

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:

Name of organisation:

Nelligen Progress Association

Phone:

Email:

Website (if applicable):

Date:

26/02/2014

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):

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.

SUBMISSION

Nelligen, NSW 2536 has no mobile coverage.

It is on the Kings Hwy, which of course is a major transport route from Canberra to the South Coast. Unfortunately this highway is renowned for fatal accidents. When people are injured or broken down they need mobile coverage, which is unavailable in many places along the Kings Hwy. I have seen people whose car has broken down, dangerously walking along the highway seeking mobile coverage.

Nelligen is a small community normally with less than 200 people but during weekends and holidays it rapidly expands. This beautiful heritage township has excellent boat launching facilities into the Clyde River. One of its major businesses is a large Big 4 Holiday Park whose tourism potential is being unfairly limited by lack of mobile coverage. Other local businesses and trades are likewise inhibited.

Magnificent State Forests and National Parks surround Nelligen. This means that Nelligen is in a bush fire danger area. In times of fires it is essential to have mobile coverage.

For safety on the Clyde River, the Kings Hwy and in Nelligen homes, businesses and holiday facilities, mobile coverage is essential. This especially applies in times of natural disasters whether it is fire, flood or storms, all of which could occur at or near Nelligen. Access to mobile phones is also of great benefit at times of illness or accident on the water, the roads, in the bush or homes.

Nelligen is just 10 Km from the Batemans Bay PO and yet its residents, businesses and holiday makers are being denied basic communication which exists even in the 3rd World. Recently there was extensive publicity that more areas of Batemans Bay had been upgraded to 4G. Surely provision of even basic mobile services to Nelligen should precede upgrades.

Please bring Nelligen into the 21 Century by providing mobile coverage.