

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

WATCH POCKET BRIEF

Version 1 10/01/2024

LOW EARTH ORBIT SATELLITES (LEOSATS)**LEAD: Ben Phelps**

KEY STATEMENT: As an emerging communications technology, Low-Earth Orbit Satellites, abbreviated to 'LEOSats', are continuing to offer broadband connectivity across Australia. Its capability is developing as a direct-to-device offering, including in emergency call services. The working group is informing Government about how this emerging capability might play a role in future telecommunications policy.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

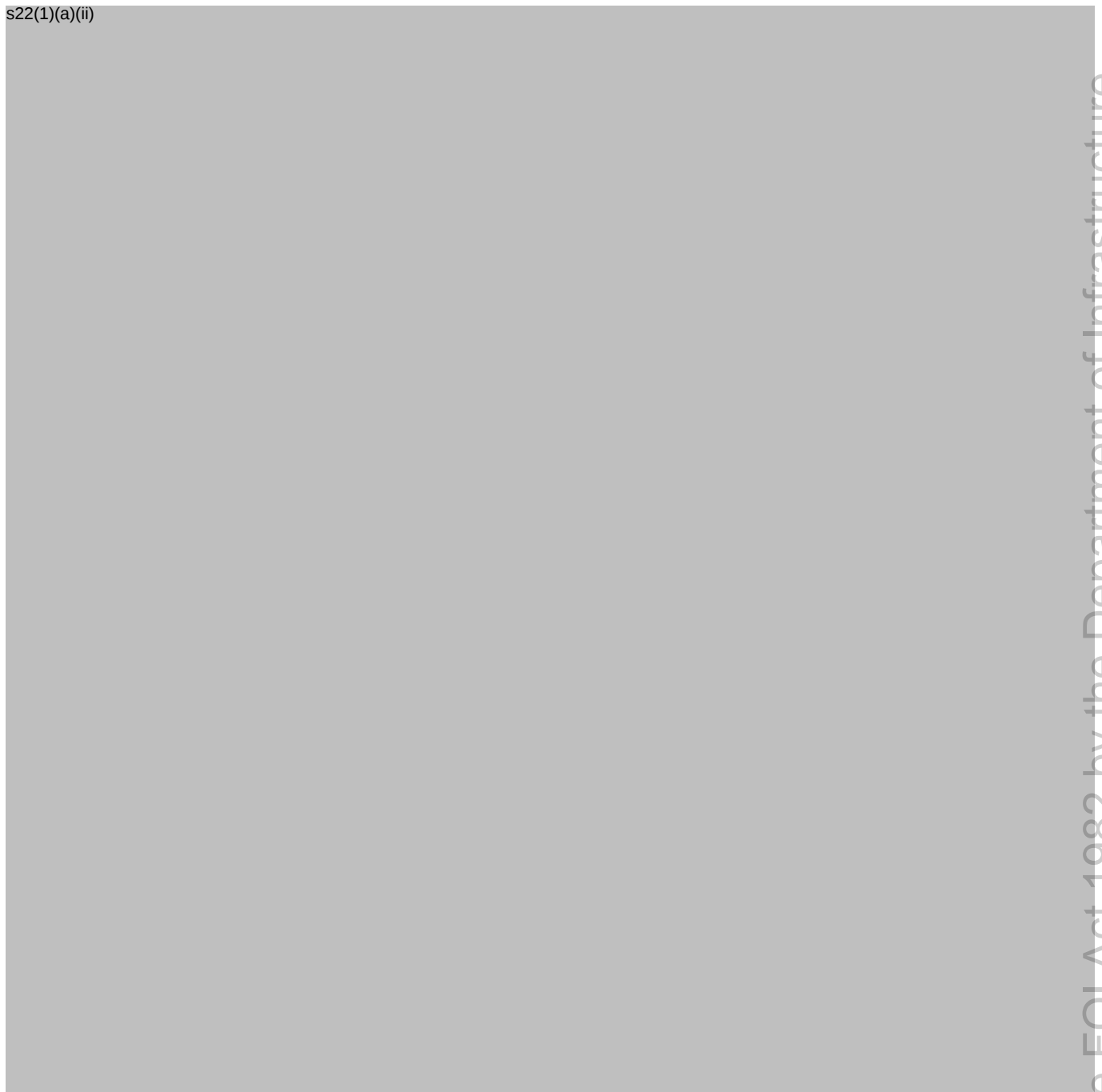
s22(1)(a)(ii)

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

s22(1)(a)(ii)



Security/operational concerns

The Government is considering the risks associated with the introduction of LEOSat technology for telecommunications through its existing assessment and regulatory frameworks.

Under Part 14 of the *Telecommunications Act 1997* (Tel Act), all carriers and carriage service providers must do their best to protect their networks from unauthorised access and interference to ensure the availability and integrity of their networks and facilities, and the confidentiality of the communication carried on and information contained on their networks and facilities. Carriers and

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

nominated carriage service providers must also notify the Communications Access Coordinator of any proposed changes to their telecommunications systems or services that are likely to have a material adverse effect on its capacity to comply with its security obligation.

Starlink Australia Pty Ltd holds a carrier licence.

[*If raised* - Further questions on licencing can be addressed to the ACMA which has the carrier licence enforcement function.]

The Cyber and Infrastructure Security Centre (CISC) of the Department of Home Affairs is responsible for advising the Communications Access Coordinator on the risk associated with these changes - and is the appropriate entity to provide further information on the notification regime. Part 14 of the Tel Act operates alongside other regulatory frameworks, including the *Foreign Acquisitions and Takeovers Act 1975* and the *Security of Critical Infrastructure Act 2018* to provide assurance around the security of telecommunications networks.

Active consideration is being given to whether these frameworks adequately capture LEOSat services in Australia. Operational issues that are being considered include: ownership and control, cyber security, natural hazards (e.g. space weather), physical hazards (space debris), supply chain security, consumer protection, and the reliability of LEOSat services to support or supplement emergency responses.

s22(1)(a)(ii)



FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Regulatory considerations

The government is considering how existing regulatory frameworks capture LEOSat services in Australia and if any adjustments are required for the roll-out of LEOSats into the market. These telecommunications frameworks include competition regulation, spectrum management and device standards.

LEOSat providers that provide telecommunication services in Australia are treated in the same manner as other telecommunications providers, and where required will need to hold a carrier licence. For example, Starlink Australia Pty Ltd holds a carrier licence.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Clearing Officer
Ben Phelps
Assistant Secretary, Broadband
and Emerging Communications
Ph 02 s22(1)(a)(ii)
Mobile s22(1)(a)(ii)
Date 31/01/2024

Contact Officer
s22(1)(a)(ii)
Director, Emerging Communications
Ph 02 s22(1)(a)(ii)
Mobile s22(1)(a)(ii)

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

OFFICIAL

2024 - 2025 Budget Estimates

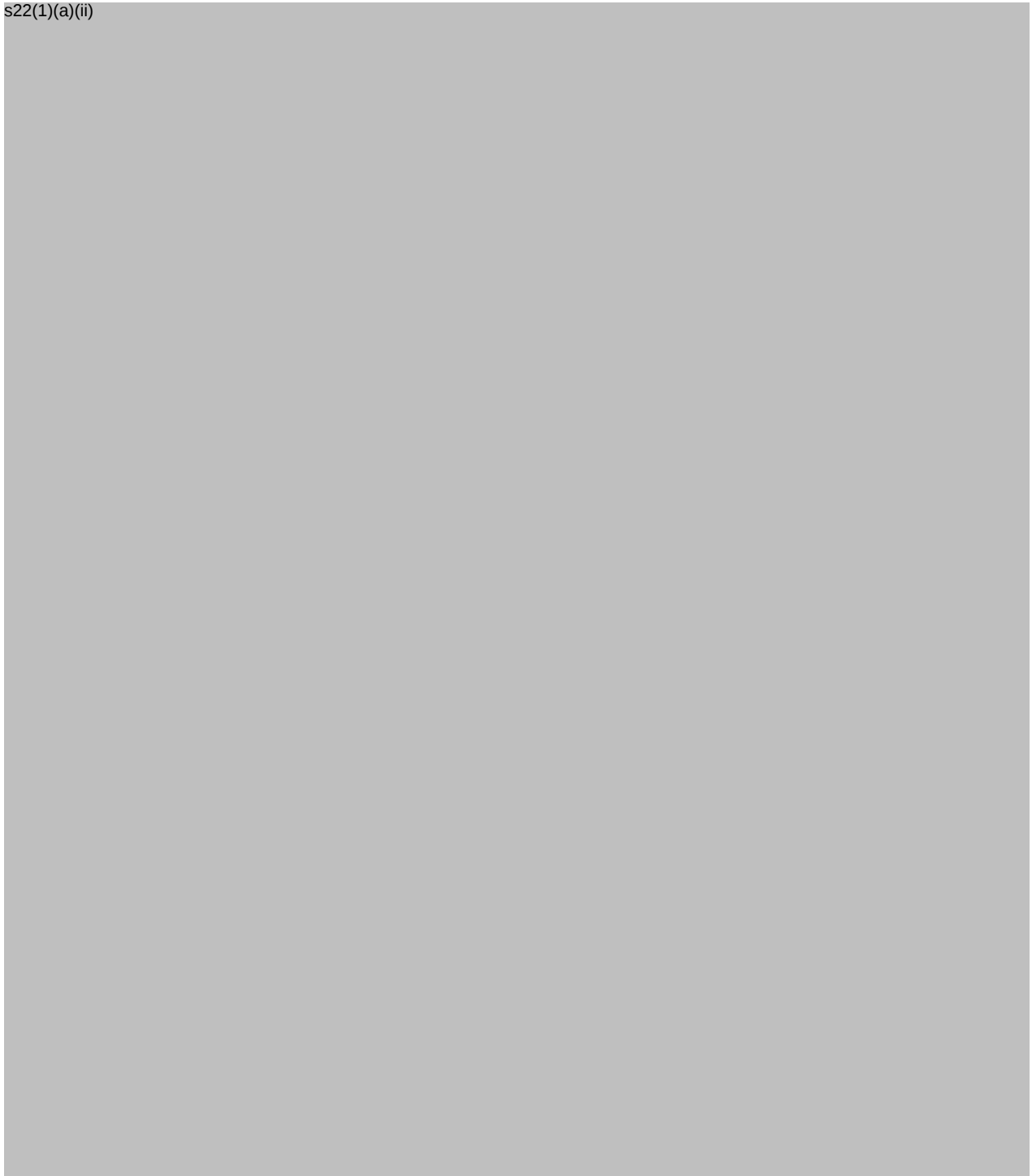
Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB24-000029

SUBJECT: Low Earth Orbit Satellites, including Working Group

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by First Assistant Secretary:** Lisa La Rance**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 2/05/2024

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

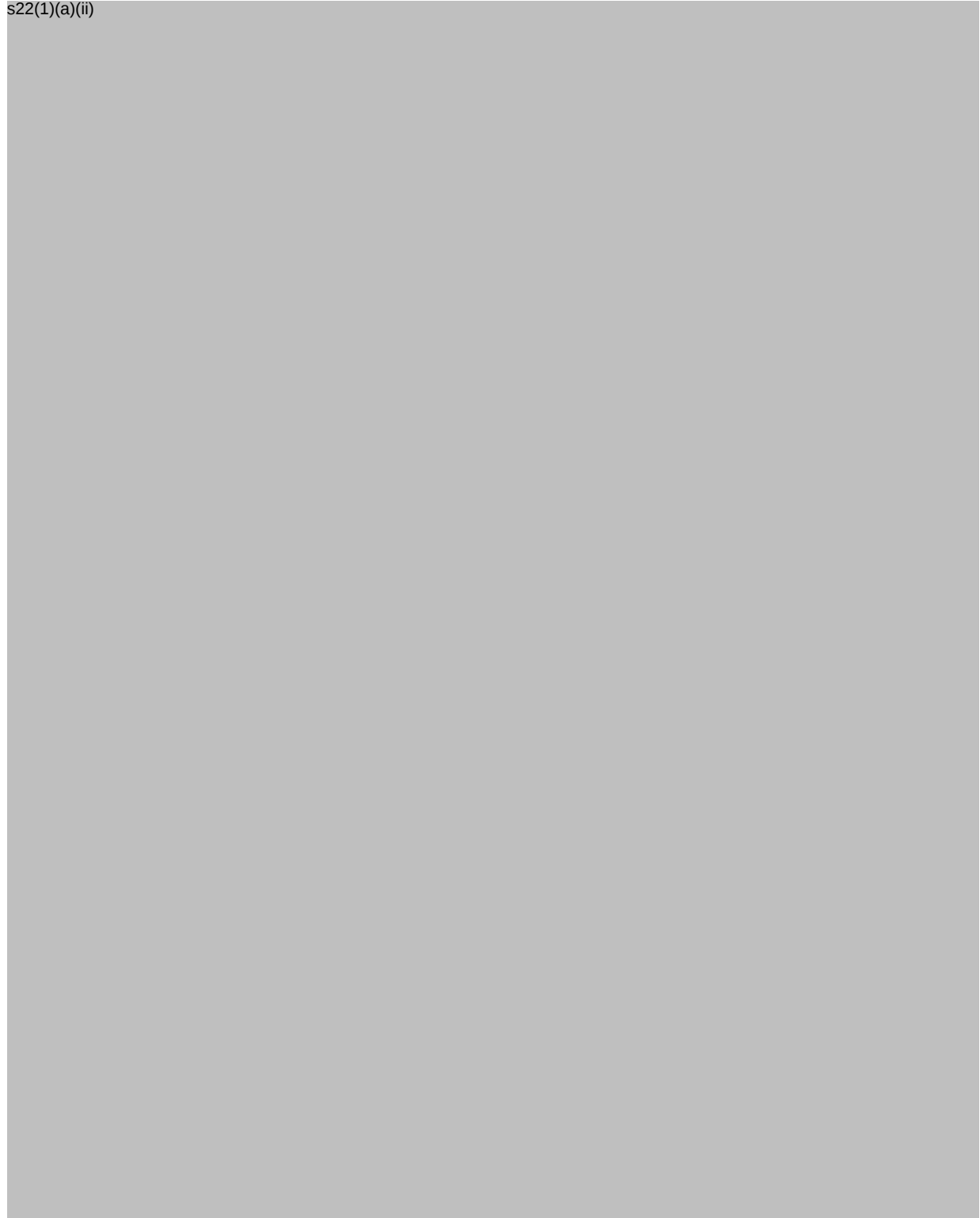
2024 - 2025 Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB24-000029

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by First Assistant Secretary:** Lisa La Rance**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 2/05/2024

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

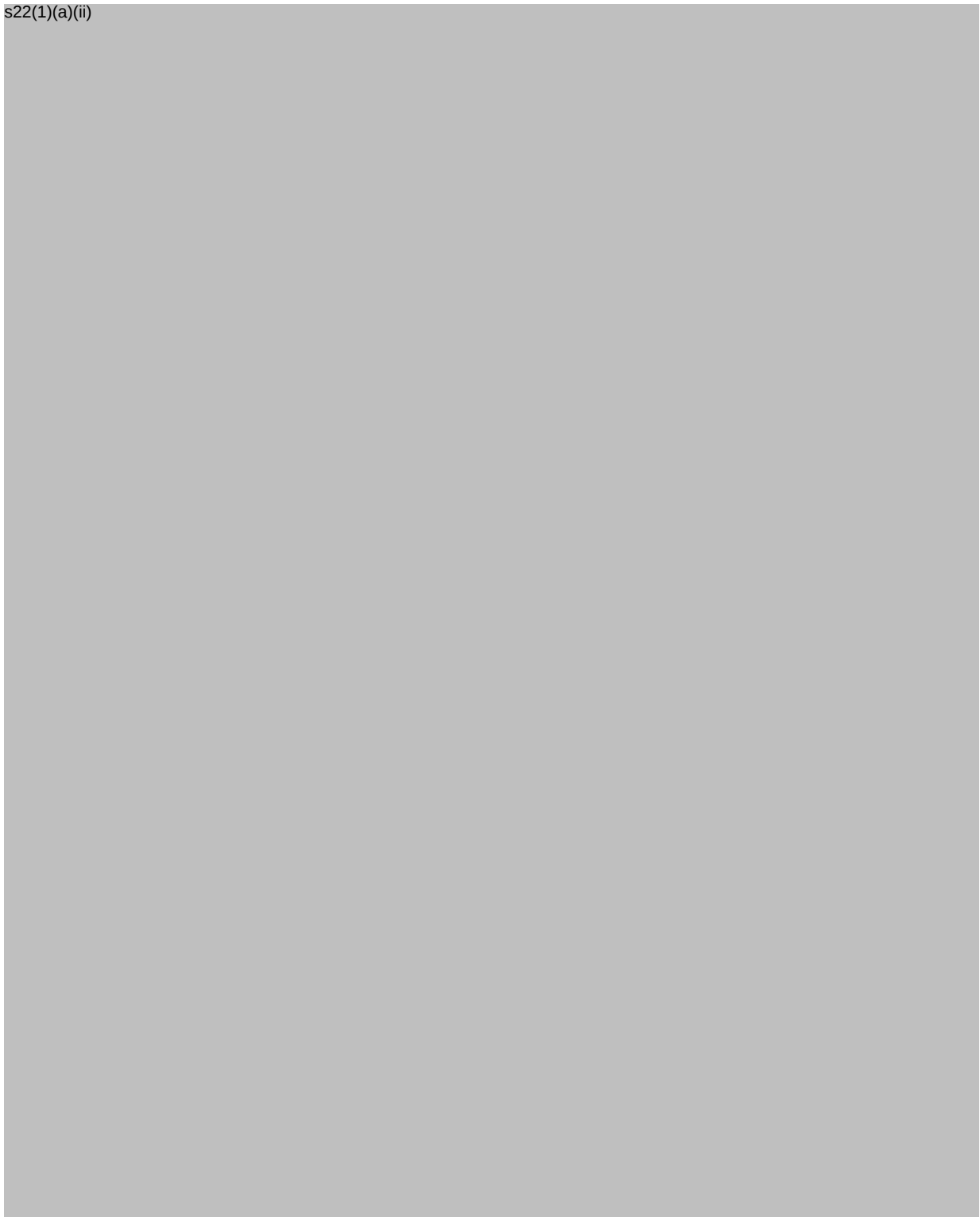
2024 - 2025 Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB24-000029

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by First Assistant Secretary:** Lisa La Rance**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 2/05/2024

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2024 - 2025 Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB24-000029

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Contact: Ben Phelps**Cleared by First Assistant Secretary:** Lisa La Rance**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 2/05/2024

