

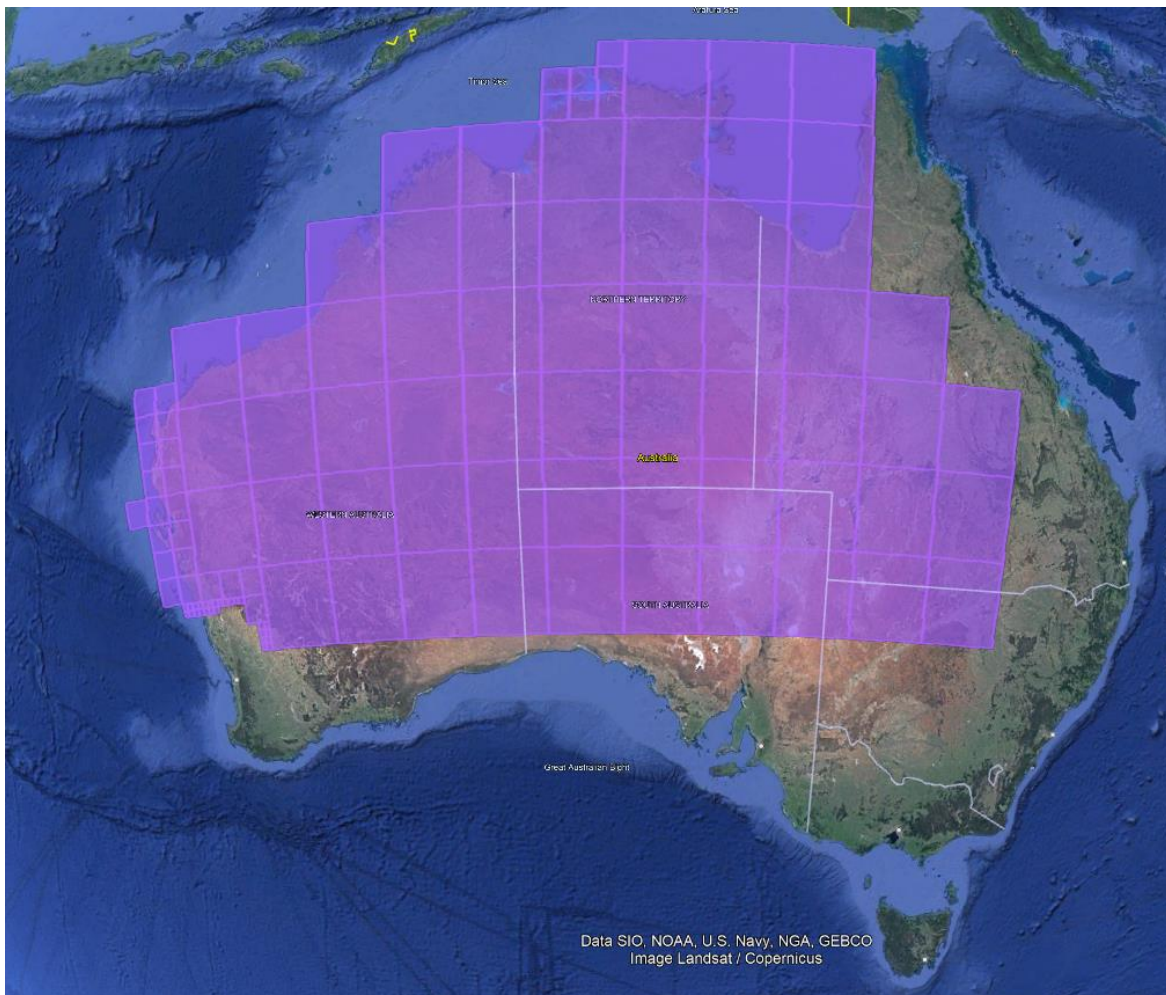


## Remote area Australia gets 5G spectrum for new use cases

25 January 2024

The Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) has recently released 5G midband spectrum (3.4-4GHz) in remote area Australia. This is to facilitate a wide range of new and existing wireless broadband services (WBB) use cases such as wireless internet service providers, public mobile telecommunications services, and enterprise and campus-style private networks, such as for mine sites, agricultural uses or industrial uses.

This spectrum will be allocated to users as an Area-Wide apparatus licenses (AWL) which allows licensees to tailor the spectrum capacity and geographic reach of the license. The licensee can use the spectrum for a wide range of technologies, services and applications.



**Highlighted map area shows remote area Australia. Other areas are considered regional or metro**

31 companies applied for spectrum, and all were successful. Licenses were issued to resource companies, public and private carriers and government organisations.



***Autonomous mining haul truck using 4G/5G networks***

In November 2023, the ACMA auctioned spectrum in the 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band in metro and regional areas of Australia, with 4 companies, Telstra, Optus, NBN and Mobile JV taking 577 of the available 588 lots. The ACMA stated objective for this allocation is to support digital connectivity, promote competition and facilitate investment in new services for Australian consumers and businesses across metropolitan and regional areas of Australia.

Q1 2024 will see the ACMA release spectrum in the 3.8-3.95 GHz band in metro and regional areas of Australia allocated as AWL licenses. The release of this 5G band to enterprise users will allow for innovative use cases and services and facilitate the digital transformation to industry 4.0.



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