



MEDIA ALERT

Date: 26 May 2010

Oxford Transmitter Update – Full TV Services Restored by September

- **Main TV transmitting antenna at Beckley mast damaged beyond repair**
- **Complete replacement antenna has been ordered**
- **Work to replace antenna expected to be complete by the end of September**

The main TV transmitting antenna on the Beckley mast was damaged beyond repair during the fire on 13 May. A replacement antenna has been ordered from a supplier and a realistic timeframe for the restoration of full TV services is the end of September. In the meantime, TV services in the area will continue to be transmitted from the reserve antenna, as they have since February.

Peter Heslop, DSO Programme Director at Arqiva: “We are really sorry for the inconvenience caused to some viewers in the Oxford area following the fire at the Beckley mast. We understand how frustrating this must be for viewers. Arqiva manages over a thousand TV and radio transmission sites and incidents like this are extremely rare. Since the fire we have worked very hard to investigate what happened and work out how to restore full services as quickly as possible.”

“We need to install and commission a replacement main antenna for the Beckley mast. The antenna is a very specialist piece of equipment that is built-to-order by our suppliers. It’s also a complex operation to mount the antenna at the top of the mast that is dependent on a numbers of factors outside of our control, including the weather. The end of September is a realistic timeframe for restoring full services but we will do everything we can to bring that date forward.”

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For more information, please contact:

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