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

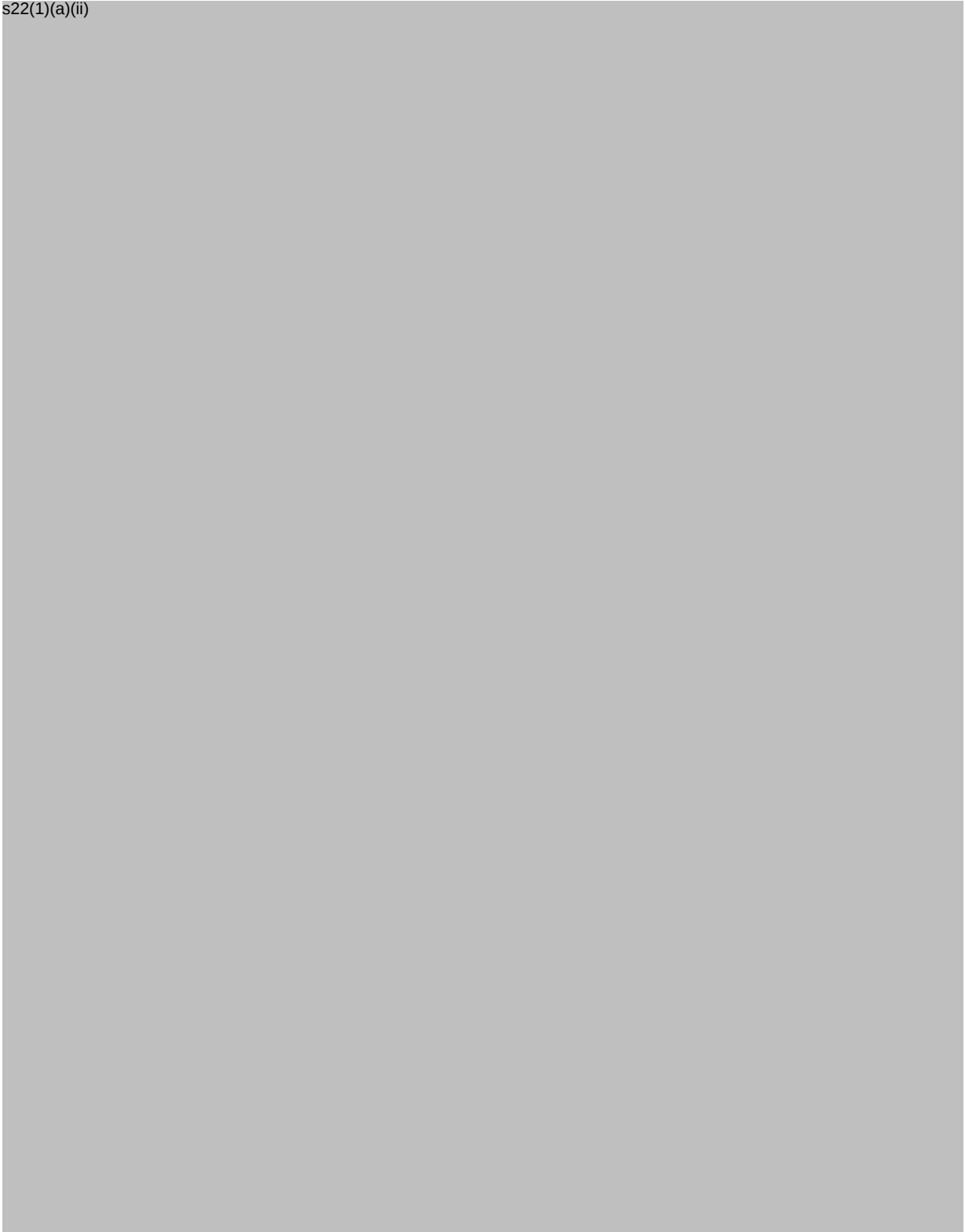
2024 - 2025 Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB24-000029

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by First Assistant Secretary:** Lisa La Rance**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 2/05/2024

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2024 - 2025 Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB24-000029

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Regulatory considerations

Lead SES is Shanyn Sparreboom, Competition & Spectrum Branch, Communications Infrastructure Division.

The government is considering how existing regulatory frameworks capture LEOSat services in Australia and if any adjustments are required for the roll-out of LEOSats into the market. These telecommunications frameworks include competition regulation, spectrum management and device standards.

LEOSat providers who offer telecommunication services in Australia are treated in the same manner as other telecommunications providers, and where required will need to hold a carrier licence. For example, Starlink Australia Pty Ltd holds a carrier licence.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Contact: Ben Phelps**Cleared by First Assistant Secretary:** Lisa La Rance**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 2/05/2024

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

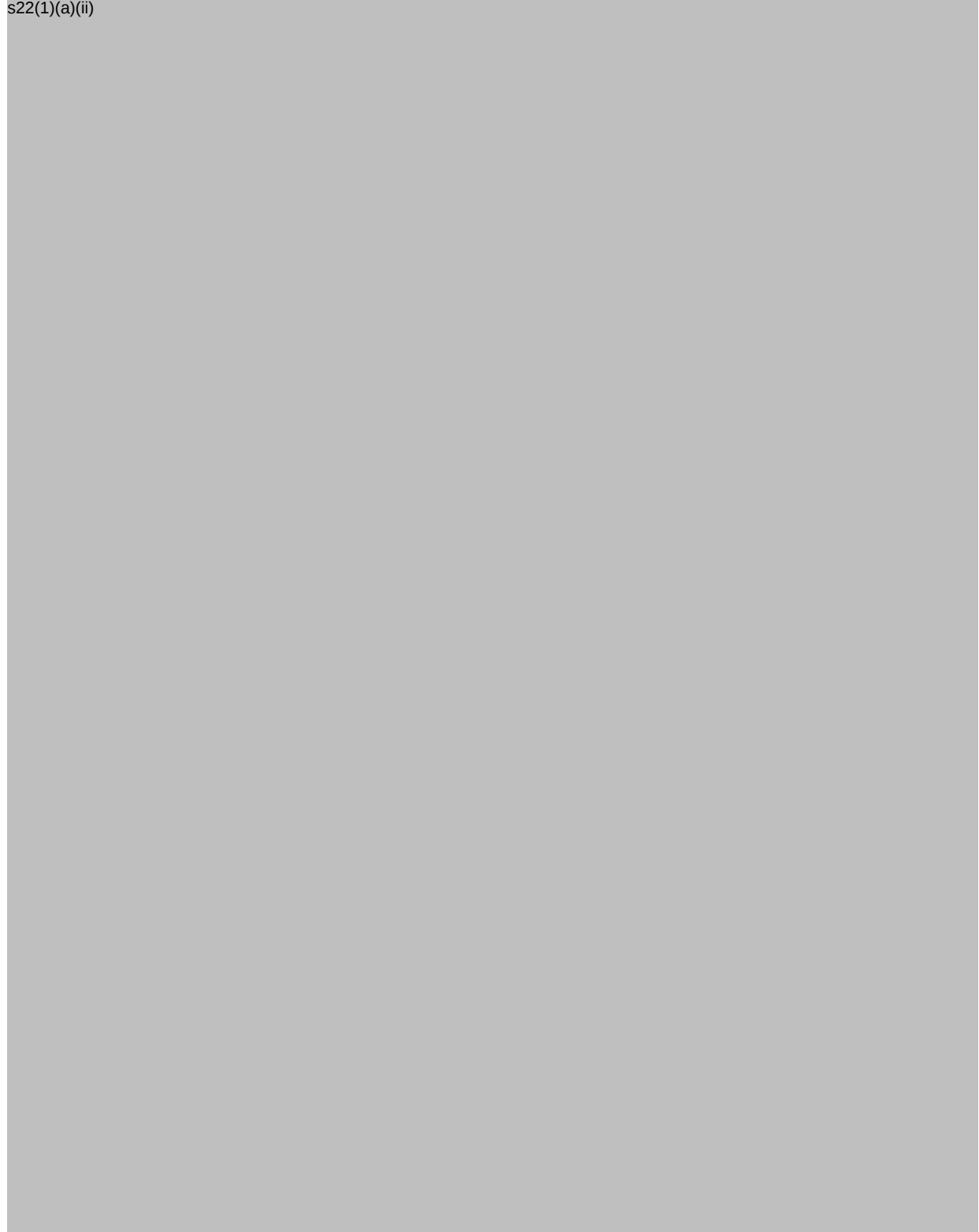
2024 - 2025 Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB24-000029

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by First Assistant Secretary:** Lisa La Rance**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 2/05/2024

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2024 - 2025 Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB24-000029

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by First Assistant Secretary:** Lisa La Rance**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 2/05/2024

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Power, Nicole
Sent: Friday, 28 June 2024 12:54 PM
To: s22(1)(a)(ii) s22(1)(a)(ii) s22(1)(a)(ii) s22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: NBN prep and notes [SEC - PROTECTED, CAVEAT - CH.CABINET]

~~PROTECTED, CH.CABINET~~

Hi,

A quick dump of my notes/ slides from today. s22(1)(a)(ii)

Thanks

Ncolle

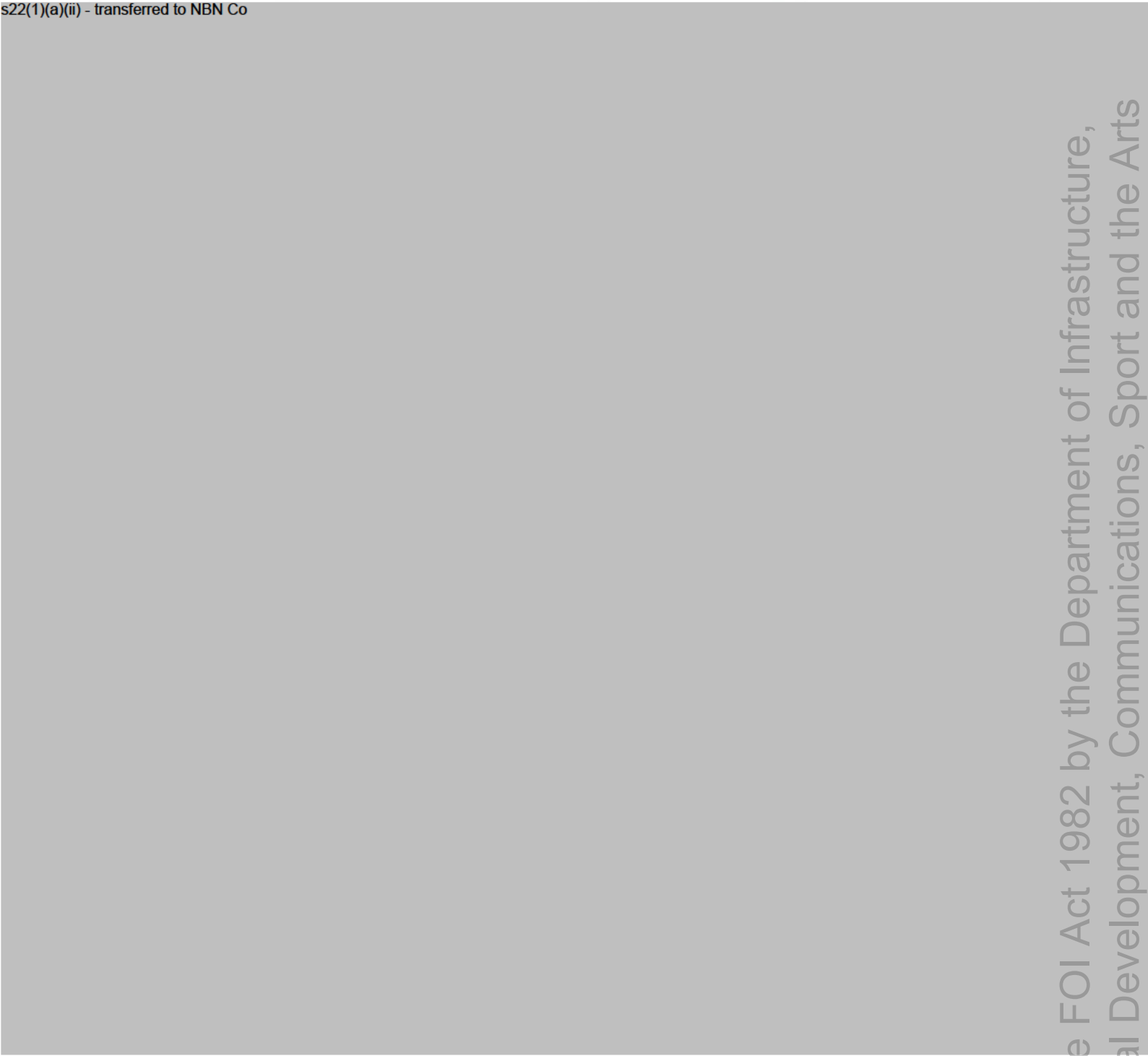
NBN attendees: s22(1)(a)(ii), s22(1)(a)(ii), s22(1)(a)(ii), s22(1)(a)(ii)

NBN CO now sees convergences between paths company can go down.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

-

s22(1)(a)(ii) - transferred to NBN Co



s22(1)(a)(ii)



Have engaged with CISC_ no issues at this stage.

s22(1)(a)(ii)



Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

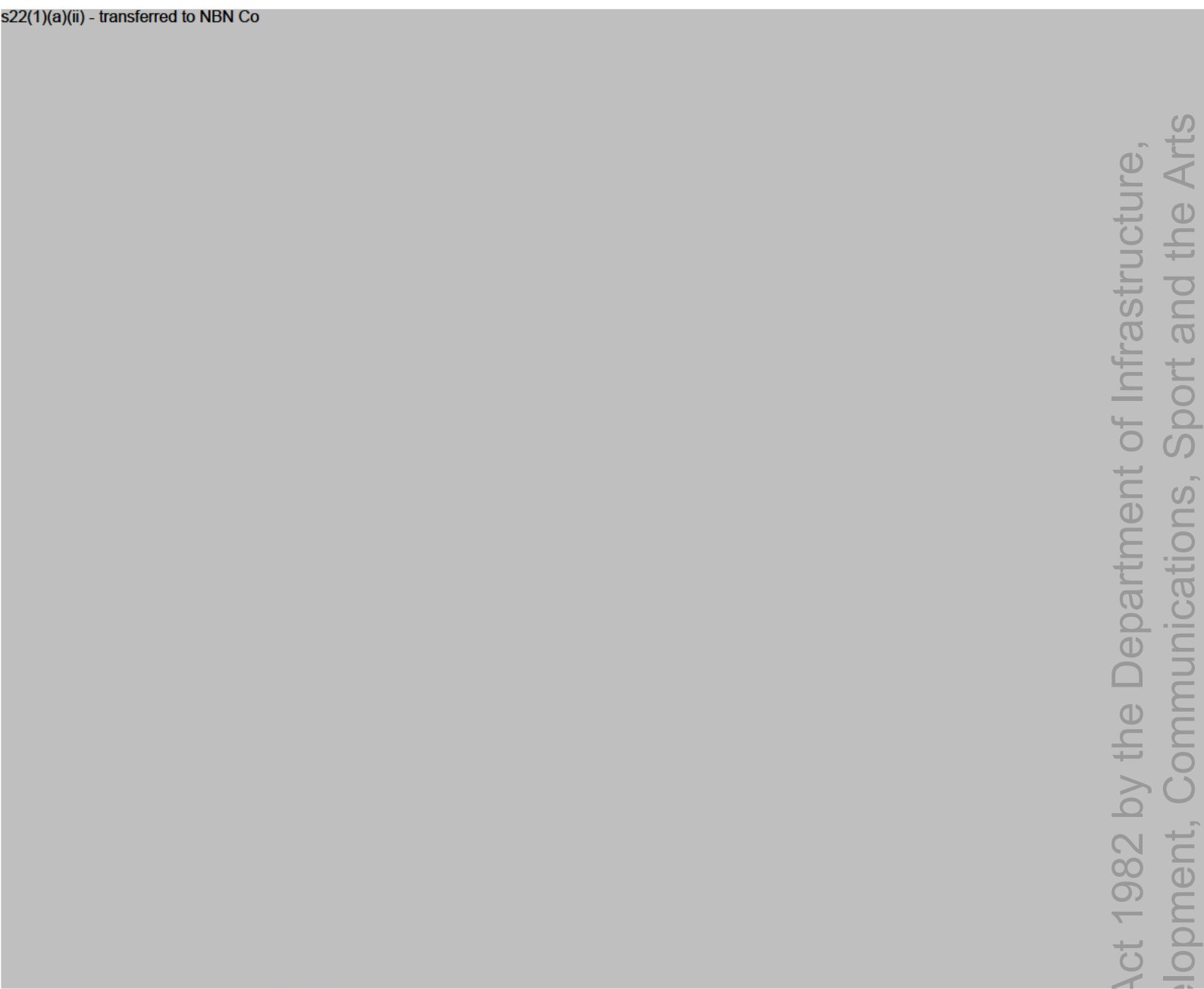
s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii) - transferred to NBN Co

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

s22(1)(a)(ii) - transferred to NBN Co



s22(1)(a)(ii)



Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

s22(1)(a)(ii) - transferred to NBN Co



s22(1)(a)(ii)

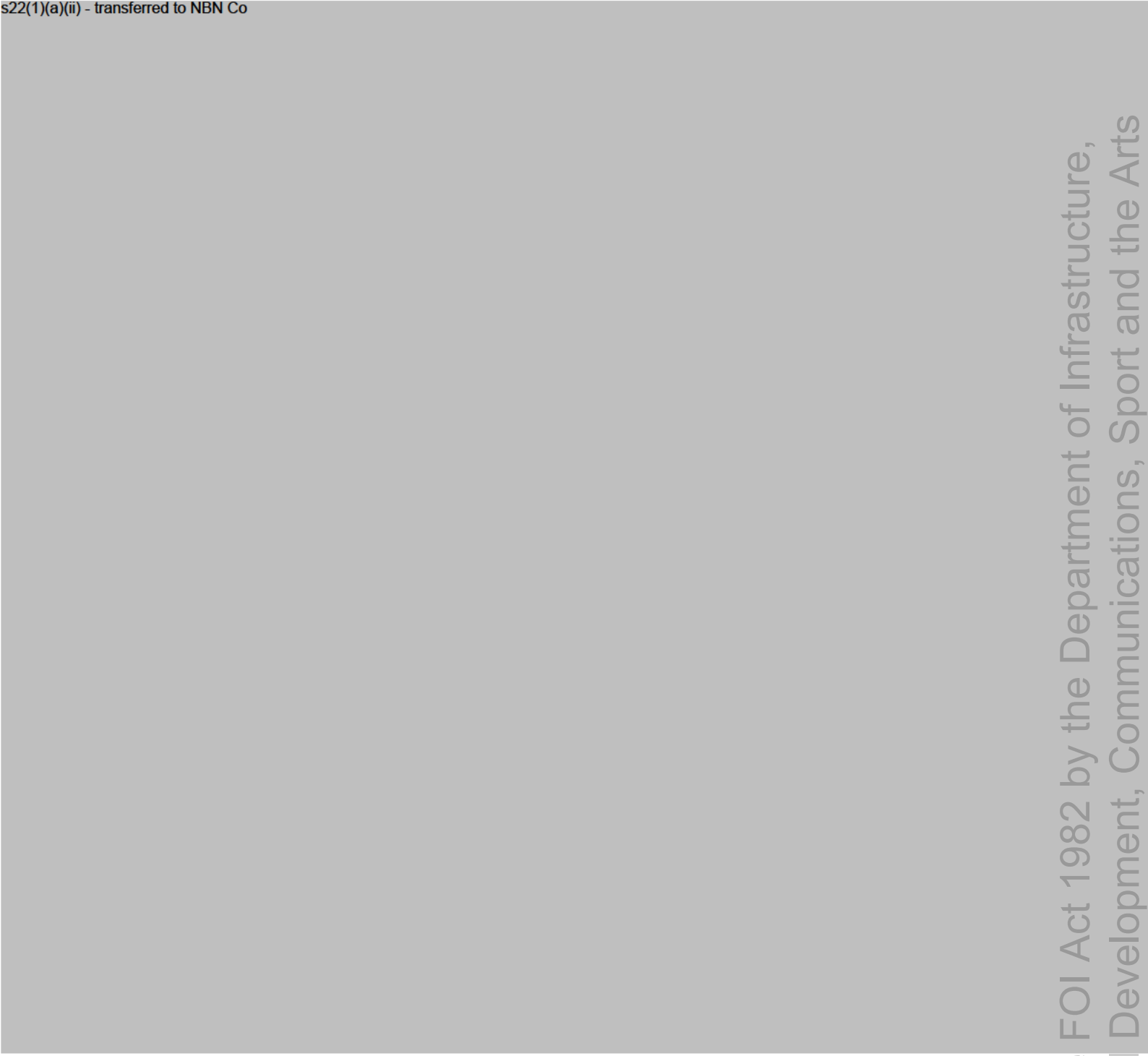


Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

s22(1)(a)(ii) - transferred to NBN Co

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

s22(1)(a)(ii) - transferred to NBN Co



s22(1)(a)(ii)



Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Nicolle Power

Assistant Secretary • Universal Services Branch • Communications Infrastructure Division

Nicolle.power@infrastructure.gov.au

P +61 2 s22(1)(a)(ii) • M +61 s22(1)(a)(ii)

GPO Box 594 Canberra, ACT 2601

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
 CONNECTING AUSTRALIANS • ENRICHING COMMUNITIES • EMPOWERING REGIONS

infrastructure.gov.au

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet, work and live.

