



**PORTFOLIO ADDITIONAL
ESTIMATES STATEMENTS 2008–09**

BROADBAND, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE DIGITAL
ECONOMY PORTFOLIO

EXPLANATIONS OF ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2008–09

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SENATOR THE HON STEPHEN CONROY

MINISTER FOR BROADBAND, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY
DEPUTY LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT IN THE SENATE

President of the Senate
Australian Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Speaker
House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr President
Dear Mr Speaker

I hereby submit Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements in support of the 2008-09 Additional Estimates for the Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio.

These statements have been developed, and are submitted to the Parliament, as a statement on the funding requirements being sought for the Portfolio.

I present these statements by virtue of my ministerial responsibility for accountability to the Parliament and, through it, the public.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Conroy
December 2008

Abbreviations and conventions

(a) The following notations may be used:

NEC/nec	not elsewhere classified
AEST	Australian Eastern Standard Time
-	nil
..	not zero, but rounded to zero
na or n/a	not applicable (unless otherwise specified)
nfp	not for publication
\$m	\$ million

(b) Figures in tables and in the text may be rounded. Discrepancies in tables between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

ENQUIRIES

Should you have any enquiries regarding this publication please contact Simon Ash, Chief Financial Officer in the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy on (02) 6271 1438.

A copy of this document can be located on the Australian Government Budget website at: www.budget.gov.au

USER GUIDE

The purpose of the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements (PAES), like that of the Portfolio Budget Statements, is to inform Senators, Members of Parliament and the public of the proposed allocation of resources to Government outcomes by agencies within the portfolio. However, unlike the Portfolio Budget Statements, the PAES summarise only the *changes* in resourcing by outcome since the Budget, that is, it updates the resourcing for the agency. For the first time, the PAES includes an Agency Resource Statement, in addition to the information on new measures and the Appropriation Bills.

The PAES facilitate understanding of the proposed appropriations in Appropriation Bills (No. 3 and No. 4) 2008–09. In this sense, the PAES is declared by the Additional Estimates Appropriation Bills to be a ‘relevant document’ to the interpretation of the Bills according to section 15AB of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

Whereas the *Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook 2008–09* is a mid-year budget report which provides updated information to allow the assessment of the Government’s fiscal performance against its fiscal strategy, the PAES update the most recent budget appropriations for agencies within the portfolio.

STRUCTURE OF THE PORTFOLIO ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES STATEMENTS

The PAES are presented in three parts with subsections.

User guide

Provides an introduction explaining the purpose of the PAES.

Portfolio overview

Provides an overview of the portfolio, including a chart that outlines the outcomes for agencies in the portfolio.

Agency additional estimates statements

A statement for each agency affected by Additional Estimates.

Section 1: Agency overview and resources	This section details the total resources available to an agency, the impact of any measures since Budget, and impact on Appropriation Bills No. 3 and No. 4.
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Section 2: Revisions to outcomes and planned performance	This section details changes to Government outcomes and/or changes to the planned performance of agency output groups.
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Section 3: Explanatory tables and budgeted financial statements	This section contains updated explanatory tables on special account flows and staffing levels and revisions to the budgeted financial statements.
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Glossary	Explains key terms relevant to the Portfolio.
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CONTENTS

Portfolio Overview	13
Agency Additional Estimates Statements	17
Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy	19
Australian Communications and Media Authority.....	45
Special Broadcasting Service Corporation	63
Glossary and Acronyms.....	77

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

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The Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio includes the following agencies:

- **Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy** – The Department aims to develop a vibrant, sustainable and internationally competitive broadband and communications sector that promotes the digital economy for the benefit of all Australians.
- **Australia Post** – Australia Post is a Government Business Enterprise, fully owned by the Commonwealth Government. It provides a high-quality mail and delivery service to all Australians and a range of parcel and logistics services.
- **Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)** – The ABC is a national broadcaster. It contributes to and reflects Australia's national identity, fosters creativity and the arts and encourages cultural diversity. The ABC is an integral part of the radio, television and online production industries and the news and information media.
- **Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA)** – ACMA is responsible for regulating in accordance with legislation related to broadcasting, radiocommunications, telecommunications and online content. ACMA works with all stakeholders to maximise the public benefit, including the extent to which the regulatory framework addresses the broad concerns of the community, meets the needs of industry, and maintains community and national interest safeguards.
- **Special Broadcasting Service Corporation (SBS)** – The SBS is a national broadcaster. It provides multicultural and multilingual services that inform, educate and entertain all Australians. Its mission is to contribute to a more cohesive, equitable and harmonious Australia through its television, radio and online services.

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation has not contributed a chapter to the 2008–09 Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements as it has had no change to the level of government support provided in 2008–09 since the 2008–09 Budget.

