2021 Regional Telecommunications Review 1 Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

To who it may concern,

We would like to draw attention to the lack of reliable service at Downs NSW

Our house is situated approximately 5 km from the Swan Hill tower and mobile phone reception is impossible in the house. We usually have to have to go to the backyard to make a call, send a text or email. No private calls can be made as we have 4 house yards joining ours so we are within hear range of several neighbours.

Weather conditions outdoors are often not inviting for making calls especially on winter nights.

Mobile calls often drop out so when on an extended call with a service provider you lose that call and the person you were dealing with. Consequently, you have to start again from scratch which often entails a long wait to get connected again.

If an emergency arose a person would have to be left alone while a call is made. An unsafe and an unsatisfactory situation for someone to be placed in.

Internet is pathetically slow and at times unavailable.

This is an age where we are expected to use internet to pay bills, access information, our bank account, government information, make appointments, attend Zoom Meetings, attend Telehealth appointments, do shopping and many other online communications. How can this happen when internet speed often won't even facilitate completing banking before the connection is timed out.

Why should we in Australia be living with Third World technology?

The cost of supply is the same whether provided with good or very limited resources. What has happened to fair and equitable? We are being had!!!!

We would appreciate our mobile and broadband services being improved to 2021 standards.

Regards

John & Lorraine Steer