I recognise and respect their continuing connection to the land, waters and communities.

I pay my respects to Elders past and present and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

~~PROTECTED, CH: CABINET~~

OFFICIAL

2024 - 2025 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Ben Phelps

SB24-000247

SUBJECT: Low Earth Orbit Satellites

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Contact: Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** James Chisholm, Deputy Secretary**Phone:** (02) s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 15/10/2024

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2024 - 2025 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Ben Phelps

SB24-000247

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Contact: Ben Phelps

Cleared by: James Chisholm, Deputy Secretary

Phone: (02) s22(1)(a)(ii)

Version Number: 01

Date: 15/10/2024

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

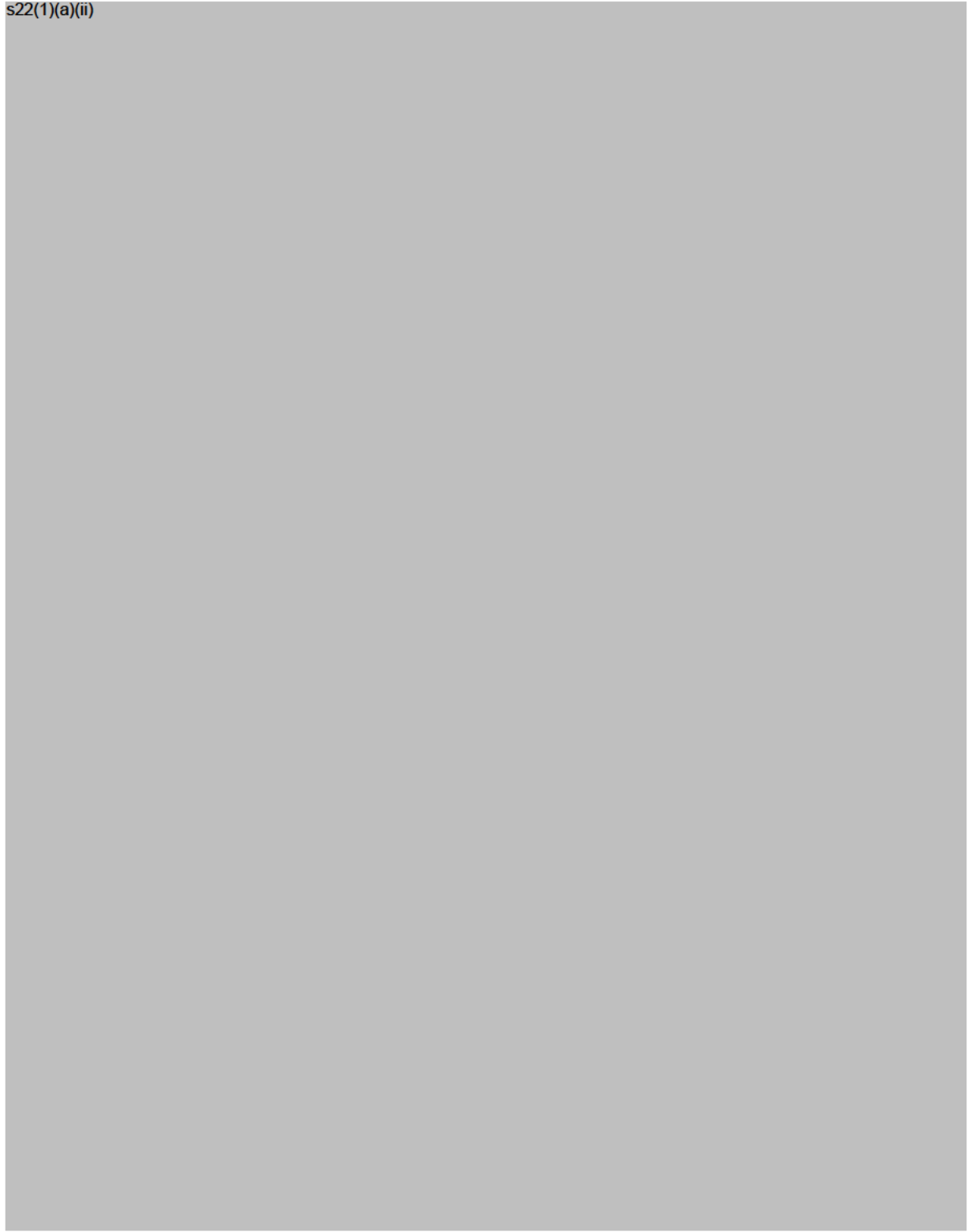
2024 - 2025 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Ben Phelps

SB24-000247

s22(1)(a)(ii)



Contact: Ben Phelps

Cleared by: James Chisholm, Deputy Secretary

Phone: (02) s22(1)(a)(ii)

Version Number: 01

Date: 15/10/2024

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2024 - 2025 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Ben Phelps

SB24-000247

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Regulatory considerations

Lead SES is Shanyn Sparreboom, Competition & Spectrum Branch, Communications Infrastructure Division.

Contact: Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** James Chisholm, Deputy Secretary**Phone:** (02) s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 15/10/2024

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2024 - 2025 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Ben Phelps

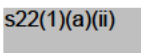
SB24-000247

- The government is considering how existing regulatory frameworks capture LEOSat services in Australia and if any adjustments are required for the roll-out of LEOSats into the market. These frameworks include competition regulation, spectrum management and device standards.
- s22(1)(a)(ii) 
- LEOSat providers who offer public telecommunication services in Australia are treated in the same manner as other telecommunications providers, and will need to hold a carrier licence or have Nominated Carrier Determination from the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) in place. For example, Starlink Australia Pty Ltd holds a carrier licence.

- s22(1)(a)(ii) 
-
-
-

Contact: Ben Phelps

Cleared by: James Chisholm, Deputy Secretary

Phone: (02) s22(1)(a)(ii) 

Version Number: 01

Date: 15/10/2024

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

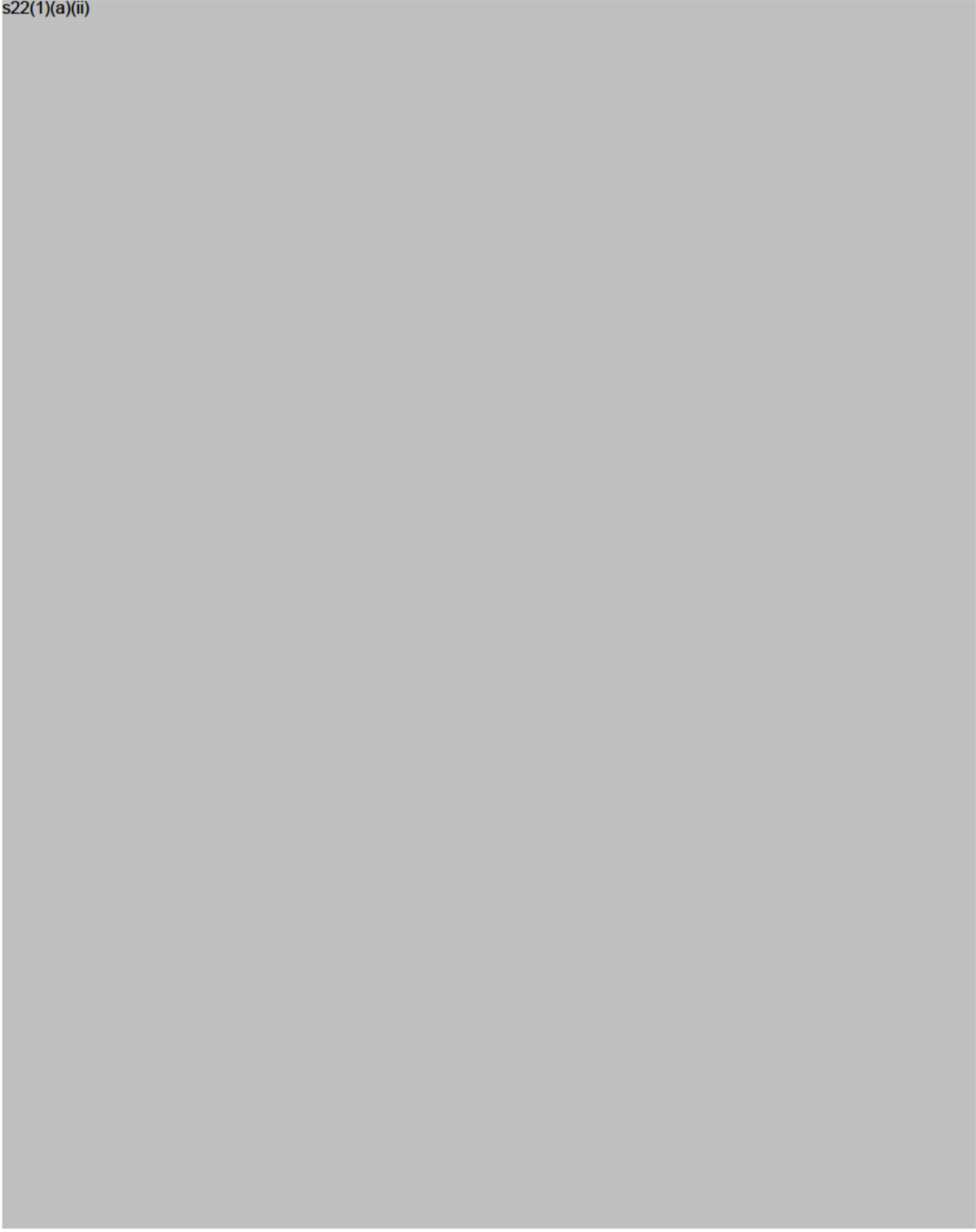
2024 - 2025 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Ben Phelps

SB24-000247

s22(1)(a)(ii)



Contact: Ben Phelps

Cleared by: James Chisholm, Deputy Secretary

Phone: (02) s22(1)(a)(ii)

Version Number: 01

Date: 15/10/2024

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2024 - 2025 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Ben Phelps

SB24-000247

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Contact: Ben Phelps

Cleared by: James Chisholm, Deputy Secretary

Phone: (02) s22(1)(a)(ii)

Version Number: 01

Date: 15/10/2024

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Monday, 21 October 2024 10:41 AM
To: s22(1)(a)(ii)
Cc: Power, Nicolle; s22(1)(a)(ii); s22(1)(a)(ii); s22(1)(a)(ii); s22(1)(a)(ii); s22(1)(a)(ii); s22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: NBN Co LEOSat mtg. [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Attachments: s22(1)(a)(ii) - transferred to NBN Co

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

Hi All,

See attached the slide deck that NBN Co have now sent through.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Director • Emerging Communications

Broadband and Emerging Communications Branch
 Communications Infrastructure Division
 s22(1)(a)(ii) infrastructure.gov.au
 P +61 2 s22(1)(a) • M +61 s22(1)(a)(ii)
 GPO Box 594 Canberra, ACT 2601

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
 CONNECTING AUSTRALIANS • ENRICHING COMMUNITIES • EMPOWERING REGIONS

infrastructure.gov.au

I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet, work and live.
 I recognise and respect their continuing connection to the land, waters and communities.

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

From: s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 18 October 2024 12:39 PM
To: Power, Nicolle <Nicolle.Power@INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>
Cc: s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@communications.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@infrastructure.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@communications.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@communications.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@infrastructure.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: Screen shots from LEOSat meeting [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

Hi

Screen shots from the meeting.

Thanks s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Director • Regional Broadband/Universal Services Branch • Communications Infrastructure Division

s22(1)(a)(ii) infrastructure.gov.au

P +61 2 s22(1)(a)(ii) • M +61 s22(1)(a)(ii)

GPO Box 594 Canberra, ACT 2601

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

CONNECTING AUSTRALIANS • ENRICHING COMMUNITIES • EMPOWERING REGIONS

infrastructure.gov.au



I acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet, work and live.

I recognise and respect their continuing connection to the land, waters and communities.

I pay my respects to Elders past and present and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

From: s22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 5 February 2025 10:30 AM
To: Silleri, Kathleen; Power, Nicole; Sparreboom, Shanyin; s22(1)(a)(ii); s22(1)(a)(ii); s22(1)(a)(ii)
Cc: s22(1)(a)(ii); s22(1)(a)(ii); s22(1)(a)(ii); s22(1)(a)(ii); s22(1)(a)(ii); s22(1)(a)(ii);
Subject: FW: Updates for LEOSatMO discussion [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good Morning

We are still seeking some comments and updates from a few of our colleagues and are keen to get these as soon as possible. Thank you to those who have provided responses already.

Appreciate provision of input ASAP please.

Regards,
s22(
1)(a)

From: s22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Monday, 3 February 2025 2:32 PM
To: Silleri, Kathleen <Kathleen.Silleri@infrastructure.gov.au>; Power, Nicolle
<Nicolle.Power@INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>; Sparreboom, Shanyn <shanyn.sparreboom@infrastructure.gov.au>;
s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii) communications.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii)
<s22(1)(a)(ii) INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii) @INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii)
<s22(1)(a)(ii) @INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii) @communications.gov.au>;
s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii) @INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii)
<s22(1)(a)(ii) @INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii) @infrastructure.gov.au>
Cc: s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii) INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii) infrastructure.gov.au>;
s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii) @INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii)
<s22(1)(a)(ii) @INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii) @INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>
Subject: Updates for LEOSatMO discussion [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good Afternoon,

Our next meeting with the MO adviser is this Thursday 6 February. In preparation for this meeting, we are seeking your updates for the various LEOSat workstreams below. Please see previous input and some earlier questions /actions at highlighted areas as well for respective teams input and updates.

Appreciate it if you could review and provide your updates by COB Tuesday 4 Feb please.

See below proposed agenda for the meeting – grateful for any thoughts.

Regards,
s22(1)(a)
s22(1)(a)(ii)

Assistant Director • Emerging Communications

Broadband and Emerging Communications • Communications Infrastructure Division

s22(1)(a)(ii) [s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@COMMUNICATIONS.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@COMMUNICATIONS.gov.au)

• +61 02 s22(1)(a)(ii)

GPO Box 594 Canberra, ACT 2601

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
CONNECTING AUSTRALIANS • ENRICHING COMMUNITIES • EMPOWERING REGIONS

infrastructure.gov.au



*I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet, work and live.
I recognise and respect their continuing connection to the land, waters and communities.
I pay my respects to Elders past and present and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.*

6 February 2025

Agenda

s22(1)(a)(ii)



Deliverable	Timing	Status
s22(1)(a)(ii)		
[Redacted Table Content]		

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

3. National interest
assessment
(s22(1)(a)(ii))

December

Ongoing. We have been approaching the national interest assessment in a three pronged way. Agency feedback (s47C) will also be incorporated.

1. Engagement with Home Affairs on existing security or risk assessments done by intelligence agencies.
 - **Update:** Home Affairs and Australian Signals Directorate/Cyber Security intelligence areas have indicated no specific assessment or risks have been identified for LEOSatellite constellations or providers. Our engagement is ongoing.
2. Summary of satellite regulation being developed including to map levers from security and sovereignty perspective, incl transfer of existing telco security obligations to the *Security of Critical Infrastructure Act*.
 - **Underway;** (s47C)
3. Develop a redundancy comparator with traffic light ratings for suppliers/services.
 - **Underway;** (s47C)

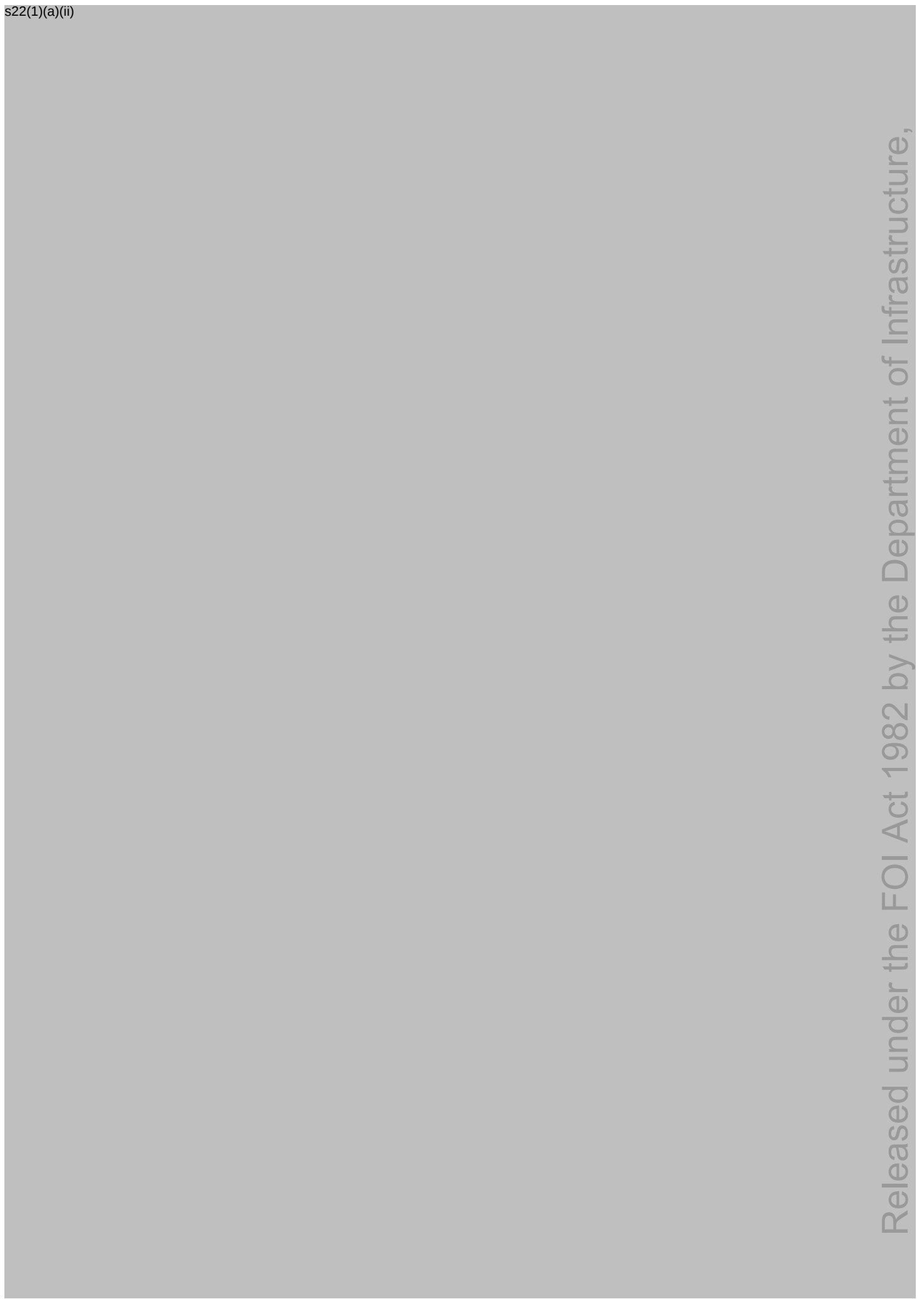
(s22(1)(a)(ii))

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

§22(1)(a)(ii)



Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

s22(1)(a)(ii)



OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

From: s22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 5 February 2025 4:33 PM
To: Silleri, Kathleen; Power, Nicole; Sparreboom, Shanyn; s22(1)(a)(ii) s22(1)(a)(ii) s22(1)(a)(ii)
s22(1)(a)(ii) s22(1)(a)(ii) s22(1)(a)(ii) s22(1)(a)(ii) s22(1)(a)(ii) s22(1)(a)(ii) s22(1)(a)(ii)
Cc: s22(1)(a)(ii) s22(1)(a)(ii) Phelps, Ben; Ashurst, Jason
Subject: FW: Updates for LEOSatMO discussion [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good Afternoon

Please see updated workstreams and agenda for the upcoming LEOSats MO discussion tomorrow.

