

Title:

Please select

Forename:

Henry

Surname:

Switzer

Representing:

Self

Organisation (if applicable):**What additional details do you want to keep confidential?:**

No

If you want part of your response kept confidential, which parts?:**Ofcom may publish a response summary:**

Yes

I confirm that I have read the declaration:

Yes

Additional comments:

While Great Britain has benefited from a National commercial DAB Network, providing 10 radio stations over the past 13 years, Northern Ireland has been deprived of this service. I do not see why it should be the case that people from Northern Ireland cannot have the same choice and access to radio as the majority of the Great British public. I would urge OFCOM to consider extending the reach of the National Network by allowing Digital One access to Northern Ireland, and bring greater equity to broadcast provision to the whole of Great Britain.

Question 1: Do you think that allowing Digital One to extend the coverage area of its national radio multiplex licence to include Northern Ireland would be calculated to maintain or promote the development of digital sound broadcasting in the UK otherwise than by satellite? Please explain the reasons for your view.:

Yes, since coverage in NI is very patchy at present.

Question 2: Do you think that Digital One's proposals for providing coverage of Northern Ireland are satisfactory? Please explain the reasons for your view.:

While I am not familiar with the technical nuances of Digital One's proposals, it would appear that their proposals should greatly improve the coverage.

Question 3: Do you consider that Digital One has the ability to maintain its national radio multiplex service if its request is granted? Please explain the reasons for your view.:

I assume that Ofcom would not give Digital One a licence if they were not up to the job!

Question 4: (For programme service providers on the national radio multiplex, and the holder of the Northern Ireland local radio multiplex licence and its service providers only) Do you consider that there are sufficient safeguards in place to protect your rights and interests in the event that Digital One is permitted to extend coverage to include Northern Ireland?:

Question 5: Do you consider that there any other grounds on which Ofcom should approve, or not approve, the request from Digital One? Please explain the reasons for your view.:

None that I know of.