

# Guide to applying for a permit to install a submarine cable in a protection zone

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# Introduction

This guide is intended to assist carriers in **applying for a permit to install a submarine cable in a protection zone** under Clause 51 of Schedule 3A to the *Telecommunications Act 1997* (the Act). These permits are referred to as 'PZ permits' (that is, 'protection zone installation permits') throughout this guide.

The guide outlines the legislative requirements governing the process of applying for PZ permits and the Australian Communications and Media Authority's (ACMA's) policies for administering this process.

This guide is not a substitute for the Act and is intended to be read in conjunction with Schedule 3A to the Act. Expressions used in the guide are intended to have the same meaning as in the Act.

Potential applicants may contact the ACMA for information about the permit process for installing submarine cables. However, this information is provided without prejudice to a subsequent decision by the ACMA, and the ACMA reserves the right to exercise its powers under the Act to refuse an application or impose conditions on a permit to install a submarine cable.

In making decisions on matters covered in this guide, the ACMA will take all relevant factors into account and decide each application on its merits. Potential applicants are advised to seek their own independent legal advice when preparing a permit application. This document is a guide only and not a substitute for any legal or other professional advice.

An **application form** for a permit to install a submarine cable in a protection zone is available on the ACMA [website](#). Schedule 3A to the *Telecommunications Act 1997* and the associated Explanatory Memorandum can also be downloaded from the ACMA website.

## Other permits required

Carriers should note that they will also need to apply for a non-protection zone (non-PZ) permit if a part of the cable is outside the declared protection zone out to the limit of Australia's Exclusive Economic Zone. Further information on non-PZ permit linked to a PZ permit can be found on the ACMA [website](#).

Where a non-PZ permit is linked to a PZ permit application, or where an extension is required for both a PZ permit and linked non-PZ permit, there is a reduced application fee.

An application to extend a permit is required if the installation has not been completed within 18 months (see also section 2.3)

# 2. A permit to install a submarine cable in a protection zone

## 2.1 General information

A carrier may apply to the ACMA for a permit to install a submarine cable in a protection zone (PZ).

This section provides guidance on the requirements of PZ permit applications, including:

- > the recommended process for carriers making an application
- > applicable charges
- > procedures for processing PZ permit applications.

There is a separate guide for a non-PZ permit, which is a permit required to install a submarine cable (or part of a submarine cable) outside a protection zone or from the limit of a protection zone out to Australia's Exclusive Economic Zone.

### Terminology

The guide refers to the following terms, which are explained below.

**'Australian waters'** is defined in Schedule 3A of the Act to mean:

- > the waters of the territorial sea (within the meaning of the *Seas and Submerged Lands Act 1973*) of Australia
- > the waters of the exclusive economic zone of Australia
- > the sea above that part of the continental shelf of Australia that is beyond the limits of the exclusive economic zone.

**'Carrier'** is defined in the *Telecommunications Act 1997* as 'the holder of a carrier licence'.

**'Coastal waters'** is defined in Schedule 3A of the Act to mean the waters covered by the *Coastal Waters (State Powers) Act 1980* (Cth) or the *Coastal Waters (Northern Territory Powers) Act 1980* (Cth). Coastal waters are generally the first three nautical miles of the territorial sea adjacent to each state and the Northern Territory, plus (in the case of Western Australia) some title areas landward of the territorial sea baseline but external to the state.

**'Non-PZ permits'** refers to permits for carriers to install submarine cables in Australian waters outside a protection zone and outside coastal waters (which are within the jurisdiction of states and territories).

**'PZ permits'** refers to permits for carriers to install submarine cables in a protection zone.

For other definitions relating to the submarine cable regime, carriers are advised to refer to Clause 2 (1) of Schedule 3A of the Act.

### Important note

Carriers wishing to install submarine cables in a protection zone may be required to comply with state and territory laws (for example on the protection of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage).

They will also need to comply with the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act).

The ACMA recommends that carriers seek independent advice on the requirements of any state or territory laws and any requirements that may apply under the EPBC Act.

### **The ACMA may impose conditions**

If an application is granted, the ACMA may make the PZ permit subject to specified conditions that relate to the installation of the cable or cables. Conditions may vary across different locations within the PZ permit area. Conditions can be varied by the ACMA at any time, and remain in force until modified or revoked by the ACMA.

