

Verbal Submission Received from Bertha Diebert of Wallumbilla

Bertha Diebert,
Wallumbilla, Queensland

Wallumbilla is a community in Queensland, Australia, situated on the Warrego Highway five hours by road west from Brisbane, just east of Roma. A telecommunications representative from Roma stopped by Ms Diebert's Jackson farm a while ago stating that a nearby hilltop would be a good site for a mobile phone tower. Nothing has come of that visit.

Ms Diebert's farm is in a mobile phone coverage blackspot. Just recently her son was in the back paddock when a bull mauled him. He had a mobile phone in his pocket, but there was no coverage so he was unable to use it. He crawled back to the home and called an ambulance. It turned out he had broken ribs, a busted shoulder and significant bruising. Ms Diebert considers mobile coverage to address these blackspots is of premium importance for regional communities.

6 December 2011