

SHIRE OF BODDINGTON

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The Committee Secretary
House Communications Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam

RADIO INDUSTRY INQUIRY

I refer to the inquiry into the adequacy of radio services in non-metropolitan Australia and would like to make the following comments. (It is realised that submissions closed on 27 October 2000 but, due to my absence from the Shire, a submission was not forwarded in time. It is hoped you can include these comments in your inquiry).

"The Shire of Boddington is located 123 kilometres south-east of the Perth GPO. We currently do not receive any FM Radio transmissions from the Perth Metropolitan Area. The only FM station received by a few people in the shire is 97.3 Coastal FM from Mandurah, which is 95 kilometres away.

The ABC services us but, as you would be well aware, the ABC is not a popular station with teenagers.

Council has been successful in obtaining approval from the Australian Broadcasting Commission to have 92.9FM extended to Boddington, however this will cost the shire \$8,000 and initially have a radius of only 5 kilometres. Council can extend the distance by paying more but is not in a position to allocate additional funding to have the radius extended.

Naturally our ratepayers expect a better radio and television service because of our close proximity to the metropolitan area, however Boddington is situated in a valley and does not receive a good television reception in many locations either, for this reason."

Council supports its ratepayers in their criticism of the existing services supplied and trusts that the Committee Inquiry will result in positive steps to provide an adequate radio (and television) service to non-metropolitan Australia.

Yours faithfully

P R Bradbrook
Chief Executive Officer
31 October 2000