Michele McLean

Telecommunications issues in rural NT:

The very poor mobile and internet services in this area are seriously substandard. Due to poor coverage and extended blackspot areas, consumers are limited to the services of 1 provider who are not always very prompt to repair faults. As there is often limited reception, I often rely on my landline which is often out of service and has taken weeks to be repaired in the past. I have been informed I can purchase a booster, at my expense, so I can have the luxury of being able to use my mobile phone inside my house instead of having to stand outside in a couple of spots where I am lucky to get 1 or 2 bars of reception. Pretty bad service provision when you pay for 3 mobile services and a landline.

The lack of any other provider for phone supply- only choice being Telstra. The mobile reception provided is so poor that I can only get 1 to 2 bars of service depending on where I am standing outside. I cannot get adequate reception inside the house. Initially I could not get ADSL connection, so had satellite internet connected. I can now get ADSL through my landline, however in 5 years it has been out of action at least 7 times and sometimes for 2-3 weeks at a time. When there is a weather event and power goes off, the battery backup to the towers does not last long so we are left without reception in what can be an emergency situation.

Also, Telstra did say I could purchase a booster at great cost to myself which would improve mobile reception. My thoughts area that I pay for 3 mobile services, a landline and ADSL..... it should be up to them to provide the service that we pay for, but receive not much in return!