

I want to submit my submission to the Senate Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee – Telstra Bill 2005 and related Bill

My Submissions covers:

1. Recommendation on privatization the retail arm of Telstra
2. Table a problem with my area with Telstra and Internet access

Recommendation on privatization the retail arm of Telstra

I believe the full sale of Telstra robes Australian's of a key part of our infrastructure. Generations working for Australia have been laying, maintaining and using this service. No private owned company in the world good invest in this type of infrastructure. Selling while our investment returns interest is a mistake.

I recommend to the committee that only the retail arm of Telstra is sold and the infrastructure be retained.

Table a problem with my area with Telstra's infrastructure

I live and work in the Sutherland Shire (Sydney NSW). My office in located at Unit A7 1-3 Endeavour Rd Caringbah NSW 2229. For many years we have not been able get ADSL even though we are located in Sydney. We have been advised by Telstra that we are located too far from the exchange and they do not plan to upgrade or invest in this service in our area. They have offered to supply a satellite service but at a higher rate than ADSL and not as reliable as ADSL.

To gain access to the internet at a high speed we were lucky to be offered by a local company access their ADSL network via a wireless transmitter to their network but receive lower than ADSL data rates and a higher cost.

Another issue with our area was the rollout of Cable services. Telstra and Optus laid cable through the Sutherland Shire on electricity poles. Optus connected the cables on offered internet, phone and cable tv service via these cables. Telstra did not connect or activate these cables. Half of the 73,530 homes located in the Sutherland Shire have Telstra cables running past their homes that are not activated or connected. Other services are available like ADSL and satellite TV but not cable internet or cable TV as paid for by the Australian Tax Payer and I'm afraid the full privatization of Telstra will not fix this issue.

It is also my understanding that Telstra pays a fee for locating these cables on Electricity Poles which are not utilized.

I hope my first submission to the senate's committee is tabled and my recommendations heard and help the committee in their decision.

Regards

John Davey