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**Statement**  
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## **Free TV welcomes ACMA's decision to adopt a 'block' spectrum planning approach**

Free TV Australia welcomes the Australian Communications and Media Authority's (ACMA's) announcement today that it is recommending a 'block' approach to planning the restack of broadcasting spectrum.

"This announcement is a great win for Australian viewers," Free TV Australia CEO Julie Flynn said. "The 'block' plan will help to ensure that viewers continue to receive high quality digital television services into the future by addressing many legacy planning problems and simplifying viewer antenna requirements," said Ms Flynn.

The Government has announced that it will seek a 126 MHz Digital Dividend of spectrum after all analogue television services are switched off at the end of 2013. In order to deliver the vacant spectrum necessary for the Dividend, remaining digital television services need to be reorganised and replanned below 694 MHz. This process is called 'restacking'.

"The 'block' model will deliver a timely and cost-effective restack and will bring long-term benefits to viewers, broadcasters and spectrum planners," Ms Flynn said.

"We look forward to continuing to work closely with the ACMA and the Government to deliver a smooth transition to digital services for all viewers and restacking within the agreed timetable, whilst maintaining a viable and robust free-to-air television platform."

-ENDS-

### **Media enquiries and interviews:**

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