

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Hearings February 2014

Communications Portfolio

NBN Co Limited

Question No: 79

Program No. NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: Pg 74 (25/2/2014)

Topic: Telstra Network

Senator O'Neill asked:

Could you provide us with some documentation about the processes that were undertaken? Could you confirm or clarify whether community consultation was undertaken? Were local businesses, local councils and local representatives of the Central Coast involved in that decision making?

Mr Brown: We will confirm that. As far as I am aware, we have not consulted with local businesses. This is a very small, very specific purpose trial. It is to do with how we build things and how we connect people. We are not offering commercial services. This is an opportunity to, if you like; iron out the bugs without disrupting the residents.

Answer:

As advised by Mr Adcock (refer to Question on Notice No. 8 from the Senate Select Committee of 12 March 2014), "in early February our stakeholder and community relations people met with the General Manager of Gosford City Council, Paul Anderson, and the Director of Planning, Danielle Dickson, re Fibre to the Node (FTTN)". In addition to this contact, a number of consultation processes were followed, including:

- Members of both NBN Co's Community Engagement and Construction Stakeholder Management teams met with both the General Manager and the Director of Environment and Planning of Gosford Council to discuss the proposed FTTN trial.
- A Construction Land A Survey/Design Land Access and Activity Notice was issued to Council and verbal contact made with Council's Engineering Services about the proposed location of the node cabinets. In addition, letters were sent to impacted residents in the streets where the cabinets were adjacent to their properties.
- NBN did not engage with any local business in Woy Woy or Epping.