Submission 12

TIBOOBURRA HOTEL

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26/07/2011

Re: Joint Committee Hearing on NBN in Broken Hill 27/07/2011.

G'day All,

The "Back of Bourke" should not automatically mean the "Back of the Line" for any project roll-outs. Tibooburra is an Axis to all points of the compass for Tourism, Travel supplies, Information and Health & Emergency Services co-ordination. With aprox.2 million tourist dollars spent in our town alone annually & the potential to raise our tourism income greatly, our need for much faster Broadband (current speed examples attached) is as important to us as it is to Broken Hill so as not to get left behind in the Tourism & E-Commerce world due to our isolation from major business centres.

I urge the Committee to stand up against any possible remote area discrimination and roll out the **NBN** as early as possible to Tibooburra at the same time as Broken Hill either using the <u>existing</u> (and probably adaptable) Optic Fibre link between the two centres or secondly, while work crews are as close to Tibooburra as they will ever be, connect us to the new **NBN** Wireless/Sattelite system thus eliminating the need for work crews & equipment to travel the same hundreds of kilometers again.

Other services in Tibooburra that would greatly benefit from fast Broadband are:

Tibooburra Health Service... with possible real time link up & face to face/instant diagnosis with Doctors at the RFDS Base.

Tibooburra Outback School of the Air...with real benefits to students & staff training regimes.

Tibooburra Emergency Services...with real time updates & mapping etc in Emergency situations.

As I could not attend the Hearing in person I would have liked to be a part of proceedings via Video Link, but, Alas, due to my currently slow internet speed this was also not possible. Thank you for the opportunity to put my thoughts forward.

Yours Sincerely

Steve (Macca) McDermott Hotelier.

Chairperson, Tibooburra Heritage & Tourism Association.