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FOOTY FINALS AND ELITE NETBALL STILL FREE TO MILLIONS OF HOMES

The pay TV lobby's latest, predictable attack on the anti-siphoning list proves once again it will go to any lengths to force Australian viewers to pay for sport.

Peak industry body Free TV Australia said today that the anti-siphoning list, which is designed to ensure that all Australians are able to see major sporting events for free on television, continues to achieve the best outcome for Australians.

Free TV CEO, Julie Flynn, says that without the anti-siphoning list, Australians would be forced to pay to watch their teams take part in the NRL and AFL finals or to watch the Australian Diamonds in the New World International Netball series.

"The anti-siphoning list ensures that all Australians are able to enjoy these sports, and not just the 25% who choose to pay up to \$131 per month for subscription television," said Ms Flynn.

"This is an exciting time of year for sports fans, and the latest bleating from ASTRA underlines the ongoing importance of the anti-siphoning list.

"Time and time again ASTRA misrepresents the anti-siphoning scheme in an effort to force Australian families to pay to watch major sporting events and ASTRA has fought to prevent more free sport becoming available. Contrary to ASTRA's claims, ACMA's independent monitoring has confirmed there is absolutely no hoarding of sport on free-to-air television," Ms Flynn said.

Ms Flynn adds "ASTRA's recent attacks on free-to-air TV coverage of the Olympics and the football finals should leave Australian sports fans under no illusions as to what is at stake if ASTRA succeeds in its efforts to undermine the anti-siphoning list."

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