

## Submission to Telecommunications Enquiry

Thank you for extending the deadline for submissions to the Telecommunications Enquiry and also for giving members of the public the opportunity to respond.

Thanks to the installation of a satellite internet service under the Australian Broadband Guarantee I now have good access to the internet. While accepting that the speed is much slower and the service more expensive than that which is available to city residents, it is a considerable improvement on the dial-up service which I used prior to the installation of the satellite dish in 2008. I look forward to an even better service under the NBN.

While my internet and landline service is satisfactory, despite my house only being located fifty metres off a major secondary road (The Escort Way between Orange and Eugowra) I do not receive mobile coverage, even with a blue-tick Telstra mobile.

I have worked in the remote Aboriginal communities of Balgo in the Kimberley and Nguiu on Bathurst Island and had good mobile service, but this is not the case in this area of regional Australia. Apart from the personal inconvenience of not being able to use a mobile, especially for texting, on several occasions I have had stranded motorists knocking on my door wanting to use my landline to call for assistance. This poses the dilemma for a female such as myself to either invite a stranger into my home or leave him stranded on the doorstep while I make the call for him.

The provision of better mobile coverage in this area, and I am sure many other areas of rural Australia, would bring us into line with the service that urban Australians enjoy and take for granted.

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