



Telstra workforce retraining for NBN rollout

The parliamentary National Broadband Network (NBN) Committee is scheduled to hold a public hearing on 26 June 2012 in Canberra to examine Telstra workforce retraining issues associated with the NBN rollout.

The committee will hear from the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, and the Communications Electrical Plumbing Union.

“The committee will be interested to hear from the department and the union on Telstra workforce retraining issues associated with the Retraining Funding Deed”, Committee Chair Mr Oakeshott said.

“Telstra workforce retraining is an important part of the NBN rollout in ensuring an appropriately trained workforce for the NBN”.

In support of binding agreements between NBN Co and Telstra, the Australian Government has committed to providing \$100 million to Telstra under a Retraining Funding Deed to assist it in the retraining and redeployment of Telstra employees affected by the rollout of the NBN.

The deed sets out the terms by which the Australian Government will provide this funding to Telstra to retrain certain staff over an eight-year period. The objectives of the deed are to support the availability of an appropriately trained workforce for the NBN, and for Telstra to establish a retraining arrangement for its staff who may otherwise have faced redundancy as a consequence of the NBN rollout.

The deed also requires that a Training Plan be developed by Telstra and approved by the department, and that Telstra regularly consult with relevant unions on progress under the Training Plan.

The public hearing is part of the committee’s ongoing review of the rollout of the NBN.

PUBLIC HEARING PROGRAM

Tuesday, 26 June 2012, Committee Room 2S1, Parliament House, Canberra

6.00 pm Communications Electrical Plumbing Union (Communications Division)
6.45 pm Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy

The hearing will be webcast live on: <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

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 or via email icnbn@aph.gov.au or by visiting the committee’s webpage at: www.aph.gov.au/icnbn