

Mobile Coverage Programme Discussion Paper

Submission Cover Sheet

Submission Information

This cover sheet should be attached to submissions made to the Department of Communications in relation to the Mobile Coverage Programme Discussion Paper.

Contact Details

Name of respondent: Mr P Menzies and Miss K Menzies

Name of organisation:

Phone:

Email:

Website (if applicable):

Date: 27 February 2014

Confidentiality and privacy

All submissions and comments, or parts thereof, will be treated as non-confidential information unless specifically requested, and acceptable reasons should accompany each request. Email disclaimers will not be considered sufficient confidentiality requests.

Respondents lodging a submission should be aware that submissions (excluding any information agreed to be treated as confidential information) will be made publicly available, including on the Department of Communications' website. Submissions and comments will be subject to freedom of information provisions. Despite a submission being identified as confidential or sensitive, submissions may be disclosed where authorised or required by law, or for the purpose of parliamentary processes.

Do you want all or parts of the submission to be treated as confidential? **Yes** **No**

If yes, identify below which parts of the submission are to be treated as confidential (and provide a reason):

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If the submission contains personal information of any third party individual, indicate on this Submission Cover Sheet if that third party individual has not consented to the publication of his or her personal information:

Submission Instructions

Submissions are to be made by **5:00pm (AEST) Friday 28 February 2014**.

Where possible, submissions should be lodged electronically, preferably in Microsoft Word or other text-based formats via the email address mobilecoverage@communications.gov.au

Alternatively, submissions can be sent to the postal address below (to arrive by the due date):

The Manager
Mobile Coverage Programme
Department of Communications
GPO Box 2154
CANBERRA ACT 2615

All submissions lodged will be acknowledged by the Department of Communications by email (or by letter if no email is provided). Respondents lodging a submission who do not receive acknowledgement of their submission should contact the Department. Submissions which are not acknowledged by the Department as being received may not be considered. Respondents should be aware that emails greater than 10Mb may not be successfully delivered.

The Manager
Mobile Coverage Programme
Department of Communications

27 February 2014

Mobile Coverage Programme

We make the following submission from the perspective of a Central West NSW rural area.

Question One

In response to question one we agree with minimum base station quality standards as listed. This also would achieve a significant improvement in wireless internet service in some areas.

Mobile Black Spots Project

The suggestion that local government and communities co-fund the infrastructure would result in no service for some rural communities. Many rural Councils in NSW are experiencing difficulty remaining financially sustainable. Members of rural communities are already struggling with cost of living pressures.

Utilising the NBN Fixed Wireless Network

In the area in which we reside, the NBN Co has selected a site for a base station. If built it would be unsuitable for mobile communications because the area covered would only provide service to a small number of users. If a base station was established at Mount Macquarie (Blayney Shire NSW) it would give access to mobile users in a wide area including some current mobile black spots. A 4G installation which provides acceptable internet access in rural areas would allow NBN Co to allocate resources elsewhere. It would also be a source of additional revenue for the MNO's.

For rural communities their most important need is for a reliable widespread mobile service.

Yours faithfully

P. Menzies and K. Menzies