

Review of NSW Government radio services
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
mobileradio@ipart.nsw.gov.au

18 April 2011

Your Ref:
Our Ref: A/11/0079

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Review of NSW Government radio services

Thank you for the opportunity of being able to comment on and offer submissions in regard to the Review of NSW Government radio services. The Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) is a relatively small user of the GRN having 29 radios in total. Due to the nature of our investigative duties we only have one team which utilises the GRN and that access may be anywhere within NSW.

That one team of investigators are 'impactor' users; in accordance with your definition. The nature of their duties dictates they could not function effectively without having access to the network. That team has twenty radios (vehicle and hand held).

There are occasions where we may have to utilise all (29) of our radios in the course of an investigation. The GRN provides a more cost efficient and instant service, which is required by our specialist team. This talk group operability is not possible with mobile phones.

NON-SENSITIVE

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In answer to specific questions which affect the ICAC I submit the following;

- The ICAC bill for GRN access 2009/10 was \$1162.76 per month; annual charges were \$13,953.12;
- The ICAC bill for GRN access is currently \$1,196.57 per month. For the 2010/11 year this equates to projected expenditure of \$14,358.84 per annum;
- For the ICAC an 'impactor' pays system would appear to be the most appropriate method of costing our usage. However, if adopted, the costs applied should be based on our actual unit usage of the GRN;
- Considering any administrative arrangements in place and the relatively small use of all of our radios (compared to larger organisations) on the GRN, a fixed (monthly) charge may be more appropriate. This justification is based on the rise and fall of demand for the specialist team services;
- Our current charges are based on terminal numbers. Due to the necessary, though sporadic use of our radios, a terminal based unit of consumption, for both active and inactive terminals may be more appropriate in our situation;

I trust this response assists you in your deliberations. Should you have any further queries in relation to the ICAC use of the GRN please direct them to A/Chief Investigator John Hoitink on 8281 5873 or jhoitink@icac.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely



The Hon David Ipp AO QC
Commissioner