



29 November 2021

Hugh Clapin
Community Broadcasting and Safeguards Section
Australian Communications and Media Authority
Level 5, The Bay Centre
65 Pirrama Road
Pyrmont NSW 2009

Via email: Hugh.Clapin@acma.gov.au

Broadcasting Services (Remote Indigenous Communities) Determination 2011

Dear Hugh,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our views on the Broadcasting Services (Remote Indigenous Communities) Determination 2011 (the Determination) ahead of it sunsetting on 1 April 2022.

The CBAA has a policy position that community broadcasting services – television and radio – should be available across all licence areas/markets in Australia. Community broadcasting services are a key part of the wide-ranging media ecosystem. In remote areas they play a vital role in strengthening communities through the sharing of local content; production and broadcasting of hyperlocal news; and, by providing employment, training and pathways for broadcasters, artists and young people living in remote communities.

In the years since the Determination came into force the media landscape has changed a great deal. However, inequalities in access to and participation in media continue to be significant problems in remote communities. The Determination still has a role to play in offering potential community television services in Remote Indigenous Communities a more supportive regulatory environment. The section 87A exemption leaves the door open for local broadcasting services to emerge in the communities that most need them, consistent with Target 17 of the [National Agreement on Closing the Gap](#).

The CBAA has spoken with First Nations Media Australia (FNMA) in preparing our response and supports the FNMA's position that the Determination is still needed with some small amendments to the list of communities currently included.

We thank the ACMA for its continuing engagement with the sector. Should you wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Holly Friedlander Liddicoat, CBAA's Head of Advocacy and Communications at holly.friedlander@cbaa.org.au or via 02 9310 2999.

Best regards,

Jon Bisset
Chief Executive Officer