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Wireless Users New Zealand Response to DRAFT FIVE YEAR SPECTRUM OUTLOOK 2022–2026

Wireless Users New Zealand welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the Draft Five Year Spectrum Outlook.

In respect of the three questions asked

1. Have we identified the range of technological advancements and probable new demands relevant to New Zealand?

There is limited mention in the draft for the requirements of wireless microphone users. While New Zealand is in ITU region 3, most wireless microphone systems are sourced from manufacturers in Region 1 and 2, each of which cater to different requirements. This limits the options for legitimate spectrum use in New Zealand. Only by continued engagement with wireless users can “demands and advances” in spectrum use be addressed as issues arise.

Section 3.1.2 refers to spectrum sharing however there are no tools or database available which would allow a user in a specific location to determine which Television White Space devices are being used in real time.

2. Have we prioritised the right issues that we will need to actively manage through our work programme (to the extent this is possible to predict now)?

Wireless Users NZ notes that GUSL’s for wireless microphones actually expire in March 2025 Will the GUSL for radio mics in both the 500MHz and 600MHz bands will be renewed?

Wireless microphones are used across a wide variety of situations and professional users such as in screen production, sports and broadcasting need to have assurance that their investment in equipment is safe for the foreseeable future.

3. Are there other matters that we should cover?

If there are to be changes in spectrum allocation of the 600 MHz and 500 MHz bands wireless users will need more notice and surety than the current Draft Five Year Outlook provides. Equipment may need to be replaced before it is deemed inoperable or obsolete. This will require investment and planning. Given the current operating environment under Covid this will put businesses and organisations reliant on wireless microphones under unsustainable stress.

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