

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**  
**Additional Estimates February 2017**  
**Communications Portfolio**  
**NBN Co Limited**

**Question No: 135**

**NBN Co Limited**

**Hansard Ref: Page 158-159, 28/02/2017**

**Topic: Incorrect installations**

**Senator Griff, Stirling asked:**

**Senator GRIFF:** But in those instances nobody could snip a Telstra cable, for instance, because they are fully closed in conduit all the way up the wall with the box high up. But NBN is about the height off the ground I am indicating to you, with as much of the cable as I am indicating coming out of the conduit, with no other conduit around it. Are you saying that that is an acceptable installation?

**Mr Morrow:** It sounds like it. I would not know what the details are specifically. But, again, there is cable running all over. Everybody has seen the way the telecom network has been constructed in the past. It was never meant to protect somebody from doing criminal damage of going up and vandalising a home. That was not the intent. It is always there to protect from a safety point of view, but from a vandalism point of view, that is not within the remit.

**Senator GRIFF:** I would suggest that something that is the height I am indicating off the ground, outside of a bank, fully exposed, is not a good practice.

**Mr Morrow:** We would be happy to take a look at it so that we know we are talking about the same thing.

**Mr Simon:** I think there is a difference between whether a standard has been followed and the quality of that build and the location. If the bank will run its own security controls for a branch, they will do that as part of the network determination, whether that is essential service, critical service or whether it needs high security. So I am not clear, when you talk about the conduit—if there is no conduit there or if there is naked cable, then I agree that would not be according to the standard, but the discussion is on the position of that PCD. There are many different types of PCDs that can be located and are accessible to the community. It is impossible to make them secure. That has to be specifically done at the request of the end user.

**Senator GRIFF:** How many incorrect installations have you had to repair or correct in 2015-16?

**Mr Simon:** We would have to take that on notice.

**Answer:**

See Question on Notice 167.