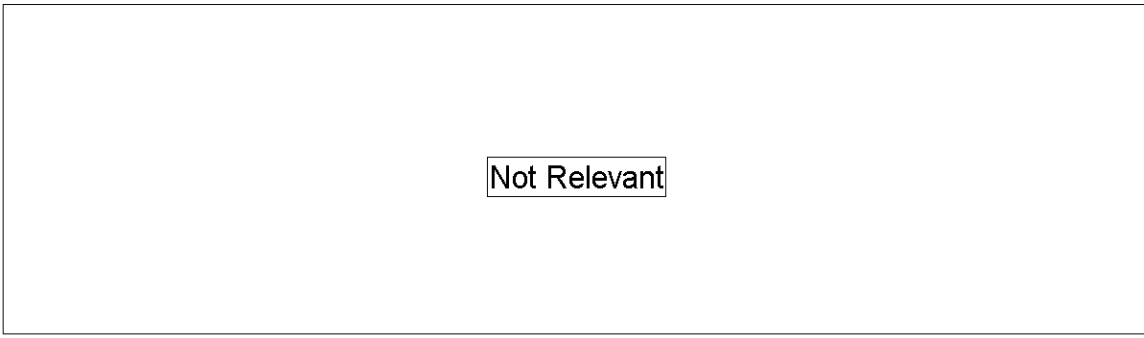


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Not Relevant

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Cabinet Notes

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SA GOVERNMENT RADIO NETWORK COVERAGE

MINUTES forming ENCLOSURE to**TO: PREMIER FOR CABINET TO NOTE****RE: SA GOVERNMENT RADIO NETWORK COVERAGE****1. PROPOSAL**

- 1.1 That Cabinet notes that DAIS will instruct Telstra to increase SA Government Radio Network (SA-GRN) coverage in SA-GRN Region 3 (Riverland) extending along the upper Murray beyond Renmark to the NSW/Victoria border in lieu of establishing the contracted site and maintain the contracted coverage for Region 4 (Yorke Peninsula, Mid-North and Barrier Highway to Broken Hill). These arrangements are cost neutral to the State.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The SA-GRN Contract with Telstra has a comprehensive requirement for the provision of radio and paging services in defined areas of the State. This area in total amounts to 226,000 sq km and covers approximately 96% of the State's population (see attached coverage map).
- 2.2 The determination of the Coverage Area was undertaken as part of the RFP preparation process in 1996/97, in consultation with all user Agencies. As part of this determination the State specified that coverage was required along the Barrier Highway to Broken Hill.
- 2.3 In response to this, Telstra provided the State with a concept design that included a site at Broken Hill. This in effect would have provided coverage over and above the State's requirements.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 Since the RFP stage, the State's requirements for coverage have remained substantially unchanged, however a small variation to requirements has been identified in the Riverland (Region 3) to meet changing operational circumstances.
- 3.2 SA Police has highlighted a location outside of the original contracted coverage area extending along the upper Murray beyond Renmark to the NSW/Victoria border as now being operationally important.
- 3.3 The area contains part of the Bookmark Biosphere Reserve, which has seen an increase in bio-tourism and research in the past few years as well the area gaining notoriety recently for drug related activities.
- 3.4 SAPOL have an existing radio facility at Bunyip Reach, which is more than suitable for housing a SA-GRN transmission site.

- 3.5 User agencies have indicated that the additional coverage provided by a transmission site at Broken Hill is not required.
- 3.6 The SA-GRN site planned for Broken Hill will not be constructed by Telstra. This does not have a deleterious effect on SA-GRN contracted coverage to Broken Hill. A new site will be constructed at Bunyip Reach near Renmark thereby meeting the increased coverage requirements of SAPOL and PIRSA in the Riverland at no additional cost to the State.

4. RECOMMENDATION

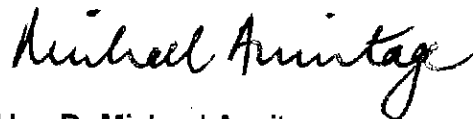
It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 4.1 notes that DAIS will instruct Telstra to increase SA Government Radio Network (SA-GRN) coverage in SA-GRN Region 3 (Riverland) extending along the upper Murray beyond Renmark to the NSW/Victoria border in lieu of establishing the contracted site and maintain the contracted coverage for Region 4 (Yorke Peninsula, Mid-North and Barrier Highway to Broken Hill). These arrangements are cost neutral to the State.



Hon Robert Lawson QC MLC
MINISTER FOR ADMINISTRATIVE
AND INFORMATION SERVICES

25.10.01



Hon Dr Michael Armitage
MINISTER FOR GOVERNMENT
ENTERPRISES

25.10.01