

10 November 2023

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Director, Telecommunications Deployment Policy Team Digital Inclusion and Deployment Branch Communications and Infrastructure Division

ENE.HUB Submission on Consultation Paper – *Possible Amendments to the Telecommunications in New Developments Policy – Mobile Connectivity and Other Measures*

I write on behalf of ENE.HUB, in response to the Consultation Paper on the *Possible Amendments to the Telecommunications in New Developments Policy* – *Mobile Connectivity and Other Measures* ('TIND') prepared by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (DITRDCA).

As a provider of shared telecommunications infrastructure, ENE.HUB applauds and strongly supports the Federal Government's focus on improved connectivity. We note, and endorse the August 4th Communique from the Planning Ministers, particularly recognising telecommunications planning as a nationally significant planning matter and the call to establish a working group alongside state and territory governments.

ENE.HUB is an Indara Company, and we note and endorse the recommendations and priorities outlined in the Indara submission. Particularly Indara's call for planning for connectivity to be supported or required within local governments to ensure Mobile Network Operator (MNO) / Mobile Network Infrastructure Providers (MNIP) stakeholder engagement is conducted as early as possible during the development of city plans, precinct structure plans and masterplans.

Importantly, ENE.HUB recommends the Department enshrines digital inclusion into any new policy, particularly through the fortification of a competitive and thriving shared infrastructure market. The Australian shared infrastructure market is nascent and provides an important pathway to ensuring affordable and accessible digital connectivity for communities that have historically been underserved.

We thank you for this valuable opportunity to comment on the proposal and look forward to being included in any future consultation about innovative planning for connectivity.

Yours sincerely,

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