

Joint Standing Committee on the National Broadband Network

Answers to Questions on Notice

Committee hearing 4 June 2018

NBN Co Limited

Question No: 8

NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: page 30–31 (14 June hearing), 14/06/2018

Topic: Remote communities in NT

Mr Stephen Jones MP asked:

At its Brisbane hearing, the Northern Territory Government told the committee that 39 remote communities presently have optic fibre connection to the national telecommunications network. The committee asks whether the nbnco will utilise this existing fibre and if not, the reasons why?

Answer:

nbn does not simply acquire existing networks; there needs to be negotiations with and payments to infrastructure owners. The fibre backbone is only part of the cost of building and operating a network. nbn also needs to analyse the cost of providing the access network and the necessary infrastructure. These costs need to be balanced against the available capacity on the satellite beams in particular areas.