



# SHIRE OF LAVERTON

Western Gateway to AYERS ROCK via ALICE SPRINGS via the GREAT CENTRAL HIGHWAY

MacPherson Place, LAVERTON, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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Our Ref:T/16/1

6 October 2000

The Committee Secretary  
House of Representatives  
Communications Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Secretary:.....

RECEIVED

17 OCT 2000

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
COMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORT AND  
THE ARTS

House of Representatives Standing Committee on Communications, Transport and the Arts
Submission No: ..... 54 .....
Date Received: ..... 17/10/00 .....
Secretary: ..... Janet Holmes .....

Dear Sir,

**Subject: Radio Industry Inquiry**

Council recently received a copy of a fax with regard to the above inquiry and in response the following comments are provided for the information of your committee.

For your information I advise that the Shire of Laverton is situated in the North Eastern Goldfields Region of Western Australia. The Shire covers an area of 183,198 km<sup>2</sup> and has a population of some 2000 people. Included in the area of the Shire of Laverton are a number of gold mines and a nickel mine development as well as three aboriginal communities located throughout this area.

Within the townsite of Laverton present radio access to this area is very limited. The townsite has access to a FM radio station and also to ABC Regional FM radio station.

In addition some of the mining camps in the shire provide their own FM radio station for the accommodation/population for their mine site.

The provision of FM radio in the town of Laverton was only made possible following Council's decision to provide television services to the town site via the television satellite service.

At present Council's FM ABC Radio service, centred on the Pilbara/Kimberley Region of Western Australia. Following a number of approaches to the ABC, Council has been able to convince the ABC that it would be more appropriate for the programs from the Kalgoorlie Goldfields Region of ABC is more appropriate to this area rather than programs emanating from the Pilbara/Kimberley.

The change from the Pilbara based broadcast to the Goldfields is we believe to occur very shortly.

Council believes that a regional AM commercial radio station based in the North Eastern Goldfields, perhaps in Leonora, would be an appropriate improvement in radio services to this area.


There is no doubt significant social benefits to all residents of this area in terms of access to public radio and this is an area of service that many people take for granted in more populated rural and regional Australia.

This Council personally does not have much experience with regard to the networking of radio programming but we are aware that the networking of television advertising does occur on one of our two rural remote area television stations.

We consider the Shire of Laverton to be in a very isolated area of Australia and due to our remoteness and climate leads to many of the social, community and entertainment disadvantages. In order to overcome some of these disadvantages we believe that the Shire of Laverton should have equivalent access to radio services as would apply to any resident of a reasonable size centre such as Canberra in the Australian Capital Territory.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me personally.

Yours sincerely



**MN BROWN**  
**Chief Executive Officer**