### **Duration of a PZ permit**

A PZ permit will remain in force for **18 months**. The 18-month period of the permit commences on the day it is granted.

A carrier may seek an extension of a permit for a further 180 days under Clause 61 of Schedule 3A. The carrier seeking the extension must give the ACMA reasons in writing for seeking the extension **before** the PZ permit expires. There is no statutory limit to the number of extensions that may be granted, but a fee of \$495.00 (GST exempt) will be payable in each case.

Should the installation relate to a cable to be installed in both a PZ and outside a PZ (in Australian waters but not in Coastal waters up to three nautical miles from shore), then the carrier may seek a concurrent extension for a linked non-PZ permit at the same time as they seek the extension for the PZ permit. As long as this occurs with the one request, there is only one fee payable to extend both permits.

## **2.2 Recommended process for carriers**

### **Checklist for carriers**

Before applying to the ACMA for a PZ permit, the applicant **must** apply for and obtain an Australian carrier licence (if the applicant is not already a carrier). It is also recommended that an applicant:

- > apply for and obtain all permits or approvals required under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*
- > apply for and obtain all relevant state/territory permits or approvals required under relevant state or territory laws, including the protection of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage
- > complete a desktop or hydrographic survey outlining the proposed route of the cable installation
- > if wishing to pay by EFT, BPay, Locked Bag, or credit card, contact the Australian Communications and Media Authority's Finance Section via email: [remittances@acma.gov.au](mailto:remittances@acma.gov.au) or phone 02 6219 5521 to request a tax invoice be sent to you. Payments can then be made by following the instructions on the tax invoice.

**Note:** The ACMA strongly recommends that carriers approach the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities **before** applying to the ACMA for a PZ permit. Requirements of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* will continue to apply. In the same way, carriers should obtain relevant permits and approvals from applicable state and territory bodies including those responsible for laws protecting Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage. Carriers need to consider good engineering practice and recommended industry practices for cable co-location, including cable separation and cable crossings. It is recommended that carriers consider discussing the proposed route with other relevant cable owners within the PZ and seek their agreement to the proposed route before applying to the ACMA for a PZ permit.

## 2.3 Applicable charges for PZ permits

### Application fee

An application for a PZ permit must be accompanied by the appropriate fee of \$2,215.00 (GST exempt) either by a cheque payable to the Collector of Public Moneys, Australian Communications and Media Authority or direct deposit to the ACMA.

The fee relates to the expenses arising from the ACMA's administration of the application, and the amount is based on cost recovery.

For direct deposit, contact the ACMA's Finance Section via email at [remittances@acma.gov.au](mailto:remittances@acma.gov.au) or phone 02 6219 5521 **prior to lodging the application submission** to arrange for a tax invoice to be sent to you. Payments can then be made by EFT, Locked Bag, BPay or credit card by following the instructions on the tax invoice.

### Extension of permit fee

A carrier seeking the extension of a PZ permit must give the ACMA reasons in writing for seeking the extension before the PZ permit expires. The carrier will also need to confirm that there are no substantive changes to either its status as a carrier or the proposed installation. When seeking a permit extension, a fee of \$595 (GST exempt) will apply. If an extension is sought at the same time for both the PZ permit and a linked non-PZ permit covering the same cable, the carrier only needs to pay only the one fee (\$595) to extend both permits as long as the application to extend both permits is made at the same time.

## 2.4 Processing PZ permit applications

### Confirmation of receipt

The ACMA will acknowledge in writing receipt of an application for a permit to install a submarine cable in a PZ. The acknowledgement will nominate an ACMA contact officer for enquiries about progress of the application. Applications that do not meet the statutory requirements, or are incomplete or illegible, will be returned to the applicant with an explanatory letter.

### Requests for additional information

After receiving an application for a permit to install a submarine cable, the ACMA will decide to:

- > either proceed to consideration of the application
- > or request additional information from the applicant.

To assist in consideration of an application for a PZ permit, the ACMA may seek clarification or additional information from an applicant about their application. The ACMA will give applicants a reasonable period in which to provide the requested information. Where information is not readily available, the ACMA will consider extending the period if this is requested by the applicant.

