

Joint Standing Committee on the National Broadband Network

Answers to Questions on Notice

Committee Hearing 15 August 2018

NBN Co Limited

Question No: 16

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Topic: Pit remediation

Ms Susan Templeman, MP asked:

Ms TEMPLEMAN: I understand that NBN has been having some challenges remediating pits as part of the FTTC deployment. Is that correct?

Mr Ryan: I wouldn't say we're having problems, I think the issue is that we're remediating more than we had expected.

Ms TEMPLEMAN: By what factor? How many more?

Mr Ryan: I don't have that. It was just more than what we had anticipated when we put together the schedule, and that's just causing us problems. It's more around productivity of resources in terms of kilometres of FTTC deployed because we are having to upgrade or replace more pits than we had expected.

Ms TEMPLEMAN: Are you able to identify how many pits or what percentage of pits have required remediation specifically for FTTC in the areas where that's happening?

Mr Ryan: We would be able to provide that, yes. Just so I get this right, it's not the percentage of all the pits. It's just the percentage of pits that we deploy a DPU into—how many of those pits require an upgrade. Is that right?

Ms TEMPLEMAN: Yes. You talked about it as a level higher than anticipated, so it would be good to understand what your expectations were as well—if there's data to show, 'This was our expectation. This was the reality.'

Mr Ryan: Yes.

Answer:

As Mr Ryan stated, nbn is having to remediate more pits than originally forecast, but nbn is very early in the FTTC rollout and processes are still being bedded down and improved. As such, the aggregate actual data is still being compiled and is not yet indicative of expected performance.