



44 Avenue Road
Mosman NSW
Australia 2088

T : 61 2 8968 7100
F : 61 2 9969 3520
W : freetv.com.au

Media Release
21 August 2009

FREE TV CALLS FOR MORE SPORT ON FREE-TO-VIEW DIGITAL CHANNELS

Free TV Australia today called for an end to the ban on listed sports being shown on digital multi-channels.

Responding to the Federal Government's review of the anti-siphoning list, Free TV Chairman Wayne Goss said, "With more Australians making the switch to free-to-view digital television, it makes sense to allow broadcasters to show their listed sports on the digital multi-channels."

"This is in the public interest because it delivers diversity and choice while helping the government to drive take-up of digital television in Australia," says Mr Goss.

Currently, the anti-siphoning list restricts showing listed sports to the broadcaster's main channel and does not permit broadcast on digital multi-channels.

"If listed sports are able to be shown on digital multi-channels you would for instance be able to broadcast different games of the Australian Open Tennis at the same time or broadcast multiple events of the Olympic and Commonwealth Games," says Mr Goss.

Free TV says the anti-siphoning list has served the Australian public well by ensuring that viewers are not forced to pay to watch sport on TV. 70 per cent of viewers choose not to pay or cannot afford to watch sport on television.

Both sides of politics have long recognised that the antisiphoning list is in the public interest.

Mr Goss adds, "It's just as important in the digital environment that Australians continue to be able to watch the sports they love for free."

Free TV encourages viewers to respond to the Government's review of the anti-siphoning list and help keep sport on TV free. Submissions can be made to the [Dept of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy](#).

Media enquiries and interviews:

Julie Flynn, Chief Executive Officer, Free TV Australia – 02 8968 7100