

# WC83: Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment Revision Working Committee – WC83



## Terms of Reference

Objective of the **Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment** (C564:2011) Industry Code (the 'Code') and the revision

The objectives of this Code are:

- (a) to apply a Precautionary Approach to the deployment of radiocommunications infrastructure;
- (b) to provide best practice processes for demonstrating compliance with relevant exposure limits and the protection of the public;
- (c) to ensure that the exposure of the community to EMR's is minimised;
- (d) to ensure relevant stakeholders are informed and consulted before radiocommunications infrastructure is constructed;
- (e) to specify standards for consultation, information availability and presentation;
- (f) to consider the impact on the well being of the community, physical or otherwise, of radiocommunications infrastructure; and
- (g) to ensure local government and community views are incorporated into the radiocommunications infrastructure site selection.

The objective of this revision is to address the areas detailed in the Working Committee's Terms of Reference to ensure that the obligations upon the Carriers are providing the best mechanisms to meet the above objectives of the Code.

In revising the Code, the working committee should also be aware of and take note of the proposed amendments suggested by the Department of Communications and the Arts to the *Telecommunications (Low Impact Facilities) Determination 1997* and the *Telecommunications Code of Practice 1997* under Schedule 3 of the *Telecommunications Act 1997*.

## Terms of Reference

The **WC83: Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment** Revision Working Committee is to perform an area of work identified in the review of the **Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment** (C564:2011) Industry Code. This Committee in carrying out the specific terms below is to observe the following guidelines, as appropriate:

- to ensure that Codes that are to be registered with the ACMA comply with Part 6 of the Telecommunications Act 1997 including the identification of:
  - the sections of the industry that are to be covered by the Code, as per s.110 of the Act; and

- o the telecommunications activities to be covered by the Code, as per s.109 of the Act.

The Working Committee is to revise the Code considering the following:

- Introductory Statement – update to align with and clarify the necessary changes to the Code.
- allowance for notification to stakeholders when more than one site address exists.
- any changes to Australia Post's standard delivery timeframes and inclusion of electronic communications.
- improved clarity around whether a facility is classified as 'low-impact', 'complying development', 'exempt development', or 'subject to development application'.
- clarification of blackout periods for notifications (e.g. Christmas holidays), including an elongation of period
- review consultation communication formats as prescribed in Appendix E.
- improvements to the management of damaged or stolen signage on properties.
- amendments to section 5 of the Code to address new technologies.
- consideration of changes to media and technology and review the appropriateness of newspaper notifications in relation to section 7.
- consider what is appropriate consultation for community sensitive locations – hospitals, schools, aged care centres.
- review section 11 Complaint Handling.
- add a section on resources available for further information.
- review Appendix C references to reflect current ARPANSA report format.
- whether Appendix H is still required or if a reference to the work and requirements of the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) and the ACMA are sufficient.
- editorial changes that update existing references such as organisation names and contacts.

### **Deliverables**

- a revised edition of the **Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment** Industry Code (C564:201X)

### **Terms of Reference Exclusions**

Issues related to:

- the regulatory arrangements including the *Telecommunications (Low Impact Facilities) Determination 1997*.
- Government powers and policy setting.
- the Australian EMR emissions standards and health effects.