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The Manager

Major Spectrum Allocations Section

Spectrum Allocations Branch

Australian Communications and Media Authority

PO Box 78, Belconnen ACT 2616

Reference: [ACMA IFC 14/2019](#) – Proposed updates to several RALIs

Dear Manager,

CSIRO welcomes the opportunity to comment on the ACMA IFC 14/2019. In particular on the consultation paper titled “Draft spectrum reallocation recommendation for the 26 GHz band in cities and regional centres”.

CSIRO Astronomy and Space Science (CASS) are responsible for the management and operation of the Canberra Deep Space Communication Complex (CDSCC) under a government to government treaty between Australia and the USA as well as a Cooperating Agency Agreement between CSIRO and NASA. CDSCC is an integral and vital part of NASA’s Deep Space Network (DSN) providing invaluable contributions to international space exploration. It comprises substantial assets developed over 50 years of cooperation including several very large antennas at the CDSCC facility enabling tracking of dozens of international Near-Earth and Deep-Space missions representing spacecraft assets in excess of \$35 Billion.

CSIRO’s interest in this IFC is as a result of our management of the CDSCC facility in Australia and the need to utilise the 25.5 – 27.0 GHz band that is allocated to SPACE RESEARCH (space-to-Earth) on a primary basis for critical tracking, telemetry and control purposes for an expanding list of multiple international spacecraft missions. CSIRO is pleased to continue to work closely with the ACMA to ensure the continued and necessary protection from interference for this important work and to offer the following comments:

CSIRO notes and appreciates the proposed exclusion zones and zones where no services would be permitted in the vicinity of CDSCC in order to ensure protection of our extremely sensitive SRS receivers that operate in the frequency range 25.5 – 27.0 GHz as allocated to SRS in the ITU Radio Regulations.

Worse case study results we have conducted initially indicated some 5G deployment zones within Canberra with the potential to generate interference in the 25.5 – 27.0 GHz band into CDSCC (depending on study parameters selected). However, after further refinement of the parameters used in our study, we now expect that the ACMA proposed protection zones for CDSCC will provide adequate protection for the facilities ongoing operations. In order to confirm this expectation CSIRO would be pleased to work with the ACMA on any further technical analysis/discussion as required as part of the proposed Technical Liaison Group process.

Thank you for the opportunity to consider and comment on the ACMA IFC 14/2019.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Knights', is positioned below the text 'Yours Sincerely,'.

Kevin Knights
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