

JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL BROADBAND NETWORK

MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 21 September 2011

Chair: Mr Robert Oakeshott MP Deputy Chair: Mrs Yvette D'Ath MP

Committee calls for submissions to its NBN rollout review

The Joint Committee on the National Broadband Network invites submissions from interested organisations and individuals relevant to the committee's ongoing six monthly review of the rollout of the National Broadband Network.

Matters under review for the current review period of the NBN rollout include: timeframe for rollout of wireless and satellite services, performance reporting, engagement of private equity in funding the NBN, Government NBN readiness, national uniform pricing under the NBN and its impact on competition.

Committee Chair Rob Oakeshott said: "The committee is wanting to prioritise all issues for the 7 per cent of the Australian population not receiving fibre to the home, and submissions for the wireless and satellite service are therefore sought."

"The committee is also finalising what inputs, outputs and outcomes to monitor the performance of the NBN."

"We invite all members of the community to provide performance measurement ideas, with the goal of achieving value for money and efficiency," Mr Oakeshott said.

"The committee is exploring policy options for when and how private equity could or should be engaged in the NBN wholesale platform."

"Any organisation or individual is invited to consider existing laws in this regard, and how a return to the Australian taxpayer via the NBN asset can be maximised," Mr Oakeshott said.

"The committee is also starting to challenge government itself to be NBN ready. A range of policy considerations across whole-of-government therefore need consideration, and all organisations and individuals are invited to assist in this challenge."

"Finally, the committee is exploring competition and productivity issues from the NBN, particularly in relation to national uniform pricing and the Binding Definitive Agreements between Telstra, Optus and NBN Co," Mr Oakeshott said.

The committee's terms of reference are available at: <u>www.aph.gov.au/jcnbn</u>

Submissions to the Secretariat should be received by Thursday, 20 October 2011.

For media comment: please contact the Chair's Office on 0429 787 320. **Further information about the review** is available by contacting the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 2322 via email <u>icnbn@aph.gov.au</u> or by visiting the committee's webpage at: <u>www.aph.gov.au/jcnbn</u>