



Telstra Response:

Sunsetting of the Telecommunications (Participating Persons) Determination 2015

Public submission

9 September 2025



Telstra welcomes the opportunity to comment on the proposed sunsetting and remaking of the *Telecommunications (Participating Persons) Determination 2015 (the Determination)*. We strongly support the Department's proposal to remake the instrument as proposed¹ including the retention of the \$25 million eligible revenue threshold.

This threshold has proven effective in ensuring that only carriers with sufficient operational scale contribute to the Telecommunications Industry Levy (TIL) and Annual Carrier Licence Charge (ALCL). It reflects a pragmatic balance between regulatory equity and administrative efficiency, consistent with the principles underpinning the Determination.

We recognise that with the threshold not being indexed, its real value has declined modestly over time due to inflation. However, we consider that this is appropriate—it limits the expansion of contributing entities and avoids capturing smaller or emerging carriers that may lack the financial and operational capacity to absorb additional regulatory costs. This outcome supports a proportionate regulatory framework and avoids unintended consequences for market entrants.

Adjusting the threshold upward to reflect inflation would risk excluding mid-sized carriers who benefit from the shared infrastructure and protections funded by the levy. Conversely, lowering the threshold would increase compliance burdens and administrative complexity without delivering a commensurate public benefit. To that end, we support maintaining of a consistent, stable and predictable threshold, recognising its role in maintaining regulatory simplicity and fairness.

We therefore support remaking the instrument without change. This approach ensures continuity, preserves the integrity of the funding framework, and aligns with the legislative intent of the *Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999*.

¹ Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) (Non-Participating Persons) Determination 2025