

Sir,

I live at Dubbo NSW. And receive NBN via wireless*.

A few months ago it was my privilege to travel extensively in outback Queensland, Northern Territory, and remote outback Western Australia. 16000kms in two months.

There were very few places that internet service was unavailable. It became obvious to me that the problem of poor service is really one of lack of capacity. There are plenty of transmitters even in remote places, but almost none can cope with more than minimal traffic. This is made very obvious by the performance being highest in the early hours, but almost unusable in peak times in the evening. *This was consistent over our whole 16000kms.*

Occasionally, there is exceptional service, which then highlights the common problems. The remote roadhouse village of Timber Creek in the NT, was the standout fastest and best anywhere outside of a major city, on our two passes through there. So no coincidence.

Nothing can improve or speed up the service when capacity is reached.

*I was one of the first to connect to this NBN wireless service six years ago. At first it was excellent, but as more joined, the speed fell away to now being very slow. The capacity of the transmitter is obviously stretched.

On another front. In the 1970s very high massive microwave towers were installed in the NT along the Barkly and Stuart highways about 20 miles apart. Subsequently, optic fibre made the towers redundant. But many are still there, very high, sound, and owned by Telstra. Why are they not used for the NBN? It seems like the perfect answer to improving service on these now-busy outback highways.

Thanks

