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**From:** Richard Hallett [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 28 July 2021 11:15 PM  
**To:** secretariat@rtirc.gov.au  
**Subject:** Regional Telecommunications review submission

To Whom it may Concern,

I would like to provide my submission to the above review. Together with my family I own/manage a 9100 ha grazing and cropping property in Southern Highlands of Tasmania. Our business very much depends on strong coverage of mobile broadband in the running of our business and also in order to support the local community.

Unfortunately, the current level of coverage is insufficient to achieve anywhere near maximum productivity on our property or across the State.

Below is a short list of some of the services which depend on strong coverage:

- Basic health/safety for staff working in remote areas of the property
- The uptake of Precision Agriculture, and all the efficiencies, environmental and productivity gains which it entails, is greatly restricted due to poor mobile broadband coverage
- Many types of farm equipment require broadband mobile coverage in order to operate guidance systems and maintain communications

Over the last 12 years we have seen the Federal Govt, in partnership with State Govt and private sector, invest approx. \$500m in irrigation infrastructure across Tasmania. This infrastructure is vitally important to maximize the natural assets which Tasmania has and will create local, state and national economic growth. However, the telemetry which is required to operate this network of schemes is often not functioning due to the insufficient telecommunications across Tasmania. It is only when we see a greater level of mobile broadband across regional/rural Tasmania that we will be able to maximize this significant investment in the State and Nation's agricultural future.

Regards -Richard Hallett  
[REDACTED]