

JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL BROADBAND NETWORK

MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 17 June 2013

Chair: Mr Robert Oakeshott MP Deputy Chair: Mr Rob Mitchell MP

Fifth NBN Rollout Report Presented

The Joint Committee on the National Broadband Network (NBN) today presented its Fifth Report on the Six Monthly Review of the NBN. The report includes information detailing the progress of the NBN rollout from 1 July to 31 December 2012 in addition to current issues and events reported after this period.

Matters reviewed include: the rollout of fibre, fixed wireless and satellite services, performance reporting, national uniform pricing under the NBN, the potential of private equity to fund the NBN, and workforce issues associated with the NBN rollout including the Telstra Retraining Funding Deed under the Binding Definitive Agreement between the NBN Co and Telstra Corporation.

In its Fifth Report, the committee recommended that:

- The Government task the NBN Co Limited to update its Corporate Plan 2012-2015 to prepare strategies to minimise risk for any policy changes that may reasonably be expected to occur during this period.
- The next NBN Co Limited Corporate Plan and the six-monthly Shareholder Ministers' Performance Report include further information on the NBN fibre rollout occuring in regional Australia.
- The current rate of Interim Satellite Service (ISS) activations be closely monitored so that before the customer cap on the ISS is reached, consultation occur with relevant stakeholders for establishing cost efficient arrangements to ensure that those most in need of access to the ISS are still able to access the service; and that there is consideration given to increasing the custromer cap on the ISS if additional satellite capacity becomes available at a competitive cost.
- The Government continue considering investor interest in the NBN and the optimum capital structure for the NBN Co Limited.
- The NBN Co Limited continue to work with rollout contractors to enable NBN rollout targets to be met; update NBN workforce modelling data to respond to changing NBN training needs and workforce demand; and encourage the participation of local recruitment firms and local industry in the NBN rollout.

Copies of the report are available at: <u>http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House_of_Repres_entatives_Committees?url=jcnbn/./report5.htm</u>

For media comment: Chair's Office 0429 787 320 Further information is available: Secretariat (02) 6277 2322 via email jcnbn@aph.gov.au or at www.aph.gov.au/jcnbn