Thanks to all team members who provided updates.

s22(1)(a)
s22(1)(a)(ii)

Assistant Director • Emerging Communications
Broadband and Emerging Communications • Communications Infrastructure Division
S22(1)(a)(ii) Infrastructure.gov.au
• +61 02 S22(1)(a)
GPO Box 594 Canberra, ACT 2601

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
CONNECTING AUSTRALIANS • ENRICHING COMMUNITIES • EMPOWERING REGIONS

infrastructure.gov.au

I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet, work and live. I recognise and respect their continuing connection to the land, waters and communities. I pay my respects to Elders past and present and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

6 February 2025

Agenda

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Deliverable	Timing	Status
s22(1)(a)(ii)		
3. National interest assessment (s22(1)(a)(ii))	December	Ongoing. We have been approaching the national interest assessment in a three pronged way. Agency feedback (s47C) will also be incorporated. - Engagement with Home Affairs on existing security or risk assessments done by intelligence agencies. Update: Home Affairs and Australian Signals Directorate/Cyber Security intelligence areas have indicated no specific assessment or risks have been identified for LEOSatellite constellations or providers. Our engagement is ongoing. - Summary of satellite regulation being developed including to map levers from security and sovereignty perspective, incl transfer of existing telco security obligations to the <i>Security of Critical Infrastructure Act</i>. Underway; (s47C) - Develop a redundancy comparator with traffic light ratings for suppliers/services. Underway; (s47C)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

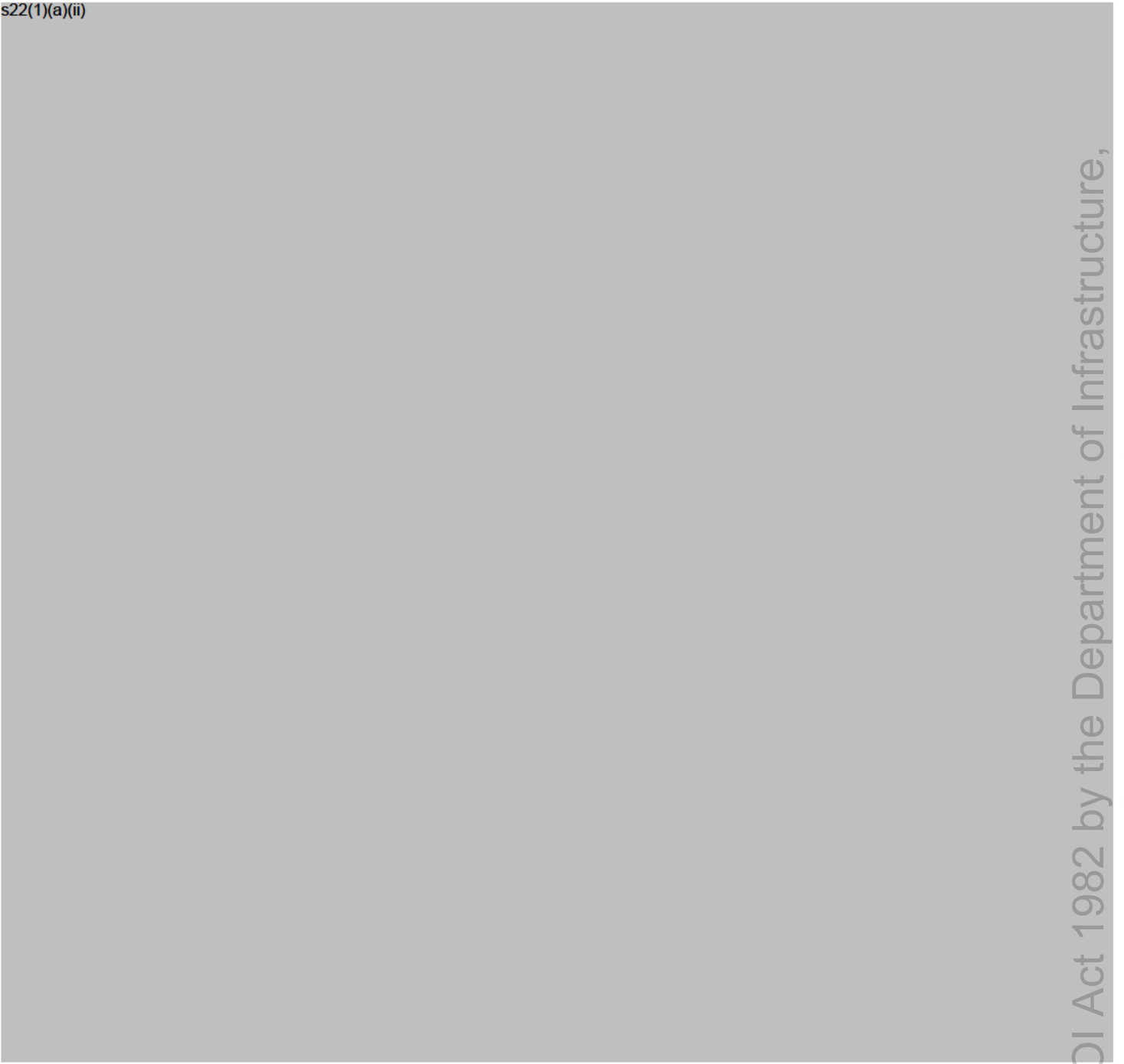
s22(1)(a)(ii)

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

s22(1)(a)(ii)



OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 11 February 2025 11:47 AM
To: s22(1)(a)(ii) s22(1)(a)(ii) s22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: FYI - s91 on NBN Co Satellite [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
 s22(1)(a)(ii) - transferred to NBN Co

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

Hiya,

Just sat in on a mtg between s22(1)(a)(ii) and USB. Summary below, please keep this close hold.

- NBN Co provided a presentation to MO and dept on Friday with update on LEOSat proposal (attached).
 s22(1)(a)(ii)

Cheers,

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Director Broadband Strategy • Broadband and Emerging Communications Branch

Communications Infrastructure Division
 s22(1)(a)(ii) infrastructure.gov.au
 P +61 2 s22(1)(a) • M +61 s22(1)(a)(ii)
 GPO Box 594 Canberra, ACT 2601

Please note I work flexibly

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
 CONNECTING AUSTRALIANS • ENRICHING COMMUNITIES • EMPOWERING REGIONS

infrastructure.gov.au


*I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet, work and live.
 I recognise and respect their continuing connection to the land, waters and communities.*

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 19 February 2025 10:42 AM
To: s22(1)(a)(ii); s22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: FW: update: draft s91 LEO [Commercial - Anyone] [SEC=OFFICIAL]
 s22(1)(a)(ii) - transferred to NBN Co

Importance: High

OFFICIAL

s22(1)(a) can you review this please from our perspective. We need to provide any redlines asap.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Director Broadband Strategy • Broadband and Emerging Communications Branch

Communications Infrastructure Division

s22(1)(a)(ii) infrastructure.gov.au

P +61 2 s22(1)(a) • M +61 s22(1)(a)(ii)

GPO Box 594 Canberra, ACT 2601

Please note I work flexibly

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
 CONNECTING AUSTRALIANS • ENRICHING COMMUNITIES • EMPOWERING REGIONS

infrastructure.gov.au



*I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet, work and live.
 I recognise and respect their continuing connection to the land, waters and communities.*

OFFICIAL

s22(1)(a)(ii) - transferred to NBN Co

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Tuesday, 11 March 2025 10:15 AM
To: s22(1)(a)(ii)
Cc: s22(1)(a)(ii); s22(1)(a)(ii); s22(1)(a)(ii); s22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: RE: Query about Spectrum requirements for Amazon Kuiper [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi s22(1)(a)(ii)

We note Kuiper was issued a carrier licence by ACMA on 24 April 2024, but we don't have any further concrete detail on what spectrum bands they plan on using. Recommend you contact s22(1)(a)(ii) and s22(1)(a)(ii) on the spectrum front, as they may have more info.

Happy to chat.

Regards,
 s22(1)(a)

OFFICIAL

From: s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@communications.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 7 March 2025 9:32 AM
To: s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@infrastructure.gov.au>
Cc: s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@infrastructure.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: Query about Spectrum requirements for Amazon Kuiper [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good morning s22(1)(a)

We are interested in finding out more about what the Spectrum requirements are likely to be for Amazon Kuiper LEOsat services. s22(1)(a)(ii) suggested this may something your team has some information on?

I have had a brief look online and can see that Ofcom in the UK has published information about the licencing it has granted to Kuiper, which states: *Kuiper is permitted to operate in Ka band frequencies between 27.5-27.9405 GHz, 28.4545-28.9485 GHz, and 29.5-30 GHz.* However I am not clear about how the permitted frequencies line up with actual licencing and if it would be the same or similar in Australia. Link: [Ofcom grants NGSO licence to Amazon Kuiper and releases spectrum to boost connectivity - Ofcom](#)

Appreciate any insights you can share, or happy for you to pass my email on if you know someone else who may be able to help.

Thank you.

Regards,

s22(1)(a)
(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Assistant Director • Regional Broadband/Universal Services Branch • Communications Infrastructure

s22(1)(a)(ii) [@communications.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@communications.gov.au)

P +61 2 s22(1)(a)(ii)

GPO Box 594 Canberra, ACT 2601

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
CONNECTING AUSTRALIANS • ENRICHING COMMUNITIES • EMPOWERING REGIONS

infrastructure.gov.au



*I acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet, work and live.
I recognise and respect their continuing connection to the land, waters and communities.
I pay my respects to Elders past and present and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.*

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 12 March 2025 11:22 AM
To: s22(1)(a)(ii) s22(1)(a)(ii) s22(1)(a)(ii)
Cc: s22(1)(a)(ii) s22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: RE: SB25-000112 LEOSats [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi s22(1)(a)

I've made some minor suggestions – though given recent questioning at AEs, possibly there might be some benefit in having some lines about competition issues and security/sovereign risk issues. s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Director • Universal Services Branch • Communications Infrastructure Division

s22(1)(a)(ii) communications.gov.au

P +61 2 s22(1)(a)(ii) • M +61 s22(1)(a)(ii)

GPO Box 594 Canberra, ACT 2601

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
 CONNECTING AUSTRALIANS • ENRICHING COMMUNITIES • EMPOWERING REGIONS

infrastructure.gov.au



*I acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet, work and live.
 I recognise and respect their continuing connection to the land, waters and communities.
 I pay my respects to Elders past and present and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.*

OFFICIAL

From: s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@infrastructure.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 11 March 2025 4:40 PM
To: s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)communications.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@infrastructure.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@infrastructure.gov.au>
Cc: Power, Nicolle <Nicolle.Power@INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)INFRASTRUCTURE.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <s22(1)(a)(ii)@infrastructure.gov.au>; Silleri, Kathleen <Kathleen.Silleri@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: FW: SB25-000112 LEOSats [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good Afternoon

We are in the process of updating the SE Brief on LEOSats for April and are working towards a tight timeframe. We have made some changes to the brief to keep it current and note section/s on s22(1)(a)(ii) which you may also have updates to. Appreciate any updates as soon as practically possible. Please see a link to the brief below. [SB25-000112.docx](#)

Thanks for your assistance.

Regards,

s22(1)(a)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Assistant Director • Emerging Communications

Broadband and Emerging Communications • Communications Infrastructure Division

s22(1)(a)(ii) [@Infrastructure.gov.au](#)

• +61 02 s22(1)(a)

GPO Box 594 Canberra, ACT 2601

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
CONNECTING AUSTRALIANS • ENRICHING COMMUNITIES • EMPOWERING REGIONS

[infrastructure.gov.au](#)



*I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet, work and live.
 I recognise and respect their continuing connection to the land, waters and communities.
 I pay my respects to Elders past and present and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.*

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

Low Earth Orbit Satellites (LEOSats)

Issue:

New Low Earth Orbit Satellite (LEOSat) communications technologies are providing an uplift in the quality of broadband internet services for regional, rural and remote areas. This technology and the market continue to develop and emerge beyond broadband, with added potential for ubiquitous direct-to-mobile coverage in coming years.

Headline Talking Points:

- Australians living in Regional, Rural and Remote communities have better internet access options than ever before, and we are working to ensure that Australia continues to access these opportunities.*
- The Australian Government is ensuring that Australians benefit as much as possible from emerging LEOSat communications networks, including direct-to-device (D2D) networks when they become available.*
- My department and the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) are assessing the suitability of Australia's regulatory framework and spectrum management regime to support the deployment of LEOSat communications, including D2D connectivity.*

• s22(1)(a)(ii)

• s22(1)(a)(ii)

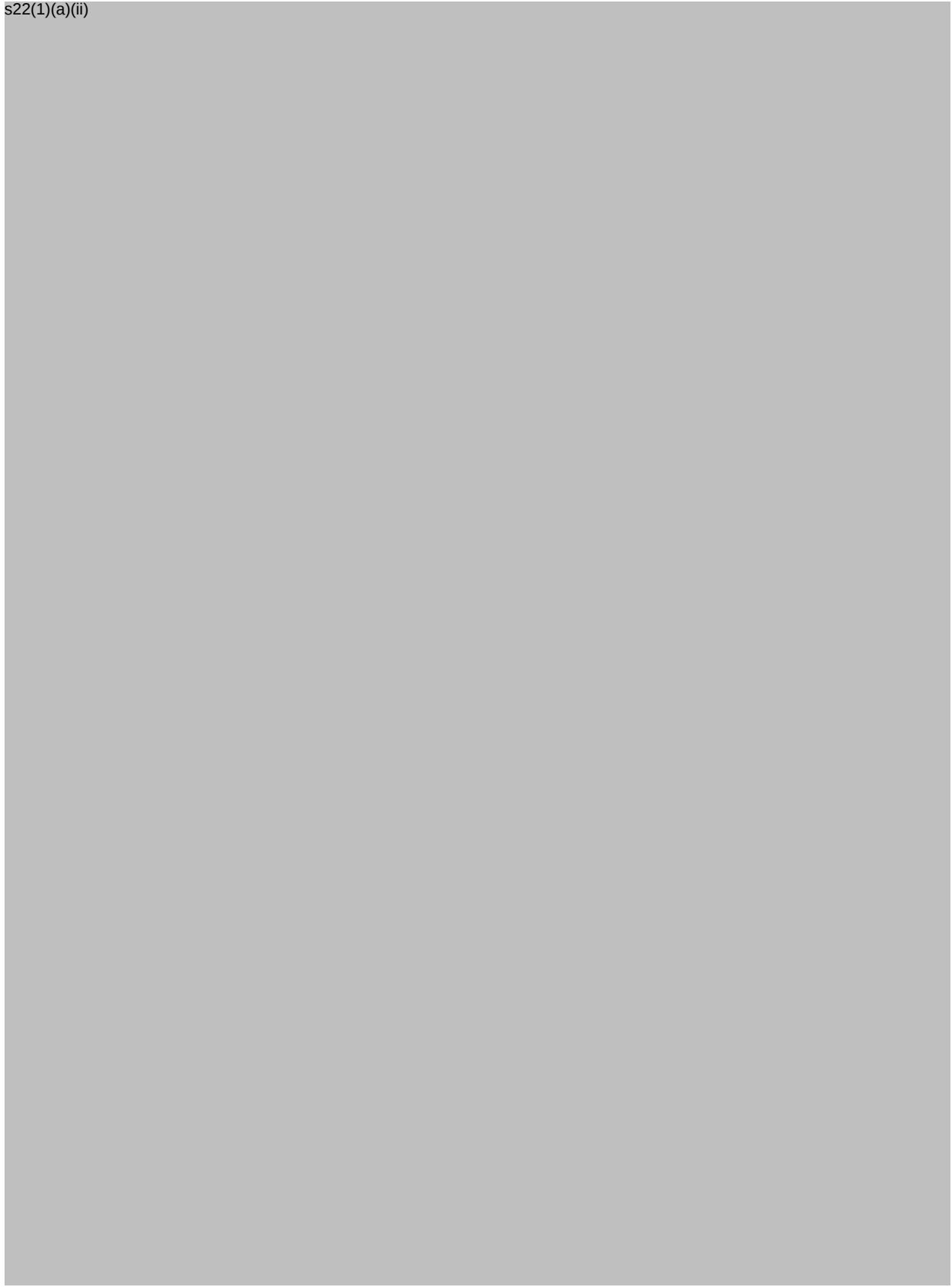
- NBN Co is also currently looking into options to potentially take advantage of LEOSats. Its Sky Muster Premium Plus service continues to provide a reasonably affordable and accessible fixed broadband service, and consumer focused services across remote parts of Australia.*
- I formed the LEOSat Working Group (Working Group) in October 2022 to provide advice on this emerging field. This work ensures the Australian Government is well informed and engaged with LEOSat issues, which is particularly important given the pace of innovation.*

s22(1)(a)(ii)

QB25-000092

Low Earth Orbit Satellites (LEOSats)

s22(1)(a)(ii)



Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

QB25-000092

Low Earth Orbit Satellites (LEOSats)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

- With investment in the expanded fixed wireless network, NBN Co has been able to adjust its satellite products. For consumers in the Sky Muster footprint, NBN Co is now offering **Sky Muster Premium Plus**, a significant uplift on what was previously available, with unlimited data on all speed tiers, at a broadly more affordable price point than Starlink.
- NBN Co has undertaken an RFI process to better understand the advantages and challenges of different LEO constellations. I commend NBN Co for taking a proactive and future-focused approach. It is not appropriate for me to provide further comment on this matter at this time as NBN Co has its ongoing processes.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

QB25-000092

Low Earth Orbit Satellites (LEOSats)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

Last edited: 14/03/2025
SES cleared by: Ben Phelps
SES cleared on: 18/03/2025

QB25-000092

Low Earth Orbit Satellites (LEOSats)

