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Director
Telecommunications Competition
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To the Director of Telecommunications Competition,

I am presently a resident living in Highgate Hill and have been living here for more than 8 years. I am writing to express my thoughts regarding current Telstra's request for an extension to a Ministerial exemption for its South Brisbane and Velocity networks.

It is my understanding that the existing network was built prior to the formal rollout of the NBN and was thus built to a different standard than networks built at a later stage.

While I appreciate being given access to fibre technology well in advance to neighbouring suburbs, due to the nature of the National Broadband Network (NBN) rollout. It has now come to a point where the majority of inner-city suburbs now have access to the NBN and therefore have the ability to choose a wide range of Internet Service Providers (ISP). With Internode and iiNet not offering new services since 2017, this area is seen as highly uncompetitive.

I am currently paying \$110 per month for an unlimited 100/5 service. With companies such as MyRepublic and Aussie Broadband offering plans 100/20 with unlimited data for only \$89 per month. It is evident that competition does exist elsewhere. While my download and upload speeds are fast enough for my family's uses, I can see how especially during these times consumers in the South Brisbane exchange are disadvantaged while conducting business or work from home.

In recent news, Aussie Broadband has begun to rollout its Gigabit NBN plans offering up to 1000/50 for not much more than what my family currently pays for. Telstra's exemption on the South Brisbane network exchange limits the ability for consumers to choose competitive plans but also restricts them from new offerings.

Please reconsider any plan to approve Telstra's request for an exemption from legislative requirements that apply equally elsewhere.

Thank you for your consideration,
Johnny Tran