

From: [REDACTED]
To: secretariat@rtirc.gov.au
Sent: Sat 26/11/2011 7:11 PM
Subject: Review

Dear Panel

I live on a farm one hour from Orange in the Central Tablelands of NSW. I have never had or do have mobile phone coverage at my property Dalmeny. No analogue no CDMA no digital service. In May this year I applied for the subsidy to have a satellite Broadband connection and was told they were no longer taking applications as the scheme will be finishing the end of June. I said the Month was May and all the approved providers said the office of Broadband will not fund any installations that are not completed by the end of June and due to the waiting time to install a service that they were not going to accept any more applications despite the Gov website saying the subsidy was available till the end of June.

The new scheme will only subsidise consumers who connect to the NBN and no other satellite providers. The Gov has taken away all choice except for NBN retailers. The cost of a satellite service in remote if you call one hour out of Orange 4 hours from Sydney a remote location is over 3 times the cost that my City counterparts pay. The Gov has said that the wholesale rate for all NBN customers is the same then why is my satellite rate so expensive? Optus are offering 40 GB plans for 49.95 and I can get a 3GB satellite plan for \$39 yet both retailers are paying the same wholesale rate for access.

Landline non NBN charges are \$79 for 170GB data local STD and line rental included. At the farm I still have to have a landline remember no mobile coverage. That is approx \$49 for 170 GB data all phone calls included except non optus mobiles. Where is the equality between the City and the Bush?

Graeme Dray

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