Background

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Sovereign capability

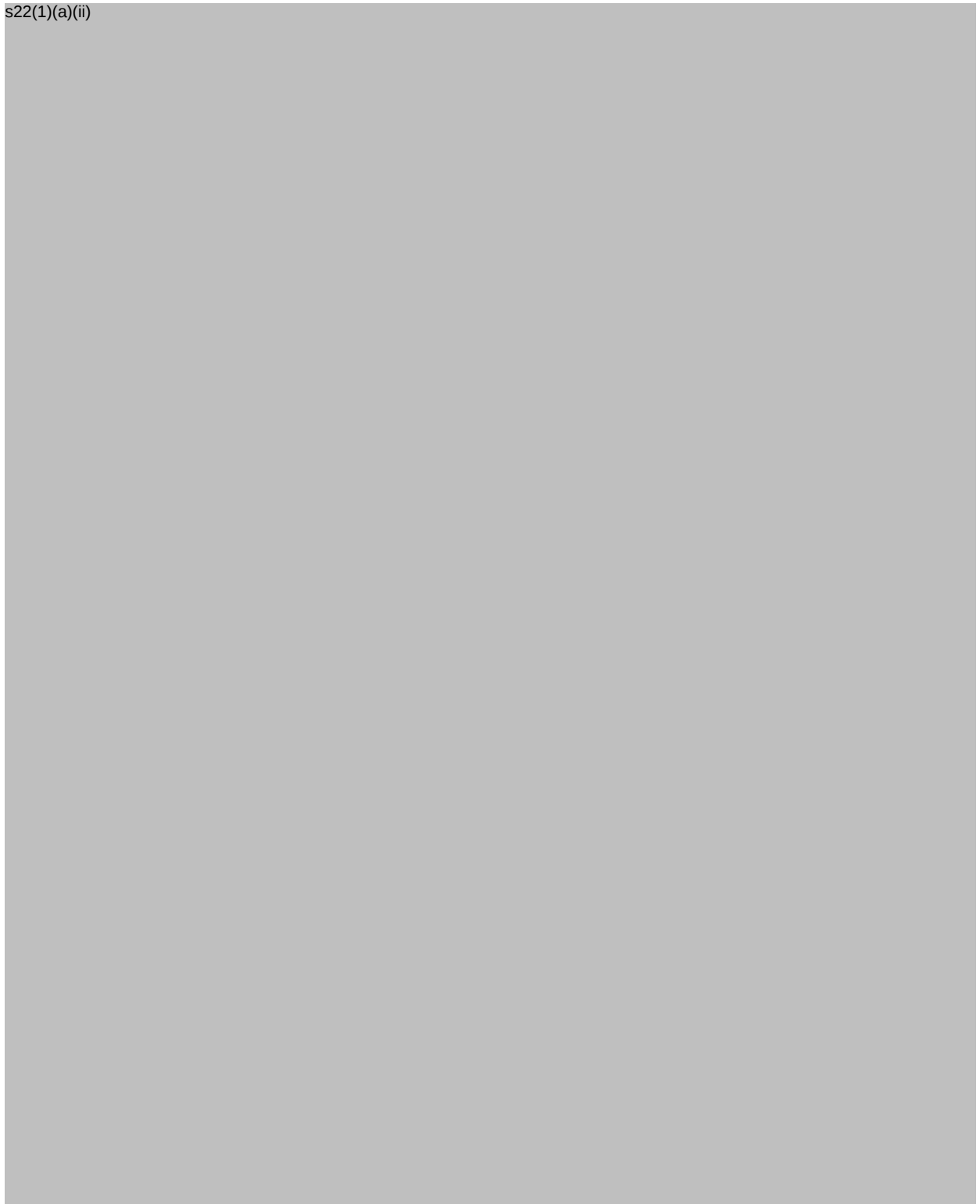
- The media have previously suggested that there is the potential to invest into a LEO constellation to promote economic growth and the development of a sovereign LEOSat telecommunications capability. The department is considering the various options for government investment and support for LEOSat technology, including as part of the suite of existing sovereign communications capabilities.
- LEOSat providers that operate in Australia are required to hold a carrier licence issued by the ACMA. This carrier licence requires operators to comply with relevant Australian legislation.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

QB25-000092

Low Earth Orbit Satellites (LEOSats)

s22(1)(a)(ii)



Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

QB25-000092

Low Earth Orbit Satellites (LEOSats)

s22(1)(a)(ii)



s22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Monday, 17 March 2025 2:38 PM
To: s22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: Spectrum licencing for Amazon Kuiper [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi s22(1)(a)(ii),

I looked at the ACMA site for information on licences issued to Amazon Kuiper. These can be accessed by the ACMA licence search page by putting 'Kuiper' into the search bar - [ACMA Register of Radiocommunications Licences \(RRL\)](#)

There's 33 entries, for services for Earth Receive, Space, Space Receive, Spectrum, and Scientific.

Licences cover the following frequencies:

Spectrum (Spectrum licences)

- 27.5075 GHz
- 28.75 GHz (the majority are this frequency)

Earth Receive (Apparatus licences)

- 18.15 GHz
- 19.35 GHz
- 19.5 GHz

Space (Apparatus licences)

- 17.9 GHz
- 18.35 GHz
- 19.1 GHz
- 19.95 GHz

Space Receive (Apparatus licences)

- 28.725 GHz
- 29.75 GHz

Scientific (Apparatus licences)

- 19.35 GHz
- 27.5075 GHz

Regards,

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Assistant Director • Regional Broadband/Universal Services Branch • Communications Infrastructure

s22(1)(a)(ii) [@communications.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@communications.gov.au)

P +61 2 s22(1)(a)(ii)

GPO Box 594 Canberra, ACT 2601

s22(1)(a)(ii)



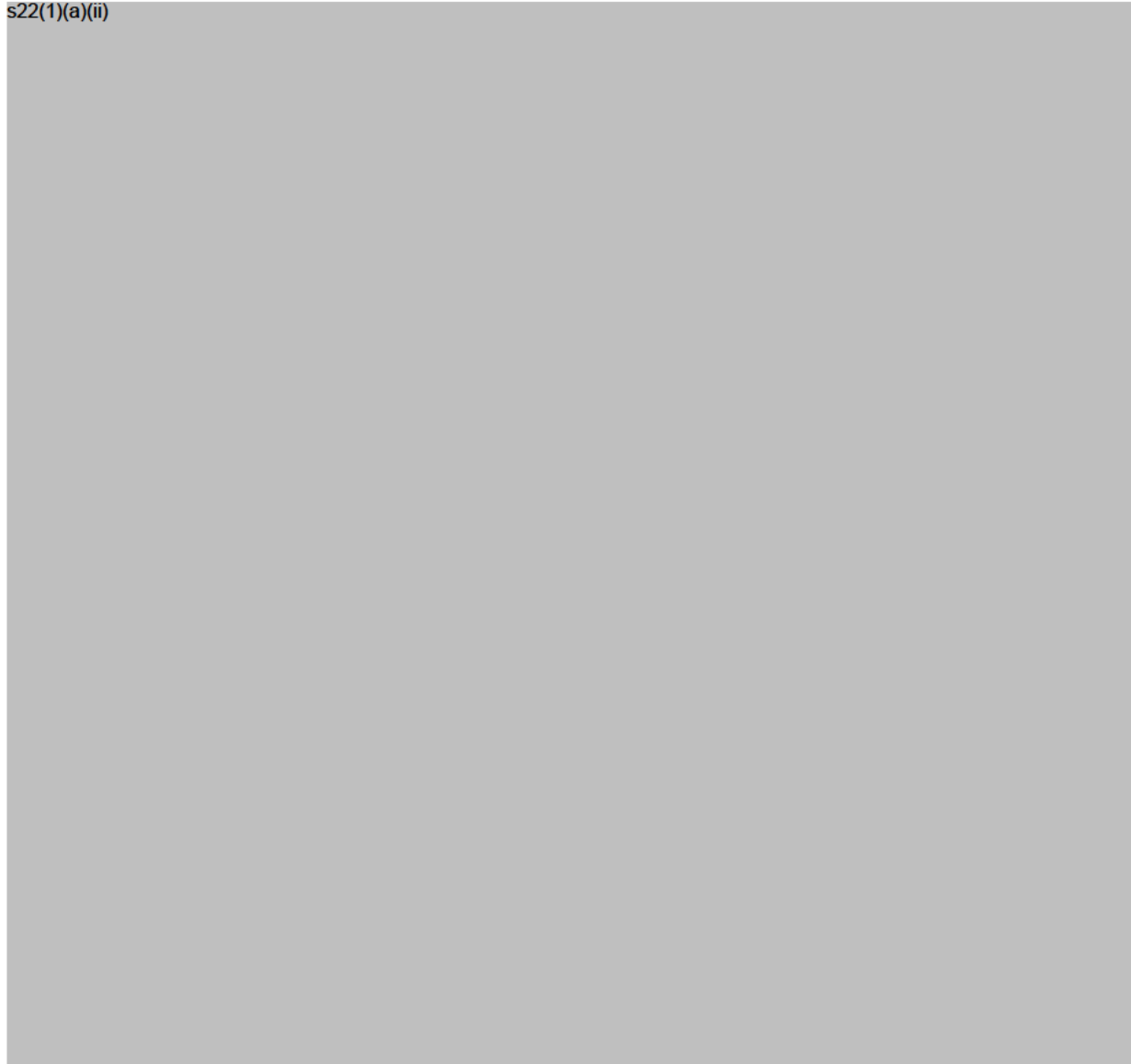
*I acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet, work and live.
I recognise and respect their continuing connection to the land, waters and communities.
I pay my respects to Elders past and present and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.*

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL**CID - WATCH POCKET BRIEF****STARLINK MEETINGS, SOVEREIGNTY AND NBN Co
PARTNERSHIP WITH LEOSAT PROVIDER****LEAD: Ben Phelps**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**KEY STATEMENT:**

- s22(1)(a)(ii) [Redacted]
- Security and sovereignty issues associated with Starlink should be directed to the Department of Home Affairs as the lead agency concerning these matters.

Action Officer (EL2):	s22(1)(a)(ii)	Section: Emerging Communications	
Clearing Officer (AS):	Ben Phelps	Branch: Broadband & Emerging Communications	
Mobile (AS):	s22(1)(a)(ii)	Date: 19 March 2025	Updated: 19 March 2025

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL**CID - WATCH POCKET BRIEF**

- NBN Co has undertaken a Request For Information (RFI) process for the replacement of Sky Muster services and to understand the advantages and disadvantages of different LEOSat providers. The RFI process has been completed with discussions between NBN Co and a potential provider ongoing. These discussions are commercial in nature and any queries should be directed to NBN Co.

- s22(1)(a)(ii)

KEY ISSUES / SENSITIVITIES

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Starlink Security and Sovereignty

- In relation to public telecommunications services in Australia, LEOSat providers are treated in the same manner as other telecommunications providers and need to hold a carrier licence or have a Nominated Carrier Determination from the ACMA in place.
- Starlink holds a carrier licence and is subject to Australia regulation rules and legislation the same as other carrier licence holders.
- s22(1)(a)(ii)
- In relation to security provisions, Part 14 of the *Telecommunications Act 1997* (Tel Act) regulates the national security risks of espionage, sabotage and foreign interference to Australia's telecommunications networks.
- In November 2024, Schedule 5 of the Security of Critical Infrastructure and Other Legislation Amendment (Enhanced Response and Prevention) Act 2024 (SoCwas passed to uplift, clarify and move security obligations for telecommunications providers from Part 14 of the Tel Act to the *Security of Critical Infrastructure Act 2018* (SOCI Act).

Action Officer (EL2):	s22(1)(a)(ii)	Section: Emerging Communications	
Clearing Officer (AS):	Ben Phelps	Branch: Broadband & Emerging Communications	
Mobile (AS):	s22(1)(a)(ii)	Date: 19 March 2025	Updated: 19 March 2025

OFFICIAL

CID - WATCH POCKET BRIEF

- These obligations will commence on 4 April 2025 for critical telecommunications assets, including LEOSat providers. More information can be found at <https://www.cisc.gov.au/legislation-regulation-and-compliance-subsite/Pages/cyber-security-legislative-reforms.aspx>
- LEOSats are considered critical infrastructure under the SOCI Act. The SOCI Act assures that providers maintain the protection of their telecommunication services and that they are resilient to disruptions. For more information, please consult www.cisc.gov.au/information-for-your-industry/communications/legislation-regulation-and-compliance/soci-act-2018.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

If asked: Department's engagement with Home Affairs or other intelligence agencies regarding sovereignty

- The Department has engaged regularly with Home Affairs around Starlink's obligations under the Tel and SOCI Acts.
- We continue to work collaboratively with Home Affairs and other intelligence agencies on matters associated with LEOSat providers as well as other emerging and critical technology.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Action Officer (EL2):	s22(1)(a)(ii)	Section: Emerging Communications	
Clearing Officer (AS):	Ben Phelps	Branch: Broadband & Emerging Communications	
Mobile (AS):	s22(1)(a)(ii)	Date: 19 March 2025	Updated: 19 March 2025

OFFICIAL

CID - WATCH POCKET BRIEF

s22(1)(a)(ii)



Action Officer (EL2):	s22(1)(a)(ii)	Section: Emerging Communications	
Clearing Officer (AS):	Ben Phelps	Branch: Broadband & Emerging Communications	
Mobile (AS):	s22(1)(a)(ii)	Date: 19 March 2025	Updated: 19 March 2025

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB25-000112

SUBJECT: Low Earth Orbit Satellites**Key Deliverables**

- The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts and the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) are assessing the suitability of Australia's regulatory framework and spectrum management regime to support the deployment of Low Earth Orbit Satellite (LEOSat) communications, including Direct-to-Device (D2D) connectivity.

- s22(1)(a)(ii) [REDACTED]

- s22(1)(a)(ii) [REDACTED]

Talking Points

- LEOSats are providing broadband connectivity across Australia, primarily through Starlink at this point in time.

- s22(1)(a)(ii) [REDACTED]

- s22(1)(a)(ii) [REDACTED]

- The government is undertaking work to make sure that Australia is ready to take advantage of LEOSat opportunities as they continue to evolve.

- s22(1)(a)(ii) [REDACTED]

- Although generally fit for purpose, we continue to monitor how our legislative and regulatory framework applies to LEOSats when D2D capability becomes commercially available in Australia. s22(1)(a)(ii) [REDACTED]

Contact: Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii) [REDACTED]**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 1/06/2026

Page 1 of 12

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB25-000112

Key Issues

s22(1)(a)(ii)

LEOSat broadband (dish) in Australia

- LEOSats have been deployed to provide a range of satellite services since the 1950s. However, LEOSats were not a viable option for broadband services during the initial establishment and rollout of the NBN.
- Recent technological advancements have enabled rapid, market-led deployment of services. This has enabled LEOSats to be part of the mix of technologies providing broadband and telephony services. LEOSat providers now offer, or plan to offer, an alternative for residents currently served by NBN's Sky Muster service.
- Currently, LEOSat broadband services in Australia are mainly provided through Starlink, owned and operated by SpaceX. However, the range of service providers and service offerings are expected to increase as new providers enter the market.
- At present, LEOSats customers access the internet using a small satellite dish which connects to satellites. At present, Starlink is the only LEOSat operator in Australia offering a consumer broadband solution. Other operators are planning on entering the consumer broadband market, including Amazon Kuiper (Kuiper).

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Contact: Ben Phelps

Cleared by: Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary

Phone: s22(1)(a)(ii)

Version Number: 01

Date: 1/06/2026

Page 2 of 12

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB25-000112

s22(1)(a)(ii)



s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 1/06/2026Page **3** of **12**

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

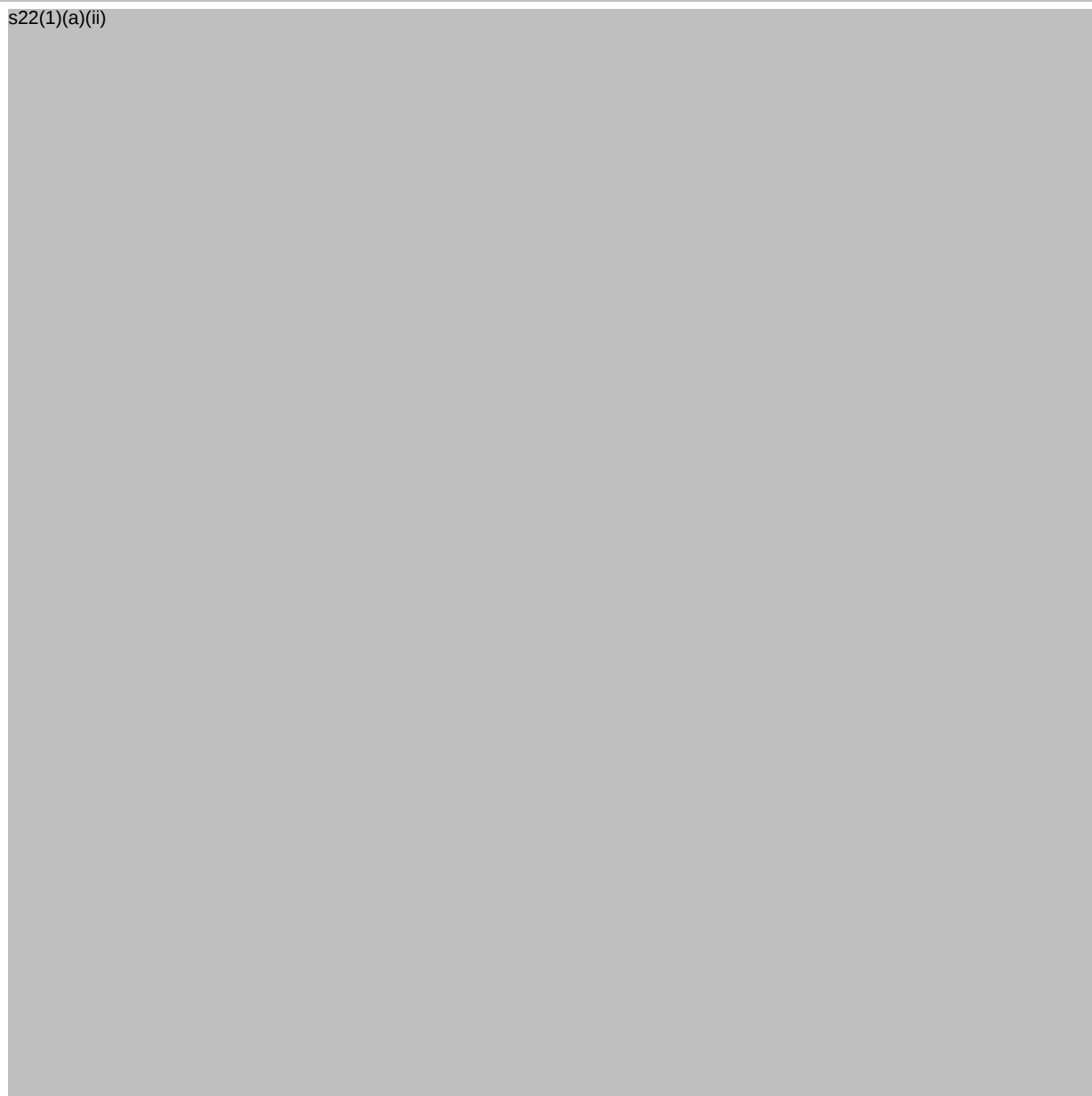
Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB25-000112

s22(1)(a)(ii)



