Submission No 74

Inquiry into potential reforms of National Security Legislation

Organisation: Mr Wade Tattersall

Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security

Sent: Friday, 17 August 2012 10:21 PM
To: Committee, PJCIS (REPS)
Subject: RE: Inquiry into potential reforms of National Security Legislation

Dear Mr Secretary,

I am writing to express my disatisfaction with the proposed changes to the National Security Legislation.

My principle complaints are two-fold:

1. This data will do little to deter any minimally competent criminals, as it is quite trivial to encrypt communications over the internet in such a manner that it is quite difficult to decrypt, or even provide decryption keys for. The TOR project is one example, which provides end-to-end encryption using keys that are temporary and therefore unacquirable.

2. The technical requirements to retain this quantity of data is quite substantial, and will cost a great deal in both initial investment and subsequent maintainance. It could easily drive up prices of internet access by as much as 200%, and push smaller ISPs out of business, reducing competition.

So from a technical viewpoint, these changes are largely unworkable and unwarranted. From a privacy viewpoint, they are a nightmare, with commentators from around the world decrying this potential invasion.

Sincerely,

Wade Tattersall