

Dear Christina McDonald,

As a frequent user of the Snowy Mountains Highway I wish to add my voice to those expressing concern over the severe lack of emergency coverage available in the Snowy Mountains region, and in my particular situation the Snowy Mountains Highway. There is little mobile phone coverage from approximately 20km west of Cooma right through to almost Talbingo, a distance of over 130 kilometres covering some of the roughest terrain in Australia. ABC coverage on the AM band is also non-existent apart from 666 in Canberra which is patchy at best, and certainly not local in the event of bushfire, heavy snow, road accident or other emergency. This inability to advise of sudden emergency situations is not only very frustrating and costly in lost time, it also places lives at risk. This is a National Highway, used by recreational traffic in all seasons, especially in winter, as well as handling large volumes of heavy vehicle movement with both the logging industries and livestock carriers being constant users.

I thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns,

Yours sincerely,

Ian McCorkindale