
Submitted on 22 May 2026

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Step 1: Your submission

Remain Anonymous

No

Private Submission

No

Published name

Genevieve Hawkins

Short comment

We all know Australia is a vast country where most of the population lives within one hundred kilometres of the coast. However, there are still a lot of people and businesses that operate in regional, rural and remote parts, and who generate much of the food, industry and GDP for our nation. Without Telstra continuing to supply a reliable solar powered STS, they are leaving these customers and Indigenous Communities without an essential service.

These phones keep going when the power goes out, which when it does, takes far longer to get back online than in coastal communities (We have had times when the

power has gone out for 4 days at a time, before Ergon could reconnect us - but our solar powered Radio phone kept working as it is stand alone). They are an ESSENTIAL basic service, enabling people to contact emergency services, access medical and mental health assistance and stay in touch with loved ones in times of need.

Protections need to be put in place for ALL Australians, particularly rural, remote and vulnerable communities to have equitable access to EQUITABLE and AFFORDABLE telecommunication services now and in the future. The cost of maintaining and powering a basic human right should not be born by those who can often least afford it.

Step 2: Contact details

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

State

QLD

Email address

[REDACTED]

Phone number

[REDACTED]

Email notification

USB@infrastructure.gov.au

Consultation name

Extending rules about requests for USO voice services

OFFICIAL