s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 1/06/2026

Page 4 of 12

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB25-000112

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 1/06/2026

Page 5 of 12

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

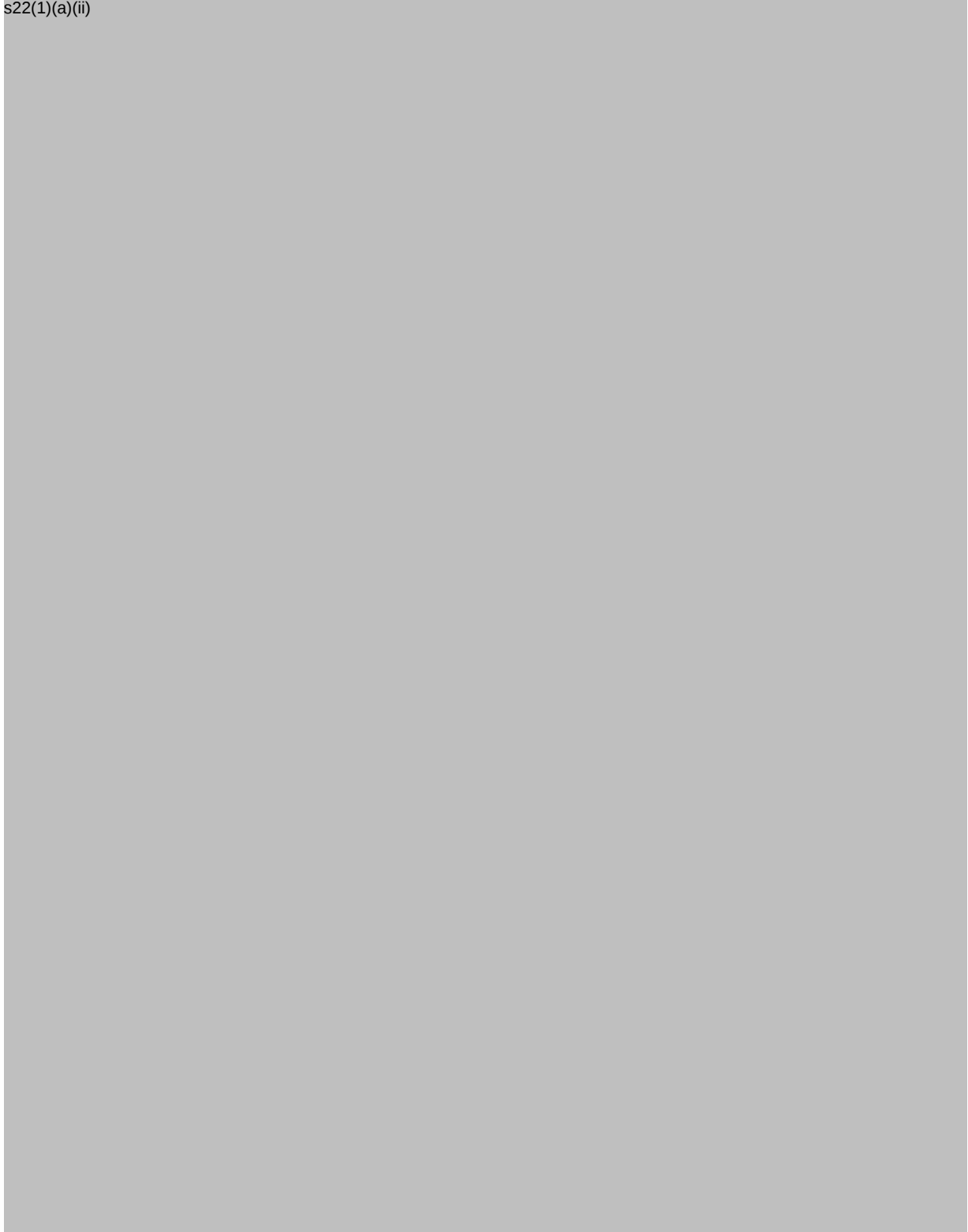
2025-2026 Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB25-000112

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 1/06/2026

Page 6 of 12

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB25-000112

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Regulatory considerations**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 1/06/2026

Page 7 of 12

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB25-000112

*If raised: Lead SES is **Shanyn Sparreboom**, Competition & Spectrum Branch, Communications Infrastructure Division. Further information on regulatory considerations and D2D spectrum is included in Backpocket Brief – LEOSat Working Group, Reports & Other Matters.*

- The government is considering how existing regulatory frameworks capture LEOSat services in Australia and if any adjustments are required. These frameworks include competition regulation, spectrum management and device standards.

- s22(1)(a)(ii)

- LEOSat providers who offer public telecommunication services in Australia are treated in the same manner as other telecommunications providers, and will need to hold a carrier licence or have a Nominated Carrier Determination from the ACMA in place. For example, Starlink Australia Pty Ltd holds a carrier licence.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Contact: Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 1/06/2026

Page 8 of 12

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB25-000112

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 1/06/2026

Page 9 of 12

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB25-000112

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 01**Date:** 1/06/2026

Page 10 of 12

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2024 - 2025 Additional Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB24-000380

SUBJECT: Low Earth Orbit Satellites

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 02**Date:** 1/06/2026

Page 1 of 9

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2024 - 2025 Additional Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB24-000380

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 02**Date:** 1/06/2026

Page 2 of 9

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2024 - 2025 Additional Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB24-000380

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Contact: Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 02**Date:** 1/06/2026

Page 3 of 9

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2024 - 2025 Additional Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB24-000380

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 02**Date:** 1/06/2026

Page 4 of 9

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

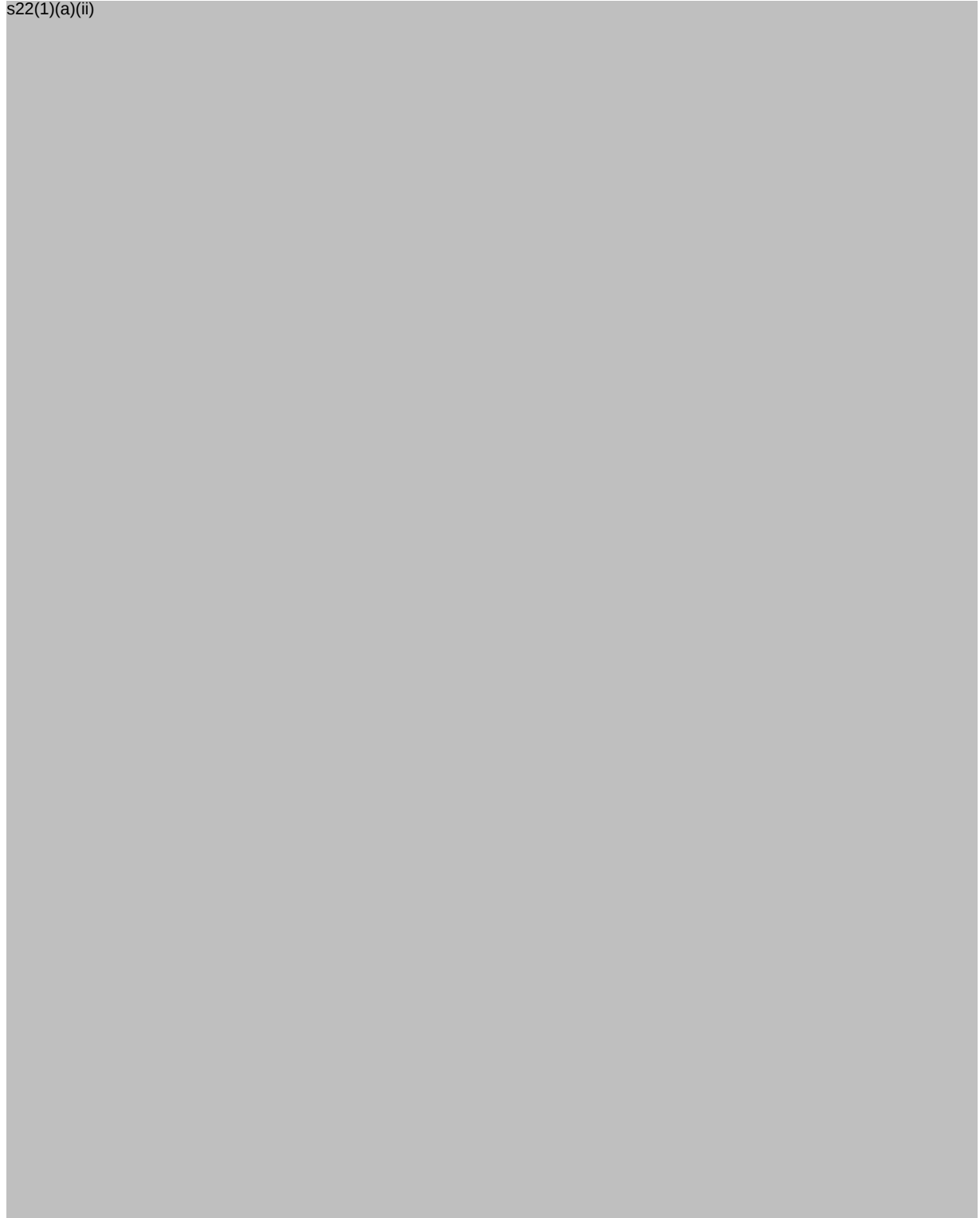
2024 - 2025 Additional Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB24-000380

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 02**Date:** 1/06/2026

Page 5 of 9

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

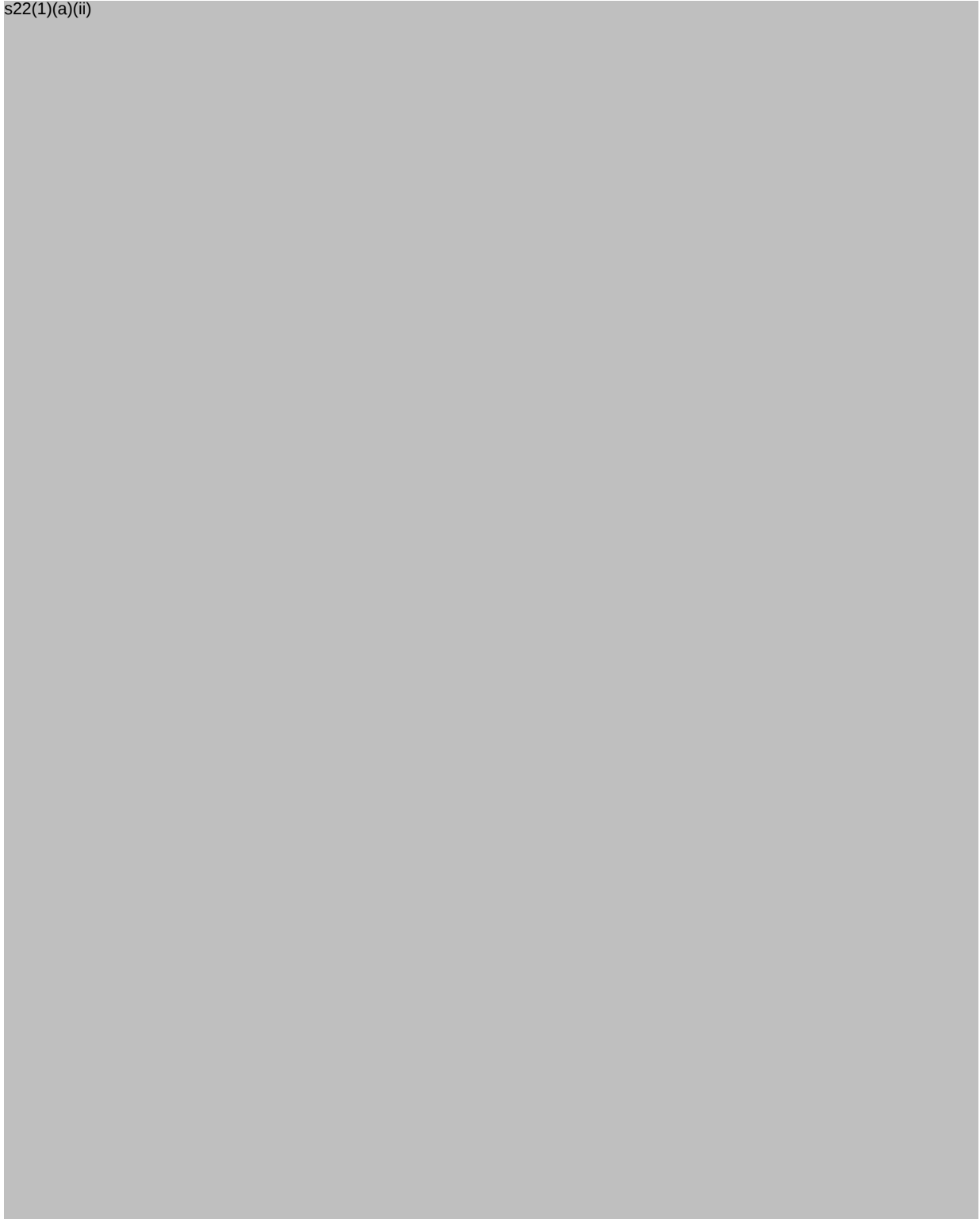
2024 - 2025 Additional Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB24-000380

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 02**Date:** 1/06/2026

Page 6 of 9

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2024 - 2025 Additional Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB24-000380

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Regulatory considerations

If raised: Lead SES is Shynyn Sparreboom, Competition & Spectrum Branch, Communications Infrastructure Division. Further information on regulatory considerations and D2D spectrum is included in Backpack Brief – LEOSat Working Group & Reports.

- The government is considering how existing regulatory frameworks capture LEOSat services in Australia and if any adjustments are required. These frameworks include competition regulation, spectrum management and device standards.
- s22(1)(a)(ii)
- LEOSat providers who offer public telecommunication services in Australia are treated in the same manner as other telecommunications providers, and will need to hold a carrier licence or have a Nominated Carrier Determination from the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) in place. For example, Starlink Australia Pty Ltd holds a carrier licence.
- s22(1)(a)(ii)

Contact: Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 02**Date:** 1/06/2026

Page 7 of 9

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2024 - 2025 Additional Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB24-000380

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Ben Phelps**Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 02**Date:** 1/06/2026

Page 8 of 9

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2024 - 2025 Additional Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance/Ben Phelps

SB24-000380

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Contact: Ben Phelps**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Date:** 1/06/2026**Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Version Number:** 02

OFFICIAL

Page 9 of 9

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

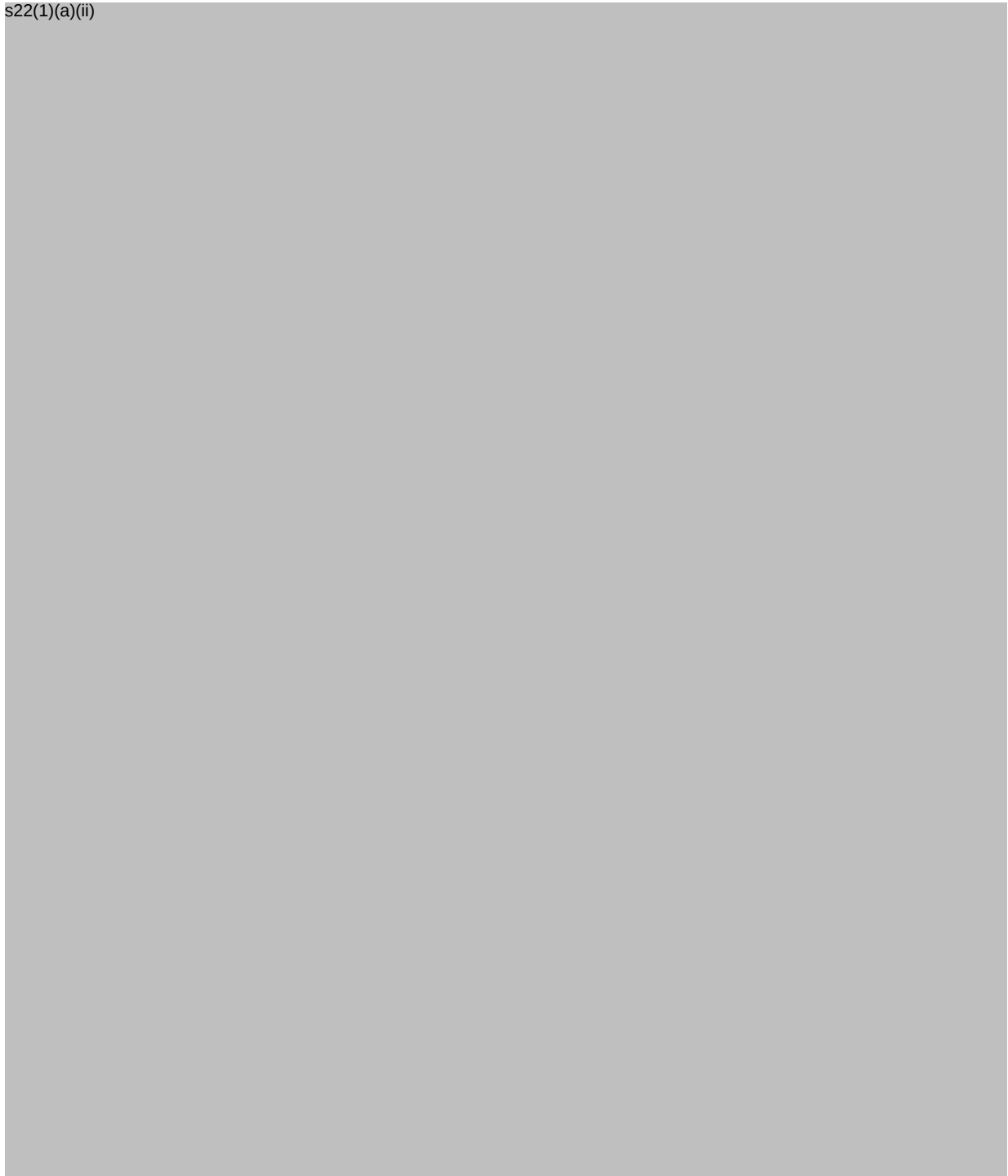
Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000316

SUBJECT: Low Earth Orbit Satellites – Other

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Shanyn Sparreboom, A/g First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 03**Date:** 4/11/2025

Page 1 of 18

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

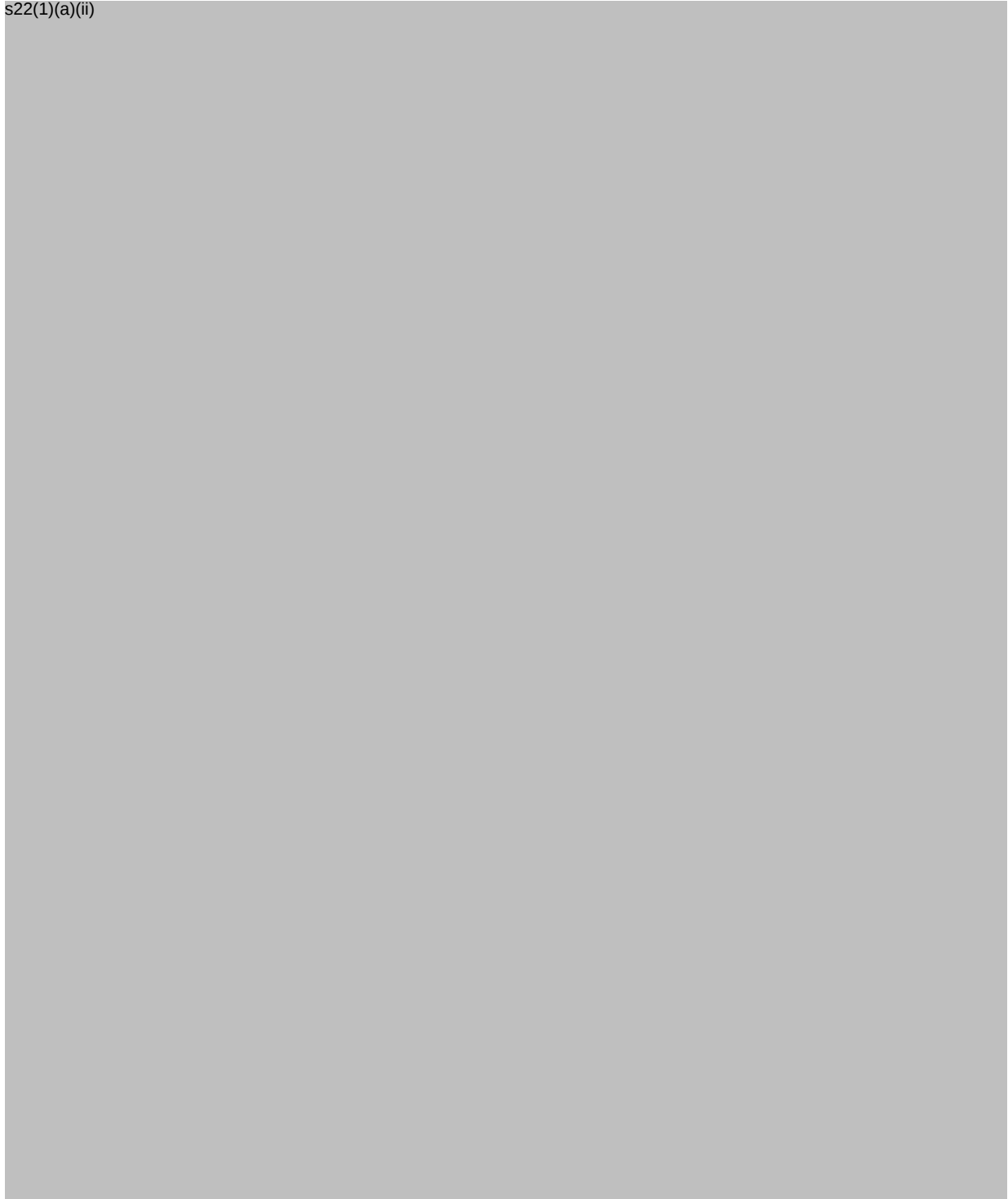
2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000316

