Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings November 2014

Communications Portfolio

NBN Co Limited

Question No: 204

Program No. NBN Co

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: SSCNBN QoN 49 - Tasmania - July 2014

Senator Urquhart asked:

According to NBN Co's answer to Question on Notice No. 49 from the 11 July hearing of the Senate Select Committee, three contract instructions for build have been issued in Tasmania since 8 September 2013: 7BEV-03, 7GEW-02 and 7LAU-08. The most recent of these was issued in April 2014.

- (a) How many contract instructions for build (FTTP) have been issued in Tasmania since 8 September 2013 based on the most recent available information? Please provide FSAM identifier, estimated premises count, month of issue, and relevant delivery partner.
- (b) Prior to the election, NBN Co had issued contract instructions for physical design for the following Tasmanian FSAMs: 7HOB-08, 7HOB-09, 7NWT-02, 7NWT-03, 7NWT-04, 7NWT-05, 7NWT-06, 7PON-01, 7BEV-06, 7MGT-01, 7CRE-01, 7SHR-01, 7LEG-01, 7WIN-01, 7SHL-01, 7SHL-04, 7SHL-05, 7SHL-06 and 7LAU-10. Did NBN Co honour the contracts for physical design issued for these FSAMs? (i.e. was the delivery partner(s) paid for this work?)
- (c) As of 22 October 2014, the NBN Co map indicates that these FSAMs have not progressed to build preparation. Has physical design been completed in these FSAMs? If not, why not?
- (d) Please indicate whether any of these FSAMs are scheduled to receive fibre-to-the-premises access technology.
- (e) The Strategic Review indicates that the cost of physical design, EAC, is \$127 per premise (Exhibit 2-26, page 52). What was the cost for physical design for 7HOB-08, 7HOB-09, 7NWT-02, 7NWT-03, 7NWT-04, 7NWT-05, 7NWT-06, 7PON-01, 7BEV-06, 7MGT-01, 7CRE-01, 7SHR-01, 7LEG-01, 7WIN-01, 7SHL-01, 7SHL-04, 7SHL-05, 7SHL-06 and 7LAU-10? Please provide on a per premises basis, or for the FSAM as a whole.
- (f) Has NBN Co issued any design contract instructions for fibre in Tasmania since 8 September 2013? If so, please indicate how many and the estimated premises count.

Answer:

(a) As at 31 December 2014 14 contract instructions for build for approximately 31,600 premises have been issued in Tasmania since 8 September 2013.

	Estimated	Month	
	Premise		
FSAM	Count	Issued	Delivery Partner
7LAU-08	2,168	Mar-14	VISIONSTREAM
7GEW-02	390	Mar-14	VISIONSTREAM

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7BEV-03	2,851	Apr-14	VISIONSTREAM
7HOB-07	3,036	Aug-14	VISIONSTREAM
7SHL-03	2,530	Aug-14	VISIONSTREAM
7NWT-01	2,763	Aug-14	VISIONSTREAM
7SHL-02	2,813	Sep-14	VISIONSTREAM
7BEV-05	1,515	Sep-14	VISIONSTREAM
7LAU-09	2,515	Sep-14	VISIONSTREAM
7SHL-01	2,659	Oct-14	VISIONSTREAM
7BEV-06	1,159	Nov-14	VISIONSTREAM
7HOB-08	2,553	Nov-14	VISIONSTREAM
7LAU-10	2,559	Nov-14	VISIONSTREAM
7HOB-09	2,123	Dec-14	VISIONSTREAM

- (b) Yes
- (c) Physical design has been completed for 7HOB-08, 7HOB-09, 7BEV-06, 7NWT-03, 7NWT-04, 7SHL-01, 7SHL-04, 7SHL-05, 7SHL-06 and 7LAU-10. 7NWT-05 and 7NWT-06 have not yet reached finalised physical design. 7PON-01, 7MGT-01, 7CRE-01, 7SHR-01, 7LEG-01, 7NWT-02 and 7WIN-01 are being assessed for optimal multi-technology mix.
- (d) 7HOB-08, 7HOB-09, 7BEV-06, 7LAU-10, 7NWT-05, 7NWT-06, 7SHL-01, 7SHL-04, 7SHL-05, 7NWT-03, 7NWT-04, 7SHL-06 are proceeding as fibre to the premises.
- (e) NBN Co maintains that the value of the physical design costs is commercially confidential between NBN Co and its delivery partners. If this information was to be released it could cause harm to NBN Co (and hence the Australian taxpayer) by putting it at a commercial disadvantage when dealing with other suppliers.
- (f) No.