### Matters to be considered by the ACMA

The ACMA will refer to the objectives of the legislation as well as any other matters that the ACMA considers relevant. Applicants are requested to provide a response to each criterion at Part B of the application form.

### **Treatment of information**

Applicants should be aware that the ACMA may consider it necessary to consult with other relevant persons before making a decision regarding a permit. The application may be forwarded and/or discussed with other entities. This is specified in the application form.

If the ACMA is of the view that information received is commercial-in-confidence, it will be treated as confidential and not disclosed unless the ACMA is required by law to do so. If there is a legal requirement for the ACMA to disclose commercial-in-confidence information, the ACMA will endeavour to inform that body or person to which the information is disclosed (for example, a government agency) of its confidential nature and endeavour to make arrangements for its proper use and protection.

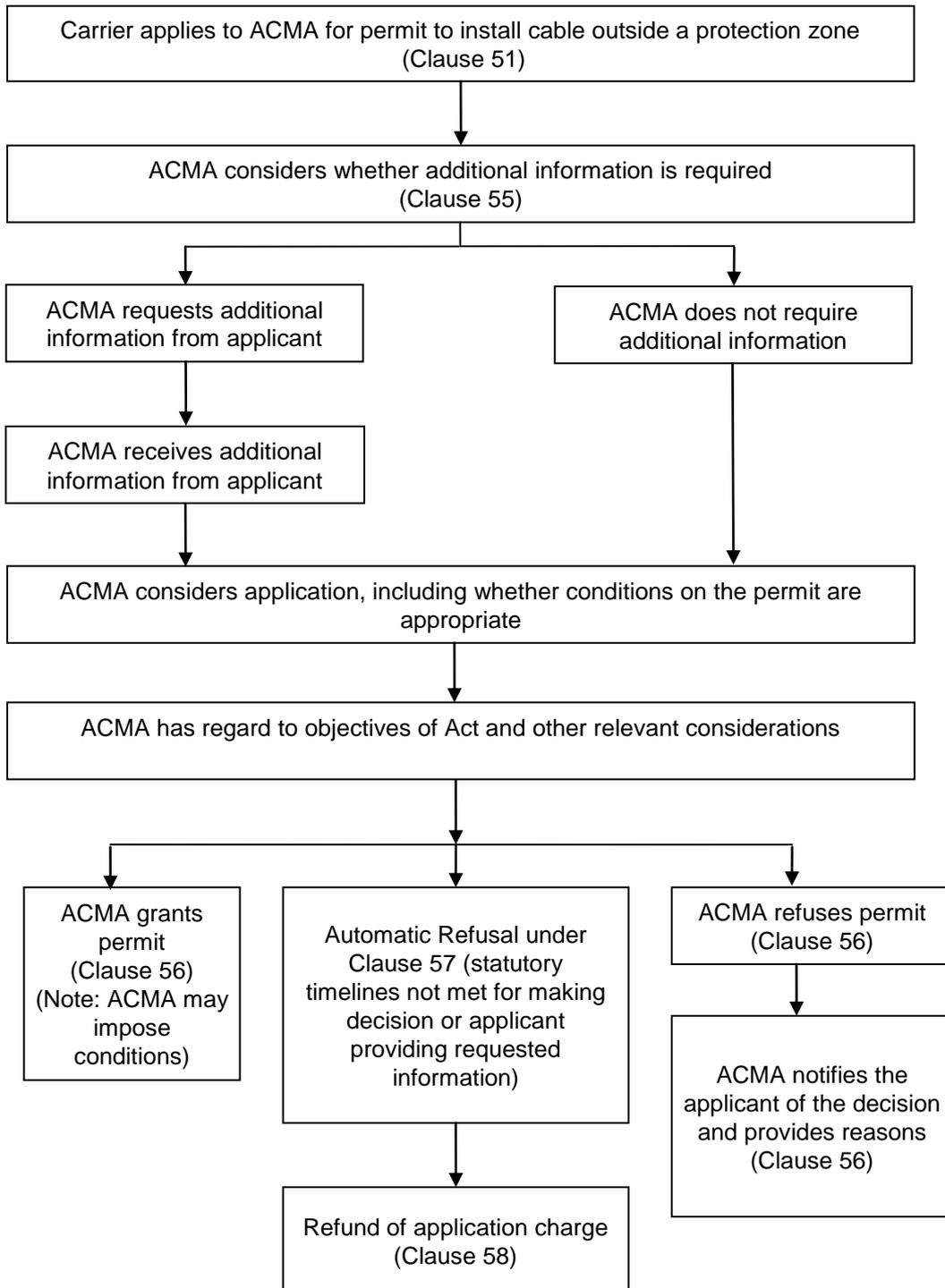
Where an applicant is of the view that specific information supplied against a criterion is commercial-in-confidence and is not to be disclosed to any entity/person outside the ACMA, this should be indicated clearly. The ACMA will then liaise with the applicant about its use if disclosure is required.