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Shanyn Sparreboom, A/g First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 03**Date:** 4/11/2025

Page 2 of 18

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

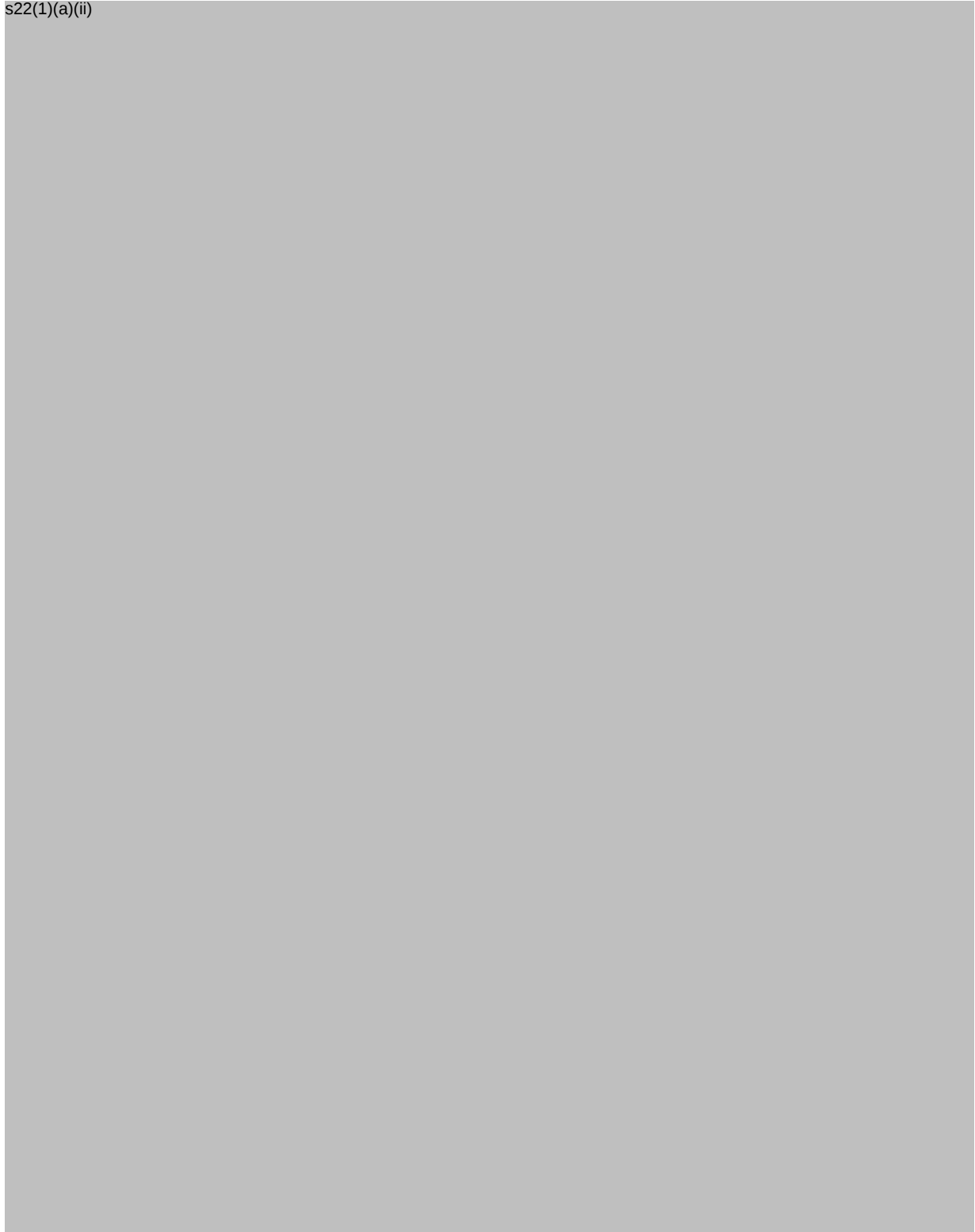
2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000316

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Shanyn Sparreboom, A/g First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 03**Date:** 4/11/2025

Page 3 of 18

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000316

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Shanyn Sparreboom, A/g First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** 0497 673 677**Version Number:** 03**Date:** 4/11/2025

Page 4 of 18

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

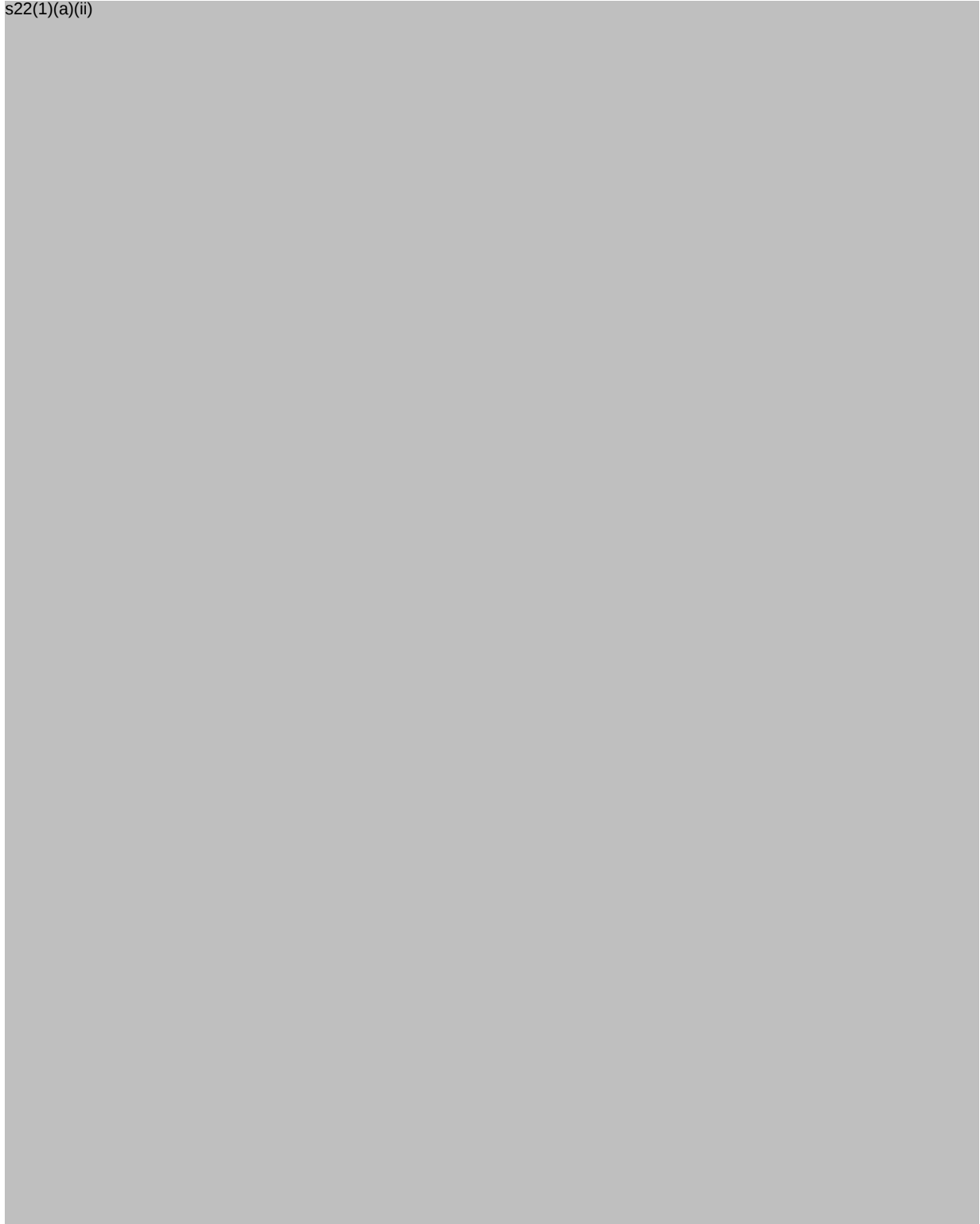
2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000316

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Shanyn Sparreboom, A/g First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 03**Date:** 4/11/2025

Page 5 of 18

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000316

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Shanyn Sparreboom, A/g First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 03**Date:** 4/11/2025

Page 6 of 18

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000316

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Shanyn Sparreboom, A/g First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 03**Date:** 4/11/2025

Page 7 of 18

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000316

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Regulatory considerations

If raised: Lead SES is Andrew Irwin, Markets & Competition Branch, Communications Infrastructure Division.

- s22(1)(a)(ii) [Redacted]
- In particular, LEOSat providers who offer public telecommunication services in Australia are treated in the same manner as other telecommunications providers, and will need to hold a carrier licence or have a Nominated Carrier Determination from the ACMA in place. For example, Starlink Australia Pty Ltd holds a carrier licence. The carrier licence requirement underpins a range of other regulatory protections, such as those relating to competition and national security.
- s22(1)(a)(ii) [Redacted]

Contact: Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Shanyn Sparreboom, A/g First Assistant Secretary

Phone: s22(1)(a)(ii) [Redacted]

Version Number: 03

Date: 4/11/2025

Page 8 of 18

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

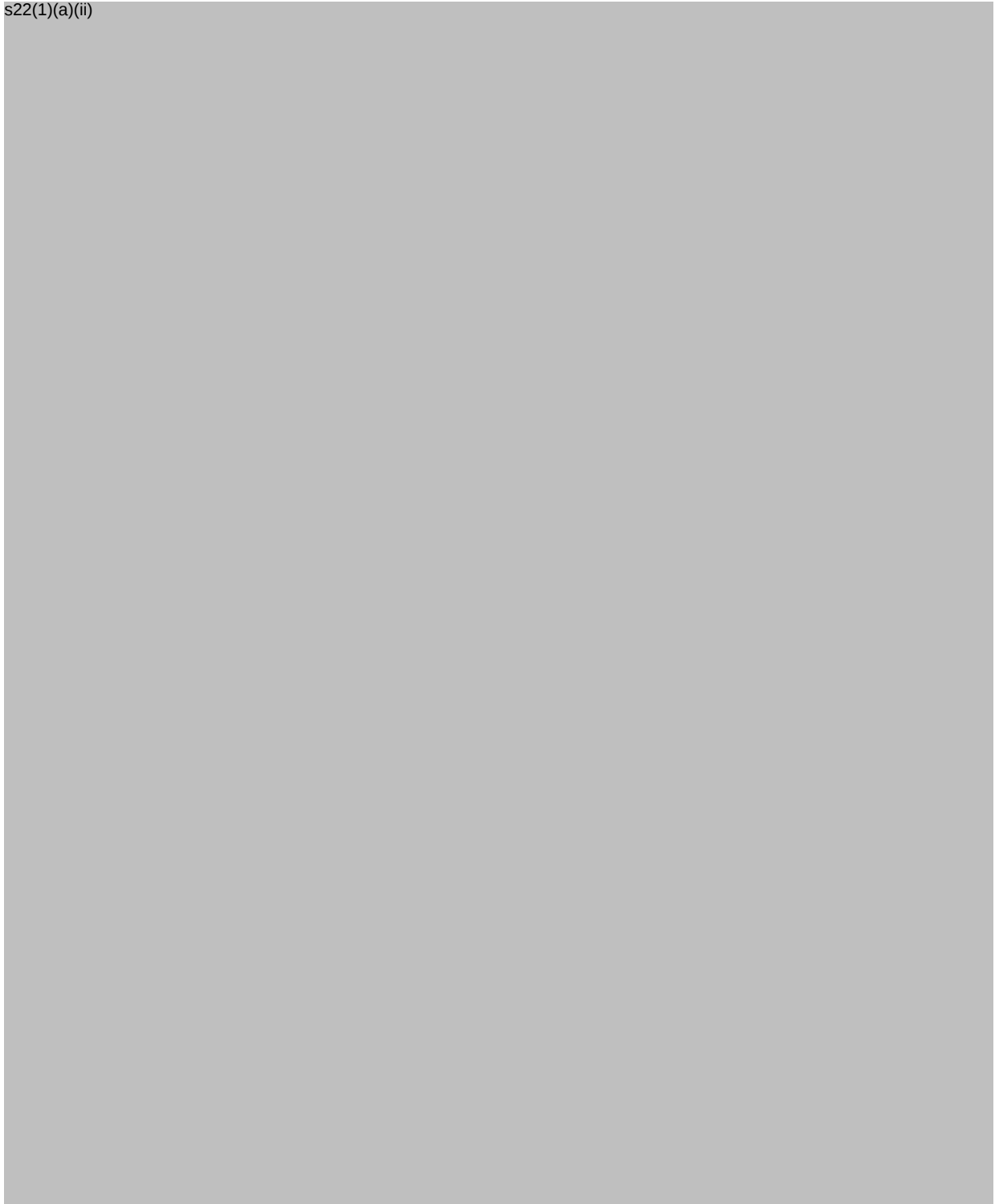
2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000316

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Shanyn Sparreboom, A/g First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 03**Date:** 4/11/2025

Page 9 of 18

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000316

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Shanyn Sparreboom, A/g First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 03**Date:** 4/11/2025

Page 10 of 18

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

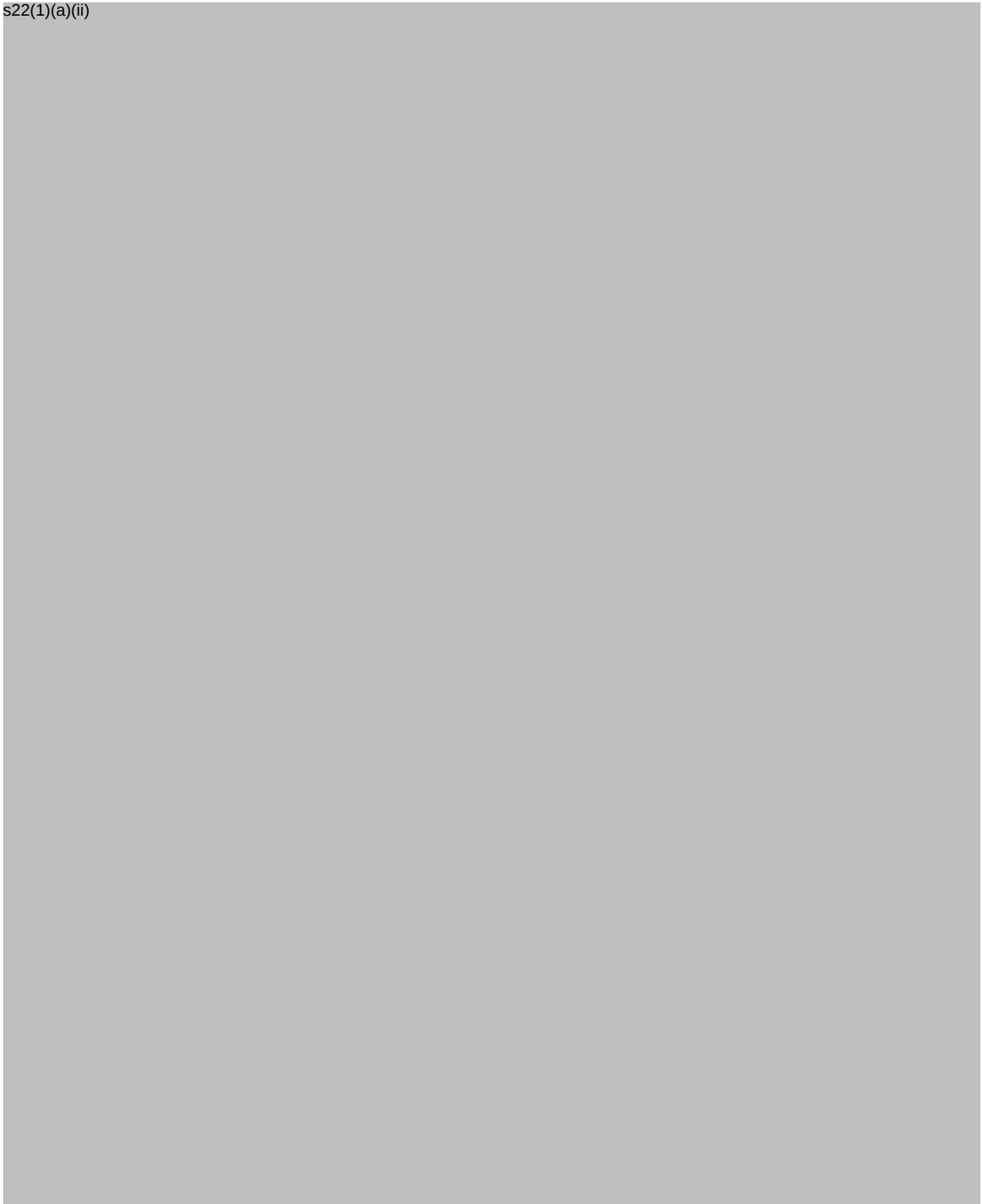
Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000316

Attachment A

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Shanyn Sparreboom, A/g First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 03**Date:** 4/11/2025

Page 11 of 18

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000316

s22(1)(a)(ii)



Contact: Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Shanyn Sparreboom, A/g First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 03**Date:** 4/11/2025

