

Submission – Judith Woodfield, Pindimar NSW

We are at Pindimar NSW, 12 minutes from Tea Gardens, 30 minutes from Raymond Terrace, straight across the water from Nelson Bay.

We have been waiting for years to become connected to ADSL so that we can access low to medium priced Broadband Internet and internet telephony. Our only options available to us at the moment are Dial-Up, which is too slow to function properly, and Wireless.

We tried to get Satellite Broadband through the Government Subsidy program but they told us that other ISPs (Internet Service Providers) have wireless plans for us with 'comparable costs'. Their department seems to have wrong information because their maps tell them that we have ADSL2 available in our area, which we definitely don't. We contacted 2 of those providers and although they said they could provide for us and sent us all of the hardware, the conclusion was that neither could get a connection here. Optus and Telstra Wireless were the only options left to us and we took Optus because Telstra really was unaffordable. Unfortunately the wireless reception is inconsistent and sometimes down for days.

We are denied the services that are available only a few kilometers away. Our worry is that if Government departments believe that we actually have access to ADSL/ADSL2, and they obviously DO, then we are a blind spot on their radar.

Thank you,

Judith Woodfield