### **Timeframes for processing an application**

If the ACMA proceeds with consideration of an application for a permit to install a submarine cable in Australian waters, it is required to grant or refuse the non-protection zone installation permit **within 20 business days** after the day the application for the permit was received.

**Note:** If the ACMA has requested additional information under Clause 55 of Schedule 3A, it may decide not to consider granting or refusing the application until the requested information has been provided. Under Clause 57(3), the ACMA will have 10 business days to finish processing the application after information requested under Clause 55 has been received.

Figure 1 Application process for a PZ permit



# 3. Decision to issue or refuse a PZ permit

## 3.1 Decision-making factors the ACMA will consider

### How the ACMA will consider information provided by applicant

The ACMA will consider all applications on a case-by-case basis. In making a decision about an application, the ACMA will generally rely on information submitted by the applicant, but may request the applicant's agreement to seek other inputs (for example, from other government agencies or existing cable owners) if considered necessary.

Applicants should note that while Schedule 3A does not identify any matters the ACMA must formally consider, the ACMA is likely to consider how each application meets the objectives of the legislation. That is, on providing security and reliability for Australia's national information infrastructure and maximising co-location within the protection zone as far as practicable. The ACMA may also consider any other matters identified when declaring the protection zone. The ACMA will consider any such factors when weighing up whether or not to grant the PZ permit.

As noted, the ACMA is unlikely to consult with others about the permit application, so would not anticipate receiving comments from other bodies. However, as a matter of procedural fairness, if any comments are provided that, in the ACMA's opinion, weigh against the granting of an application and the ACMA proposes to take these into account in making its decision, they would be put to the applicant for comment before a decision is made.

## 3.2 The ACMA's general principles for decision-making

The ACMA's decision to issue a PZ permit is an administrative one. When making administrative decisions, the ACMA must comply with the requirements imposed upon it by law. This includes common law and statutory requirements.

In this guide, decision-makers are either referred to as 'the ACMA', encompassing the Chair and Authority Members, or 'ACMA officers', being officers to whom powers have been delegated under the various Acts and subordinate legislation administered by the ACMA, including the *Australian Communications and Media Authority Act 2005*, the *Radiocommunications Act 1992* and the *Telecommunications Act 1997* (the Acts).

There are a number of legal principles that apply to the ACMA officers making administrative decisions, including:

- 1) the decision must be within a power properly conferred under an Act upon the decision-maker
- 2) a decision-maker must consider all matters that are relevant to the making of the decision and not take into account matters that are not relevant to the making of the decision
- 3) a decision-maker must not make a decision or exercise a power or discretion in bad faith or for an improper purpose
- 4) a decision-maker must ensure that findings of fact are based on probative evidence
- 5) decisions must not be unreasonable

- 6) those who may be affected by a decision must be accorded procedural fairness or natural justice
- 7) a decision-maker must properly consider the application of government policy
- 8) a decision-maker must not exercise a discretionary power at the direction of another person.

### **3.3 Review rights**

A decision by the ACMA to refuse a PZ permit or a PZ permit extension is subject to internal review by the ACMA and review by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) in accordance with Clause 1 of Schedule 4 to the *Telecommunications Act 1997*.

# 4. Preparing an application for a PZ permit

The ACMA has prepared guidelines to assist applicants to prepare an application for a PZ permit. This section provides guidance only about the information requested by the ACMA. Applicants are also encouraged to provide any additional information considered relevant to the ACMA's assessment of an application.

