



Hon **Barnaby Joyce** MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR NEW ENGLAND

Our ref: NE3705

25 September 2020

Mr Jose Cambon
General Manager
Costa Tomato Category
Unit 1, 275 Robinsons Road
RAVENHALL VIC 3023

Via e-mail: jose.cambon@costagroup.com.au

Dear Mr Cambon

Thank you for your letter of 23 September 2020, further to your letter of 12 August 2020, regarding a submission being prepared by Costa in partnership with NBN Co to the Federal Government's Regional Connectivity Program to increase the bandwidth at Costa's two tomato glasshouses at Guyra.

I have noted the details of this application and appreciate receiving your update.

I am pleased to attach a letter of support which I trust will be of assistance and I certainly wish Costa every success with this application and the planned upgrade.

In regard to your letter of 12 August 2020 in relation to the proposed visit to Costa's Guyra glasshouses by the Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP, which was postponed due to COVID-19, your correspondence was referred to my diary manager to liaise with Minister Fletcher's office and my office will be in touch with you as soon as further details are known.

Thank you once again for writing and if I can further assist at any time, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

The Hon Barnaby Joyce MP
Federal Member for New England

CC Mr Michael Toby
Corporate Affairs Manager
Costa
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Dear Mr Cambon

Letter of Support

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for a submission being prepared by Costa in partnership with NBN Co to the Federal Government's Regional Connectivity Program to increase the bandwidth at Costa's two tomato glasshouses at Guyra.

I am very much aware this telecommunications upgrade is urgently needed to address the continued increases in bandwidth required at Costa's Guyra facilities for the many software and online systems utilised to support the company's high-tech practices and equipment used to achieve greater yield efficiencies.

Costa is to be commended upon its commitment to the year round production of tomatoes and its ongoing development of technologies to support improvements to its operations and the delivery of this important product to our markets.

I understand that Costa has committed to providing 25% towards the total project cost of \$338,000 with the balance of \$253,500 being sought under the Program and certainly wish this funding application and communications upgrade initiative every success which will provide enormous ongoing benefits for the Guyra region and our nation's supplies of this key horticultural product for many years to come.

I trust my comments will be of assistance and if I can further assist at any time, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

The Hon Barnaby Joyce MP
Federal Member for New England

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