

# Department of Communications Directory

The table lists Divisions, Branches and some Sections of the Department's Central Office, together with the name and telephone number of the officer in charge of each unit. The information is largely based on the Commonwealth Government Directory (July 1983).

**Broadcasting Division** advises on broadcasting policy and planning and the Minister's responsibilities under the *Broadcasting and Television Act 1942* (both in relation to planning and the provision of services by the ABC and SBS).

**Communications Development Division** advises on policy aspects of the demand for, and potential means for supply of, communications services and the development of standards for the introduction of new technologies.

**Corporate Policy and Projects Division** advises on policies and projects where more than one communications system is involved and is responsible for various operational functions such as legislation, information and management services.

**Radio Frequency Management Division** advises on the Minister's responsibilities under the *Wireless Telegraphy Act 1905*, the *Wireless Telegraphy Regulations Act 1970* and international agreements relating to the use of the radio spectrum.

**Space Telecommunications and Postal Policy Division** advises on the Minister's responsibilities under the *Postal Services Act 1975*, *Telecommunications Act 1975*, *Overseas Telecommunications Act 1946* and the Memorandum and Articles of Association of AUSSAT Pty. Ltd.

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS — CENTRAL OFFICE

Secretary .. R.B. Lansdown (64 4994)

Deputy Secretary .. E.E. Payne (64 4939)

BROADCASTING DIVISION	COMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPMENT DIVISION	CORPORATE POLICY AND PROJECTS DIVISION	RADIO FREQUENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION	SPACE TELECOMMUNICATIONS & POSTAL POLICY DIVISION
P.B. Westerway (64 4696)	D.R. Eyles (64 4649)	A.F. Guster (64 3095)	M.R. Ramsay (64 4601)	V.J. Kane (64 3742)
Broadcasting Policy Branch R. Smith (64 4946)	Communications Applications Branch N. O'Doherty (64 4649)	Management Services Branch B. Johnman (64 3483)	Operations Branch C.W. Pike* (03. 609 1570)	External Relations Branch D. Large (64 3741)
Station Establishment & Operations Branch A.T. Garner* (03. 609 1641)	Communications Systems Branch R.P. Mere (64 3221)	Policy Analysis and Co-ordination Branch J.P. Coleman (64 3717)	Planning & Development Branch J.N. McKendry 64 4635)	Finance and Regulatory Branch J.D. MacLean (64 3260)
Station Planning Branch A. Norris* (03. 609 1671)		Information and Public Relations Section G. Barrow (64 4690)		Services and Standards Branch Dr E.N. Cain (64 4999)
		Legislation Section A. Blunden (64 3198)		
		Broadcast Planning Task Force V.H. Jones (64 4192)		

\*Melbourne telephone numbers. All other telephone numbers are Canberra based, area code 062.

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At the preliminary hearings before magistrates in Sydney and Brisbane, counsel for the stations indicated that the question of the constitutional validity of the *Wireless Telegraphy Act* would be raised, on the ground that the Act breached the guarantee of freedom of "trade, commerce and intercourse" among the States contained in s.92 of the Constitution.

The cases were adjourned to April. It is expected that the magistrates will

determine the factual questions and then refer the questions of law to the High Court.

Issues likely to arise in the High Court case include whether the transmission of television signals comes within the description of "trade, commerce and intercourse"; whether restrictions on interstate trade should be based on wide discretionary licensing powers not limited by objective criteria; and whether the licensing scheme imposes no more restrictions

than are reasonably necessary to achieve acceptable objectives. (These matters are more fully canvassed by Mark Armstrong in *Broadcasting Law and Policy in Australia*.)

If the stations are ultimately convicted of the alleged offences, the question could arise whether the licensee companies were "fit and proper" persons to hold television licences under the *Broadcasting and Television Act 1942*.