**Note:** The granting of a PZ permit applies to installations within a declared PZ only. Any requirements pertaining to Australian waters outside a PZ, such as a non-PZ installation permit, are the subject of a separate application (although this may be linked to the PZ installation permit application).

## 4.1 Part A—applicant's details

Under the Act, **only carriers may apply** to the ACMA for a PZ permit (Clause 51 of Schedule 3A).

A carrier is defined as 'the holder of a carrier licence' under the Act. Applicants are requested to provide details and specify the date the carrier licence was granted.

The ACMA has responsibility for administering the carrier licensing regime. For information about carrier licensing, contact the ACMA on email: [carriers@acma.gov.au](mailto:carriers@acma.gov.au).

The application form also requires that applicants stipulate whether the applicant carrier is to be the sole owner or operator, joint owner or operator, installing the cable on behalf of another person, or other. Applicants are not required to submit detailed information, but simply indicate which other party or parties will be involved in the proposed installation.

## 4.2 Part B—proposed installation information

This section of the application form requires carriers to give detailed information (including maps where appropriate) about the proposed installation of the cable or cables under the following criteria. This should be clearly labelled 'Part B' on an application.

### **Question 1: What is the nominal location of the proposed submarine cable?**

Carriers are requested to provide information specifying:

- > geographic co-ordinates and geodetic datum of the proposed installation
- > the point at which installation will land onshore.

Carriers are requested to submit a copy of a desktop or hydrographic survey of the proposed route to illustrate the exact location of the proposed installation.

Carriers are also requested to provide brief information about how the proposed installation will interconnect with communications facilities onshore.

## **Question 2: What is the date of the proposed installation of the cable?**

Carriers are requested to indicate (as accurately as possible) proposed cable installation dates. It would be useful for carriers to attach a brief explanation of:

- > the commencement date of the proposed installation
- > the duration of the actual installation process
- > the date of completion of the installation.

In the event that the proposed installation date appears likely to change during consideration of a pending application, the applicant must notify the ACMA immediately.

This information will assist the ACMA in determining whether or not permit conditions are appropriate. For example, the ACMA may place a condition on a permit that installation must **not** occur during a particular month(s) because of the anticipated migration of a particular species in the area.

## **Question 3: Please provide relevant technical and associated economic aspects in relation to the proposed submarine cable.**

Applicants are requested to provide information addressing the following:

Technical aspects of the proposed installation:

- > design capacity of proposed installation
- > proposed depth and burial of installation, including the proposed width of any trench surrounding the installation(s)
- > any additional measures designed to minimise future damage to the cable
- > compliance with international best practice recommendations—through reference to relevant International Cable Protection Committee (ICPC) recommendations
- > does the proposed installation cross existing cables or pipelines?

Associated economic aspects of the proposed installation:

- > identification of the party or parties responsible for the installation of the proposed cable
- > name of party or parties responsible for the maintenance and repair of the proposed installation.

Carriers should note that Part 3, Division 4 of Schedule 3A requires carriers to ensure that the installation of a submarine cable is done in a manner that:

- > does as little damage as possible
- > is in accordance with good engineering practice
- > complies with industry standards.

## **Question 4: How does the proposed installation optimise the use of the protection zone?**

Carriers are requested to provide information about whether the installation route has been planned to co-locate as close as practicable with an existing cable(s) to optimise the use of the zone or provide reasons if this is not the case. Information should include the **proximity** of the proposed installation to other existing submarine cable(s) with reference to relevant international recommendations for cable separation and cable crossings.

There is no definition of 'co-location' in Schedule 3A of the Act. The ACMA will therefore consider the **area or distance** of a proposed installation from other existing cables and consistency with International Cable Protection Committee (ICPC) recommendations.

The new regime encourages installation of future cables in areas declared as protection zones to minimise the impact of cables on the environment, sea and seabed. The ACMA is aware that ICPC includes the recommendation that parallel cables be **ideally** located apart at a distance of two or more times the depth of water (subject to 'choke points' or narrow areas through which two or more cables are likely to pass).

