

5G Innovation Initiative

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

11th December 2020

Dear Members of the 5G Innovation Initiative,

Thank you for the opportunity to give input into this process. Intelematics is a local connected vehicle technology specialist, we see a big future in applications that follow the deployment of 5G technology, specifically in transport and mobility applications. Safety and efficiency are the focus of our efforts and over the past 2 decades we have been a long-standing provider of services surrounding the connected vehicle. In this time, we have been and continue to be the trusted provider of services including:

- Vehicle telematics systems
- eCALL and safety service triage
- Realtime in-vehicle traffic and incident updates

We continue to support various vehicle manufactures deliver connected programs and services to their customers as well as support road authorities with road network information as part of their program management. Essentially, we provide a vital connection that delivers scale and tailored services across many vendors in Australia / NZ.

With the advent of 5G services beginning to be explored, we see numerous applications that will impact on the safety for those on the roads. While these applications might include improvements that 5G allows to existing services such as eCALL, extra applications that utilise the low latency capabilities are currently being explored, as are the mass transfer of data between the vehicle and the cloud offering a wide range of in vehicle and vehicle management services.

We look forward to the 5G innovation initiative being released and are please to be able to input into this process. Please see below for our response to the discussion paper questions. In principle we support the process being laid out and appreciate the support that this program will bring to technology advancement in Australia.

We hope our comments provide constructive and helpful notes in being able to refine the program and process to be as good as it can be.

Regards,



Intelematics Australia

Response to individual questions

Selected questions for response

Question 3: *What are your views on the level of maturity of 5G applications available to be trialled, and are there particular sectors which could best demonstrate 5G's productivity benefits?*

5G applications systems are emerging in ways that can be trialled for early-stage proof of concepts.

We understand that there are a number of 5G devices that can be trialled within the transport sector.

Question 5: *Given the quantum of funding, what type and scale of projects could the Initiative appropriately support?*

With the funding range between \$0.5-1M the projects will be able to prove the feasibility of 5G in delivering the information speeds and latency reliability required with small scale proof of concepts being able to be delivered from the funding window. For small and medium businesses further support may be needed to bring these proved solutions to market.

Question 6: *What are your views of the proposed requirements for joint applications, grant agreements, grant value and the payment structure of the Initiative? Are there other program requirements that should be considered?*

Intelematics does not suggest any changes to the outlined measures for joint applications, agreements and payments. The payment portions and timing should be outlined with further detail when the application process opens. The note that applications outside the advised value boundaries will be considered covers off opportunities for both smaller and larger 5G innovation initiatives which will no doubt be submitted.

Question 7: *Do you have any comments on the eligibility requirements, including the types of applications eligible for funding, the funding of network infrastructure, and whether the criteria will encourage participation from a variety of applicants?*

The purpose of testing and trialling of 5G equipment without branching too far into research and development will diminish the possibilities for high value productivity gains from this program. Opportunities to prove expected outcomes through projects that involve a degree of research should be allowed as long as a comprehensive plan on how the proposed outcomes will be achieved is supplied.

Question 8: *In what timeframe could projects under the Initiative be feasibly implemented?*

Timeframes will vary depending on external constraints, medium to large scale projects could be feasibly implemented in 12-18months, indicative schedules should be provided as part of the application process.

Question 10: *Do you have any comments on the proposed assessment criteria, including their ability to support a variety of projects from diverse applicants?*

Criterion 2 - while important to ensuring delivery of any initiative may be hard to provide certainty of the 5G technology/spectrum capabilities at the time of submission. Allowance for changing plans will be important for the inclusion of small to medium businesses.

Question 11: *Should the program have any specific limits on what qualifies as technology that operates using 5G? If so, what would these limits be?*

Intelematics recommends a broad initial qualification but the use of 5G technology to deliver outcomes beyond what existing 4G technology is able to deliver should be considered under Criterion 1 - meeting the objectives of the program.