



NBN Committee at Broken Hill trial of high speed fibre network

The Joint Committee on the National Broadband Network today witnessed Day two of a world first trial of 100 gigabytes through the fibre network at Broken Hill, provided by wholesale platform builder NextGen.

Committee Chair, Mr Oakeshott said "100 gigabytes is 1000 times quicker than what is in the statement of expectations from Government, who are seeking 100Mbps from 93 per cent of households, schools and businesses. This trial, happening in regional Australia at Broken Hill is therefore impressive."

"Feedback from NextGen is that this trial is and will work, and that there is a demand for such large bandwidth from some large scale users, such as the mining industry and government departments," Mr Oakeshott said.

The committee has also heard from several other organisations and individuals such as: Ninti One Ltd, Mr Michael Wilson, Regional Development Australia Far West, Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation, Broken Hill City Council, the Royal Flying Doctor Service, and the Far West Local Health District Board.

"The committee will be following up some particular technical questions raised by indigenous enterprise provider Ninti One and Mr Michael Wilson. Both have some technical concerns and are also concerned that NBN Co is not maximising opportunities available to engage rural and remote Australia as best as they could. We will be pursuing these matters to clarify this," Mr Oakeshott said today.

The committee will be in Melbourne on 28 July to meet with the Post Office Agents Association Limited, Capgemini Australia and Australia On Line.

For media comment: please contact the Chair's Office on 0429 787 320.

Further information about the inquiry is available: by contacting the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 2322 via email jcnbn@aph.gov.au or by visiting the committee's webpage at: www.aph.gov.au/jcnbn/telbill