**Question 5: Has the applicant consulted with other cable owners in the protection zone about the proposed installation in terms of co-location or any cable crossings?**

Under this question, carriers are requested to provide information about how they have considered protecting existing cable infrastructure from damage and minimising impacts of the proposed installation on the operation or maintenance of an existing cable(s) in a protection zone. It is assumed the proposed cable is likely to be co-located in reasonably close proximity to an existing cable or may cross an existing cable.

Carriers should note that Part 3, Division 4 of Schedule 3A requires carriers to ensure that the installation of a submarine cable is done in a manner that:

- > does as little damage as possible
- > is in accordance with good engineering practice
- > complies with industry standards.

**Question 6: Has the applicant referred the proposed installation under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*?**

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* is administered by the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, particularly matters of national environmental significance.

Approval may be required under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* for certain activities in Australian waters. For more information, contact the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (for contact details, see the Department's [website](#)).

Schedule 3A of the *Telecommunications Act 1997* and the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* operate concurrently and independently of each other. Carriers should seek their own legal advice in relation to their obligations under these Acts.

It is recommended that applicants give brief statements to each of the following demonstrating that:

- > the carrier has approached the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities about the proposed installation (with approximate dates)
- > an approval was or was not required under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*
- > the date at which the approval (or permit) was granted by the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities.

If approval has not yet been sought and/or granted, carriers are requested to give reasons why.

As indicated, it is recommended carriers obtain relevant approvals **before** applying to the ACMA for a PZ permit.

**Question 7: Is the proposed installation to be installed at or near an area or thing that is of particular significance to the cultural heritage of Aboriginal persons or Torres Strait Islanders?**

Applicants should note that the requirements of certain state or territory legislation may apply independently of Schedule 3A. Carriers should seek their own legal advice in relation to any obligations that may apply under any state or territory legislation.

In responding to this question, it is suggested that applicants give brief statements to each of the following indicating:

- > the carrier has approached the relevant state/territory Government about the proposed installation
- > whether an approval was or was not required under State/Territory laws including for the protection of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage.

**Note:** Applicants are advised to contact relevant state or territory agencies about any permits and approvals that may be required **before** applying to the ACMA for a PZ permit.

**Question 8: Are there any other matters relevant to the ACMA's consideration of the proposed installation?**

Applicants are requested to submit any additional information in support of an application that may be relevant to the ACMA's consideration of a proposed installation.

### **4.3 Part C—conditions applicable to the installation of submarine cables**

The application form asks applicants to acknowledge that they have read and understood the conditions applicable to the installation of submarine cables. It does **not** require applicants to demonstrate how they seek to fulfil these legislative obligations.

The conditions listed are specified in Clauses 79 to 83 (inclusive) of Schedule 3A. An extract from the Telecommunications Regulations (international agreements) related to Clause 82 is at Appendix A. Breaching permit conditions may result in suspension or cancellation of a permit (Clause 77 of Schedule 3A) and/or the imposition of a fine (Clause 85 of Schedule 3A).

These conditions apply to the installation of a submarine cable in a protection zone.

Carriers should also note that:

- > The installation of telecommunications facilities on land may be subject to the requirements detailed in Schedule 3 of the Act.
- > The ACMA may require, as a general condition on PZ permits, that carriers confirm the date and method of installation with the ACMA (once occurred) to ensure that any conditions on the PZ permit—as granted by the ACMA—are met.

- > A separate application for a linked non-PZ permit is required for the portion of the cable where it leaves the protection zone until the limit of Australia's Exclusive Economic Zone. Information about non-PZ permits is available separately on the ACMA [website](#).
- > The ACMA may require as a condition that the cable route is co-located with other cables as far as practicable to optimise the potential future use of the protection zone for other cable infrastructure.

**Note:** The ACMA may also grant a PZ permit subject to specified conditions that relate to the installation of the cable. Conditions may vary across different locations within the PZ permit area. Conditions can be varied by the ACMA at any time, and remain in force until modified or revoked by the ACMA.

#### **4.4 Part D—carrier declaration**

Applicants are requested to assert that the information contained in the application form is true and correct, and sign accordingly. Penalties apply for making false and misleading statements in connection with an application for a PZ permit.

