

EUGOWRA PROMOTION & PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

EUGOWRA
2806.

REGIONAL SITE.
46 SNSW EUGOWRA.

TO
THE GENERAL MANAGER
DIGITAL BROADCASTING.
Department of Communications, Information Technology and Arts.
GPO Box 2154
Canberra ACT 2601.

Dear Sir,

I make this submission for and on behalf of the above organisation having had the project of the TV Black spots in our village. I coordinated the project with our local council Cabonne Council. The facility is owned and maintained by the above association with no funds from council. We have realised the change in Federal Governments policies towards Digital TV and have looked at the change over price of new Transmitters. We are 80 km from Orange NSW where the transmitters are made and use the makers to maintain our five units. We have no funds to make this change over; we were forced to renew our air conditioner last year. That has taken all our funds plus the odd new fun in three of the transmitters.

We have a population of 598 and 368 house holds plus schools, hospital and self care units. Being surrounded by garnet hills some house holds has reception difficulties. While others receive most stations, but our tower gives good coverage to all parts of the village.

We believe that for these's who rely on the TV Black spots retransmission after digital change over will be back in 1999 with little or no TV.

The association has lots to do keeping the small community from losing vital things like Banks, Hospital and schools. Now reading the submission paper which states of remote and isolated areas, being perhaps in a better position than one like ours, so close to a large regional area, that our needs may not be met.

The local makers at Orange NSW have given us a quote of \$3,000 + GST per unit for digital transmission at the same power out put. That means a total cost of \$15,000 + GST much beyond our budget.

By the time 2010-12 comes we will have well over 50% of our population over 65 and the need to have the pleasure of home entertainment could be at a very high cost to the individual.

Yours Sincerely
David Hyde