

Palmer, Tamara (REPS)

From: Grant King
Sent: Friday, 25 February 2011 10:19 AM
To: Committee, IC (REPS)
Subject: NEW INQUIRY INTO THE NATIONAL BROADBAND NETWORK

Dear Mr McGowan

Thank you for the invitation through Chair Mark Braes, for Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast to submit in response to the above mentioned inquiry.

When considering the question asked to 'examine the capacity of the National Broadband Network to contribute to: Items a – i as listed, it is our contention that reliable access to any high speed broadband services would be positive in each of the items detailed.

We have reviewed the maps which provide indicative representation of the various components of the proposed network and we remain concerned about the adequacy of coverage to a large part of the Limestone Coast region (South East of South Australia). In particular, will proposed satellite coverage to many smaller communities and rural properties provide the same level of service as those accessing the fibre and wireless networks? How will the cost of access to the various components of the National Broadband Network impact on customers and will there be equity in those access costs?

Our experience with other maps showing proposed telecommunications services, has been that they do not always accurately reflect the intended level of service being promoted. Is the Committee confident in the ability of the proposed service to meet the expectations depicted in the maps provided?

Overwhelmingly, it is our view that the proposed service contained in the National Broadband Network, should not disadvantage communities or sections of communities in terms of level of access, quality of service or costs associated with using this most important form of information and telecommunications infrastructure.

We thank you for considering this submission to your inquiry.

Yours sincerely

Grant

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