

~~PROTECTED SENSITIVE: CABINET~~

MT2013/0179



Australian Government
Department of Communications

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO AUDIT NBN CO'S GOVERNANCE AS PART OF THE STRATEGIC REVIEW OF NBN CO

TIMING: URGENT – ACTION REQUIRED BY – 11 NOVEMBER 2013

KEY ISSUES:

s34(3)

3. The draft letter at Attachment A to the NBN Co Executive Chairman, Dr Ziggy Switkowski, s34(3) requests that the Strategic Review include an audit of NBN Co's governance. This is consistent with the terms of reference of the Strategic Review. We suggest that NBN Co should be provided with additional time to conduct this element of the review.

SENSITIVITIES:

There is likely to be sensitivity to this audit among staff within NBN Co.

RECOMMENDATION/S:

That you:

1. Sign the letter to the NBN Co Chairman requesting the Strategic Review of NBN Co also include an audit of governance.

1 Signed/Not signed
47F

Malcolm Turnbull

6.../11/2013

s22

Greg Cox
NBN Reform Taskforce

Contact Nos: s22

s22

Date: 7 November 2013

Instructions for PSS:

Contact Officer: s22

Tel: s22

EXECCORRO CC LIST: Secretary, Ian Robinson, Angela Flannery, Mark Heazlett, Danny McCarthy, s22

s22 Phil Smith, Phil Mason, Liz O'Shea, s22, Jo Grainger.

BACKGROUND/ISSUES:

s34(3)

CONSULTATION:

PM&C, Department of Finance.

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THE HON MALCOLM TURNBULL MP
Minister for Communications

SENATOR THE HON MATHIAS CORMANN
Minister for Finance

13 NOV 2013

Dr Ziggy Switkowski
Executive Chairman
NBN Co Limited
Level 40, 360 Elizabeth Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Dear Dr Switkowski

INDEPENDENT AUDIT OF NBN CO GOVERNANCE

As you are aware, the Government has committed to undertaking an independent audit of NBN Co Limited's (NBN Co) governance.

We request that, as part of the current Strategic Review, the Board of NBN Co examine the company's governance, management and the accountability of its board and officers, from its inception. This aspect of the Strategic Review should also include whether accurate and timely information about NBN outcomes has been provided at all times to Parliament and taxpayers by NBN Co.

We recognise that it may not be possible to complete these additional elements of the Strategic Review by 2 December 2013 and ask that they be completed and provided to us by 17 January 2014.

Yours sincerely

s47F

Malcolm Turnbull
Minister for Communications

s47F

Mathias Cormann
Minister for Finance