, please do not hesitate to contact me at:

con.gouskos@accan.org.au.

Yours sincerely,

Con Gouskos
Policy Officer

ACCAN is committed to reconciliation that acknowledges Australia's past and values the unique culture and heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. [Read our RAP](#)
