

The Committee Secretary
House of Representatives Standing Committee on
Infrastructure and Communications
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
AUSTRALIA

10th November 2011

Re: Telecommunications Act 1997

Dear Committee,

We write to you all with the highest degree of concern with reference to legislation relating to the current Telecommunications Act.

Our community recently mounted a campaign that lasted two years and has been ongoing for the past decade.

Teleco's have long been very keen on situating a 50m high impact phone tower at Point Walter, Bilton WA. Despite this being a recognized A Class Reserve of immense importance to all residents and the broader community.

The Teleco's that have continually applied for a High Impact Phone Tower in this location go against the provisions stated in the Telecommunications Act which clearly stipulates avoidance of areas classed as 'sensitive'. Point Walter most certainly is for several reasons including; A Class status, local Play Group within 300m, Aboriginal significance, residents houses within 300m and hugely impacting the amenity of this natural area.

The total and blatant disregard for the impact this infrastructure imposes on communities is absolutely staggering.

Teleco's are a law unto themselves with little if any support given to the community by the current legislation. It is a very sad indictment of the government's lack of concern in this area.

Legislation needs to be changed today to provide protection for all in the community and the environment.

I strongly encourage change to legislation that favours Teleco's in all areas, so that rate payers have some form of protection against this present injustice.

Yours sincerely,
Jennifer Patterson