## 5. Suspension or cancellation of a permit

The ACMA may suspend or cancel a PZ permit by giving notice to the holder of the permit (Clause 62 of Schedule 3A).

### **Process for suspension or cancellation**

To suspend or cancel a PZ permit, the ACMA must be satisfied that the carrier holding the permit has breached a condition of the permit or has not complied with any conditions in the *Telecommunications Code of Practice 1997* applying to the installation of submarine cables. Carriers are advised to refer to Clause 62 of Schedule 3A.

The ACMA is required to give the holder of the permit written notice of its intention to suspend or cancel a permit 30 days before it does so. The grounds on which the suspension or cancellation is based must be provided in the notice.

The ACMA must give the permit holder the opportunity to submit to the ACMA any matters for consideration and must take into account matters submitted and any remedial action taken before deciding whether to cancel or suspend.

**Note:** Installing a submarine cable without a permit is an offence under the *Telecommunications Act 1997*.

### **Review rights**

If, following the ACMA consultation with the permit holder, the ACMA decides to suspend or cancel a permit, the ACMA's decision may be reviewed internally and by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT), following a process of internal reconsideration by the ACMA (see Part 29 of the Telecommunications Act and Part 1 of Schedule 4)

## 6. More information

For further advice about permits on the installation of submarine cables in a protection zone, contact the ACMA's Regulatory Reform and Carrier Infrastructure Section.

Correspondence should be addressed to:

The Manager  
Regulatory Reform and Carrier Infrastructure Section  
Australian Communications and Media Authority  
PO Box 13112 Law Courts  
Melbourne VIC 8010

Telephone: (03) 9963 6800

Facsimile: (03) 9963 6979

Email: [subcablesenquiries@acma.gov.au](mailto:subcablesenquiries@acma.gov.au)

Website: [www.acma.gov.au/Industry/Telco/Infrastructure/Submarine-cabling-and-protection-zones](http://www.acma.gov.au/Industry/Telco/Infrastructure/Submarine-cabling-and-protection-zones)

# Appendix A

## Telecommunications Regulations 2001 Schedule 1 Listed international agreements

(Regulation 11.1)

Item	Agreement	Done at	Date
1	Plant Protection Agreement for the Asia and Pacific Region (as amended in 1979 and by the 1994 Amendment)	Rome	27 Feb 1956
2	Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (as amended by the 1982 Protocol and the 1987 Amendment)	Ramsar	2 Feb 1971
3	Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage	Paris	23 Nov 1972
4	International Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter (the <i>London Convention</i> )	London, Mexico City, Moscow, Washington	29 Dec 1972
5	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (as amended by the 1979 and 1983 Amendments)	Washington	3 Mar 1973
6	Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Japan for the Protection of Migratory Birds and Birds in Danger of Extinction and their Environment	Tokyo	6 Feb 1974
7	Convention on Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific	Apia	12 Jun 1976
8	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals	Bonn	23 Jun 1979
9	Treaty Between Australia and the Independent State of Papua New Guinea concerning the Sovereignty and Maritime Boundaries in the area between the two Countries, including the area known as Torres Strait, and Related Matters	Sydney	18 Dec 1978
10	Revised Text of the International Plant Protection Convention of 6 December 1951	Rome	28 Nov 1979
11	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea	Montego Bay	10 Dec 1982
12	Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer	Vienna	22 Mar 1985
13	Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the People's Republic of China for the Protection of Migratory Birds and their Environment	Canberra	20 Oct 1986
14	Convention for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region	Noumea	24 Nov 1986
15	Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the South Pacific Region by Dumping	Noumea	25 Nov 1986
16	Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (as amended by the 1992 and 1994 Amendments)	Montreal	16 Sept 1987
17	Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary	Basel	22 Mar 1989

	Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal		
18	The Timor Gap Treaty (being the Treaty defined by subsection 5 (1) of the <i>Petroleum (Timor Gap Zone of Cooperation) Act 1990</i> )	Timor Sea	11 Dec 1989
19	Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the USSR on Cooperation in the Field of Protection and Enhancement of the Environment	Canberra	15 Feb 1990
20	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	New York	9 May 1992
21	Convention on Biological Diversity	Rio de Janeiro	5 June 1992
22	Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982	New York	5 Oct 1994