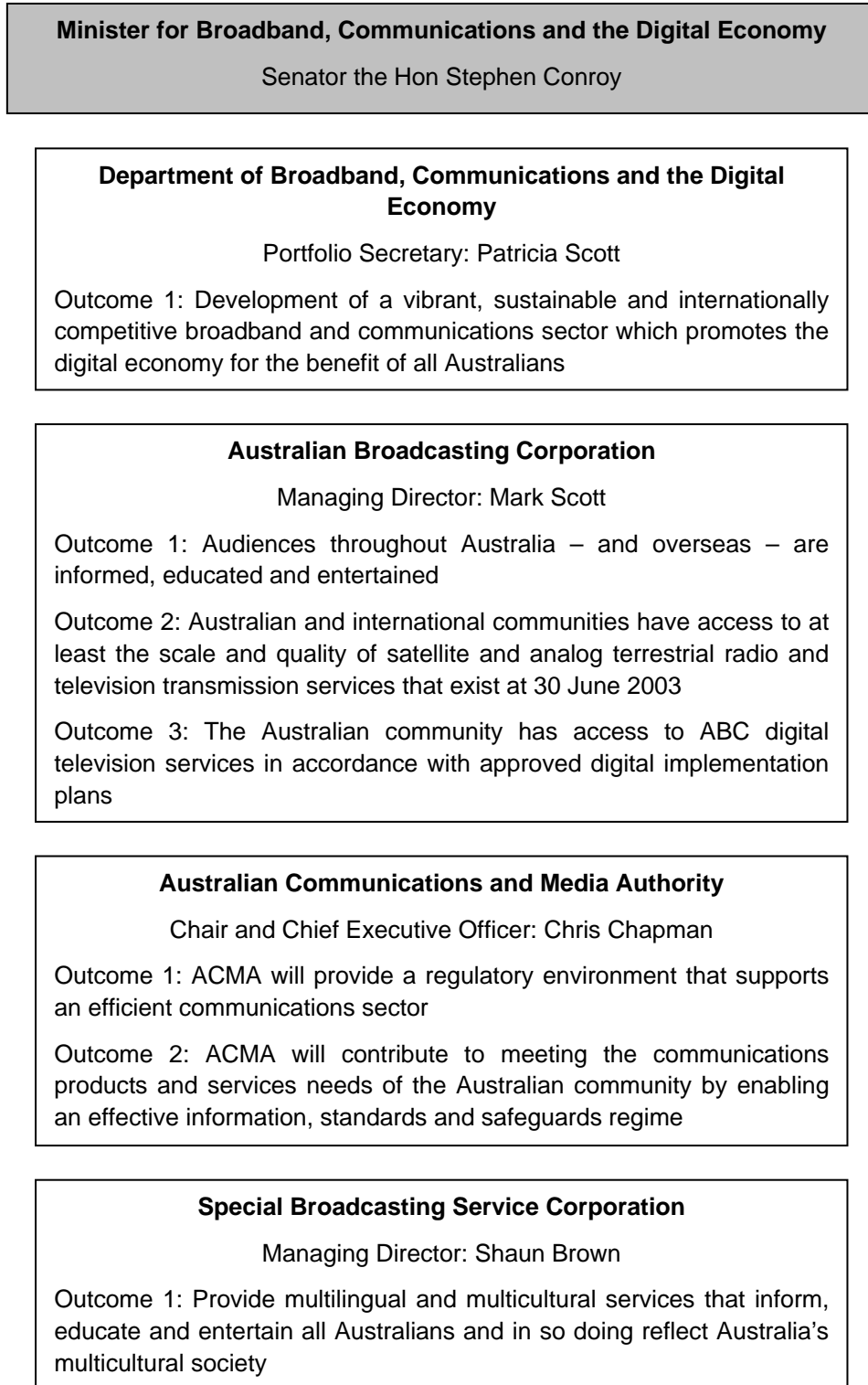
Australia Post does not appear in the 2008–09 Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements as it is not part of the general government sector.

A full overview of the Portfolio can be found in the 2008–09 Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio Budget Statements.

Portfolio Overview

Senator the Hon Stephen Conroy is the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy. A summary of the Portfolio structure is at Figure 1. Further detail about the responsibilities of each agency appears in individual agency chapters of this document or the 2008–09 Portfolio Budget Statements.

Figure 1: Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio structure and outcomes



Portfolio Overview

Table 1: Portfolio resources made available in the Budget year.

	Appropriation					Receipts	Total
	Bill No. 1	Bill No. 2	Bill No. 3	Bill No. 4	Special		
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy							
Administered appropriations	209,110	-	(9,590)	-	-	91,946	291,466
Departmental appropriations	103,689	303	11,535	-	-	1,050	116,577
Total:	312,799	303	1,945	-	-	92,996	408,043
Payments to CAC Act bodies:							
Australian Broadcasting Corporation							
Total:	858,411	11,250	-	-	-	209,231	1,078,892
Special Broadcasting Service Corporation							
Total:	191,128	2,586	331	15,000	-	84,789	293,834
Australian Communications and Media Authority							
Administered appropriations	-	-	-	-	300	66,944	67,244
Departmental appropriations	93,013	3,694	-	-	-	1,476	98,183
Total:	93,013	3,694	-	-	300	68,420	165,427
Resources available within Portfolio:							1,946,196

AGENCY ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES STATEMENTS

Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy 19

Australian Communications and Media Authority..... 45

Special Broadcasting Service Corporation 63

