



ARTANZ



Amateur Repeater Trustees Association of New Zealand

Dear Members, and Branch Officers & Trustees,

29 May, 2011

Re: Kordia site fees

It is pleasing to advise you that an agreement has been reached with Kordia that amateurs may continue to enjoy their repeater facilities free of Kordia site fees for a period of five years. This has been achieved after considerable work to devise a proposal that was acceptable to Kordia, plus further detailed work to finalise an agreement.

In early March ARTANZ appealed to NZART branches to provide a summary of their community activities in the past year, to help with the ARTANZ proposal.

At the end of March, and in the absence of any action at that time by NZART, or its Branches, on site rental fees, ARTANZ presented to Kordia a proposal which sought to eliminate the site rental fees relating to ten Kordia sites. The proposal was written for the Kordia Board, to go to them if it failed to be adopted by Kordia management.

This proposed a sponsorship arrangement whereby both Kordia and amateurs received benefits, and it sought to achieve a win-win outcome. It called for Kordia to sponsor amateurs to the value of the site rental fees in recognition of the substantial public good that Amateurs achieve by use of the repeaters, and for Kordia to regard this as a response by them to their own corporate social responsibility. In turn, amateurs would acknowledge Kordia sponsorship by placing publicity with several amateur media, viz;

- NZART. A banner on the NZART website, and in Break-In journal.
- Wellington VHF Group. Naming of the National System Award, and banner on their website.

Subsequently during April, NZART Dunedin Branch wrote to the SOE Minister, resulting in a "Ministerial" directive to Kordia. Coincidentally, our proposal, which was already tabled, provided a path for Kordia.


Kordia proposed a five-year term, without variation. This meant that only the sites and equipment scheduled at the beginning would be free, any additions would be at commercial rates. In view of this we requested that the Hedgehope site be included, to provide for the Dunedin-Invercargill part of the national system, and so complete the system N.Z wide. To accomplish this we had to complete Kordia's co-location planning, which involved a considerable amount of technical work.

Thank you to ARTANZ members who have supported these efforts, and so helped to secure the agreement. Also, and in particular, thanks are due to;

- National Director and the Secretary of AREC for their support with statistics,
- NZART Branches Wairarapa Amateur Radio Club, and Balclutha Branch, whose public service event summaries were used as specimens in the ARTANZ proposal,
- Wellington VHF Group Inc for the "Kordia National System Award" and banner publicity.

ARTANZ has dealt successfully with Kordia in this case, and has been instrumental in securing this favourable outcome. This emphasises the effectiveness of ARTANZ as an advocate for amateurs. I ask those repeater owners and trustees who have not yet joined ARTANZ to please re-consider.

Amateur Repeater Trustees Association Incorporated


Dick Greenbank ZL2TGQ
President