Page 12 of 18

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

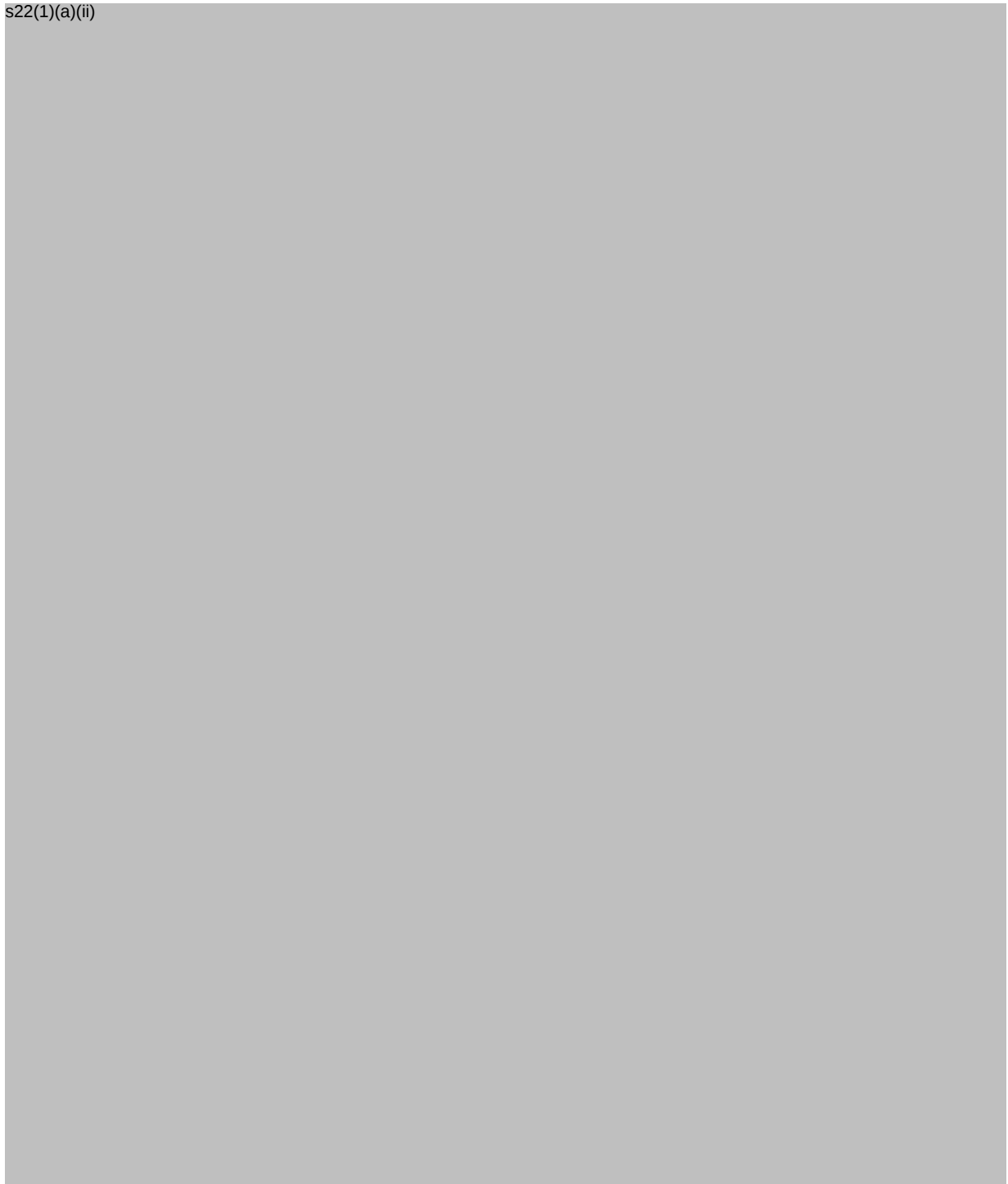
Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000316

Attachment B

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Shanyn Sparreboom, A/g First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 03**Date:** 4/11/2025

Page 13 of 18

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000316

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Shanyn Sparreboom, A/g First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 03**Date:** 4/11/2025

Page 14 of 18

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000316

Attachment C

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Contact: Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Shanyn Sparreboom, A/g First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 03**Date:** 4/11/2025

Page 15 of 18

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000316

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Shanyn Sparreboom, A/g First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 03**Date:** 4/11/2025

Page 16 of 18

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000316

Attachment D

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Shanyn Sparreboom, A/g First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 03**Date:** 4/11/2025

Page 17 of 18

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

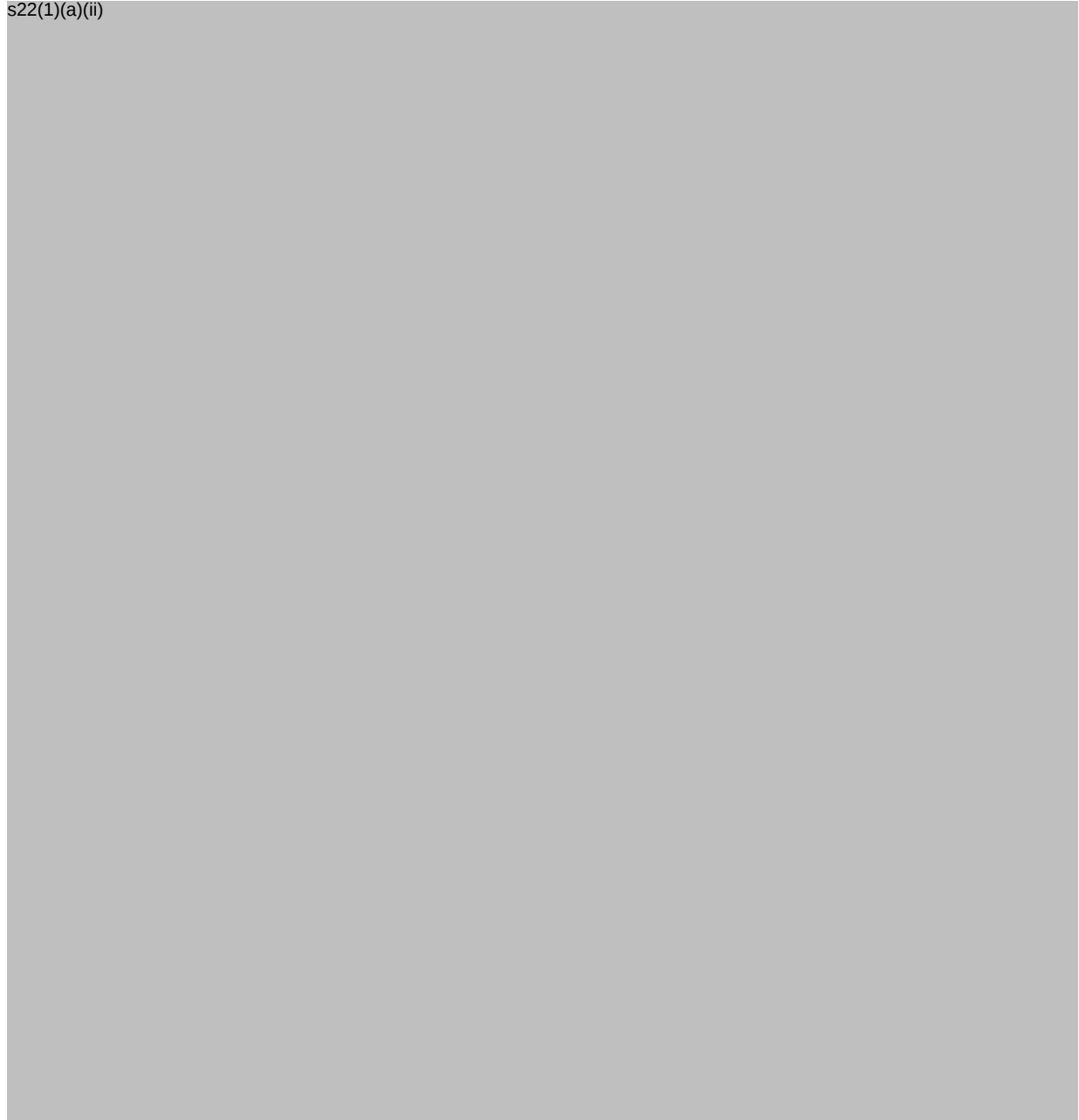
2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000316

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Shanyn Sparreboom, A/g First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 03**Date:** 4/11/2025

Page 18 of 18

OFFICIAL

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000314

SUBJECT: NBN Co/Kuiper Agreement

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 02**Date:** 11/11/2025

2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyyn Sparreboom

SB25-000314

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Data sovereignty

- Kuiper and other LEOSat operators are required to hold an Australian carrier licence and therefore are subject to Australian telecommunications laws and regulations including the *Telecommunications Act 1997* and the *Security of Critical Infrastructure Act 2018*.
 - These laws and regulations are enforced by the Australian Communications and Media Authority, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission and Australia's security agencies.

Contact: Shanyyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 02 **Date:** 11/11/2025

2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000314

- Many elements of the telecommunications network are manufactured, owned and operated overseas. ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)}

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)}**Version Number:** 02 **Date:** 11/11/2025

2025-2026 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications

Lead/Support contact: Lisa La Rance / Shanyn Sparreboom

SB25-000314

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Contact:** Shanyn Sparreboom **Cleared by:** Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary**Phone:** s22(1)(a)(ii)**Version Number:** 02**Date:** 11/11/2025

QB25-000161

COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE

LEOSAT USE IN AUSTRALIA

ISSUE: Australia is leveraging LEOSats to increase the quality of broadband internet and reach of mobile services in regional, rural and remote areas. NBN Co now has a wholesale agreement with Amazon to provide LEOSat broadband via Amazon Leo from 2026.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

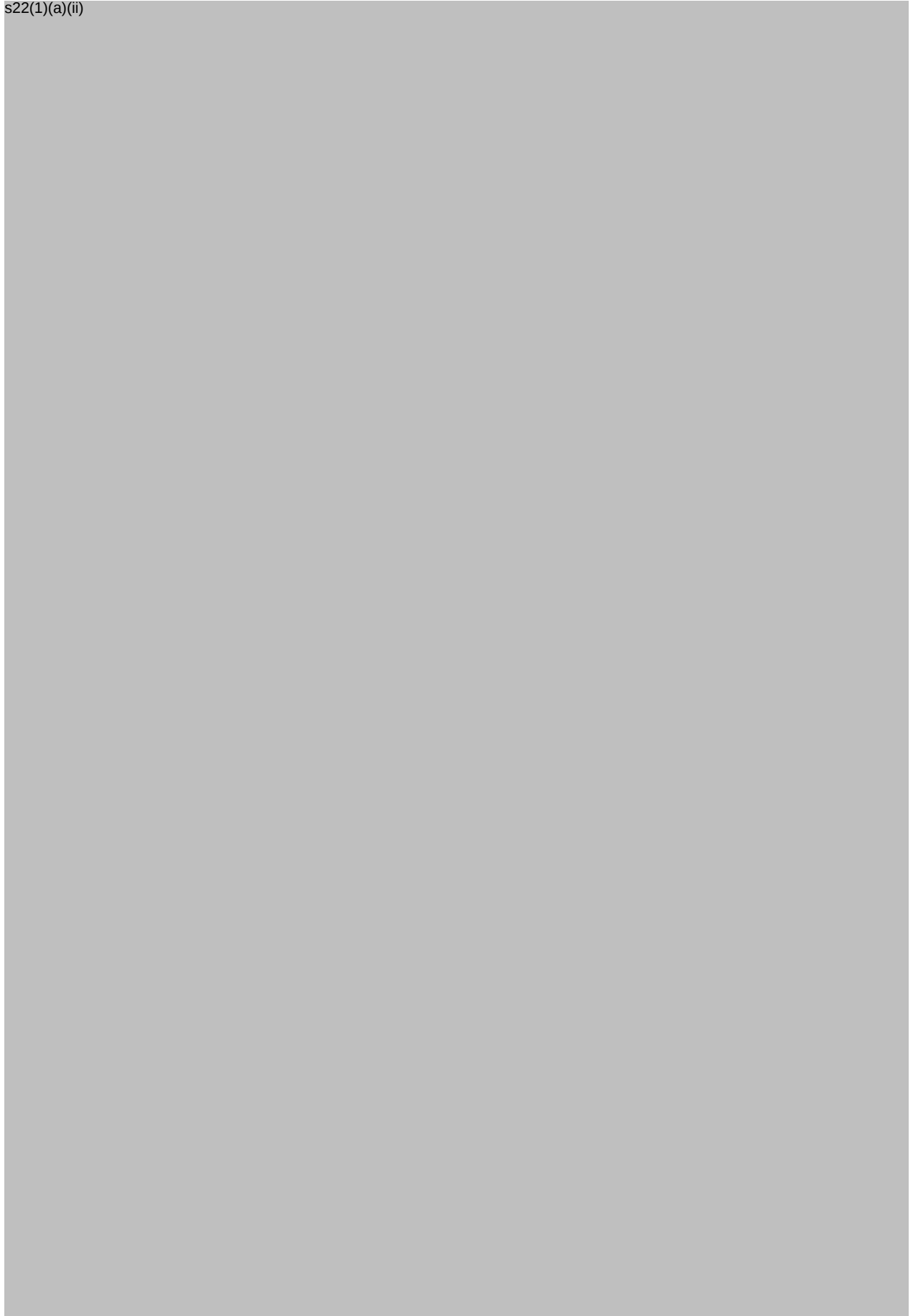


Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

QB25-000161

COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE

s22(1)(a)(ii)



Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

QB25-000161

COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE

s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Sensitivities:**

- s22(1)(a)(ii)

-
-
- There has been speculation around **sovereignty concerns** associated with LEOSat providers in Australia. However, it is common for telecommunications services in Australia and internationally to rely on equipment that is manufactured or owned and operated by overseas entities.
- Companies that provide LEOSat services, including Starlink and Amazon Leo, are **required to hold an Australian carrier licence** and are therefore subject to Australian telecommunications laws and regulations. These include the *Telecommunications Act 1997* and the *Security of Critical Infrastructure Act 2018* enforced by the ACMA, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) and Australia's security agencies.

- s22(1)(a)(ii)

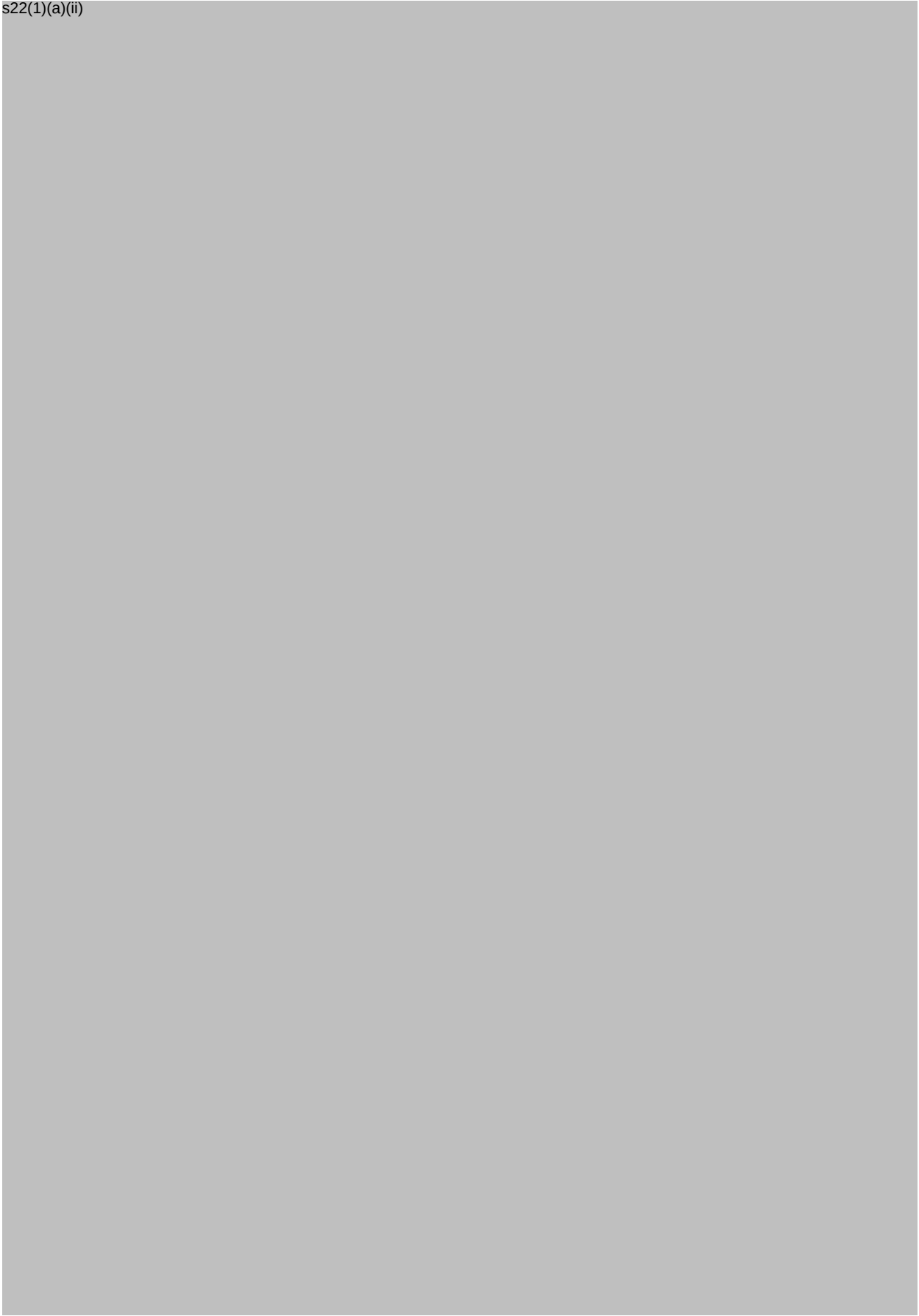
-

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

QB25-000161

COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE

s22(1)(a)(ii)

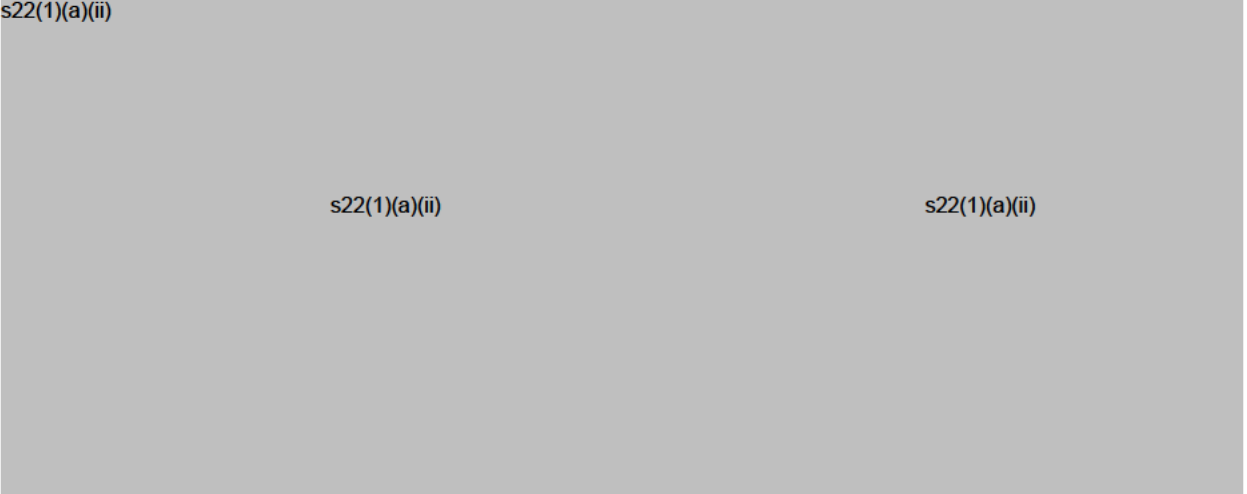


Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

QB25-000161

COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE

s22(1)(a)(ii)



s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts