



In Reply Please
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23 February 2011

Andrew McGowan
Inquiry Secretary
House of Representatives Standing Committee on
Infrastructure and Communications
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Dear Mr McGowan,

Eurobodalla Council has considered the issues outlined in your correspondence of 9 December 2010 and offers the following comments in relation to the National Broadband Network's (NBN) capacity to contribute on the following aspects;

e) Impacting regional economic growth and employment opportunities

Reliable fast speed internet capabilities is now an imperative for many businesses endeavouring to establish and grow in regional/rural centres where other infrastructure may otherwise be lacking. Prospering businesses bolstered by high speed broadband increase employment opportunities by offering 'high value' job prospects to local residents thereby supporting economic development in the region. This has been the trend in areas of the Eurobodalla that currently enjoy broadband internet.

f) Impacting business efficiencies and revenue, particularly for small and medium business, and Australia's export market.

The growing trend and need for e-business capability is a major factor in the growth of small business across the Eurobodalla region. The NBN is viewed as a major element in improving business efficiencies - and in particular the operations of local government, however small business establishing trade via the web will gain substantially from the introduction of the NBN.

h) Facilitating community and social benefits

Council Libraries currently support 35,000 internet bookings each year with an increasing trend. If broadband is not taken up in individual residences, the capability offered by the NBN provides a highly valuable service to be accessed by many in disadvantaged local communities.

If you require further information please contact me on .

Yours faithfully

CHERIE ENDERS
DIRECTOR COMMERCIAL AND CORPORATE