



Recommendation to pass Fibre Deployment Bill

The Joint Committee on the National Broadband Network today presented its report on the Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Fibre Deployment) Bill 2011.

The committee examined the Bill in reference to its possible legislative impact, but also reported on the issues presented in regard to the possible impact on competition in the fibre provider market for new developments.

The committee made one recommendation, to pass the Bill, but also made findings in regard to other issues it encountered during the inquiry.

Major findings include:

- Internal customer service protocols should be put in place within NBN Co to ensure customer service timeframes are met.
- NBN Co should commit to specific timeframes, to publish its performance on the fibre rollout and that these commitments be subject to regulatory oversight.
- Investigation into the possible impact on risk premiums of regular changes in development regulations with appropriate measures to be put in place to anticipate this type of outcome and rectify any negative consequence.
- The Government should examine the competition issues presented by the Greenfields fibre provider with a view to establishing any negative impact on competition in the fibre provider market or service outcomes for the end user in the longer term.

Copies of the report are available at:

www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jcnbn/telbill/report.htm

For media comment: contact the Chair's Office on 0429 787 320.

Further information is available: by contacting the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 2322 via email jcnbn@aph.gov.au or by visiting the committee's webpage at: www.aph.gov.au/jcnbn/telbill