

Mobile Coverage Programme Discussion Paper

Submission Cover Sheet

Submission Information

This cover sheet should be attached to submissions made to the Department of Communications in relation to the Mobile Coverage Programme Discussion Paper.

Contact Details

Name of respondent:	[REDACTED]
Name of organisation:	New South Wales Government Hunter Local Land Services
Phone:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Website (if applicable):	www.lls.nsw.gov.au
Date:	13 February 2014

Confidentiality and privacy

All submissions and comments, or parts thereof, will be treated as non-confidential information unless specifically requested, and acceptable reasons should accompany each request. Email disclaimers will not be considered sufficient confidentiality requests.

Respondents lodging a submission should be aware that submissions (excluding any information agreed to be treated as confidential information) will be made publicly available, including on the Department of Communications' website. Submissions and comments will be subject to freedom of information provisions. Despite a submission being identified as confidential or sensitive, submissions may be disclosed where authorised or required by law, or for the purpose of parliamentary processes.

Do you want all or parts of the submission to be treated as confidential? Yes No

If yes, identify below which parts of the submission are to be treated as confidential (and provide a reason):

If the submission contains personal information of any third party individual, indicate on this Submission Cover Sheet if that third party individual has not consented to the publication of his or her personal information:

Submission Instructions

Submissions are to be made by **5:00pm (AEST) Friday 28 February 2014**.

Where possible, submissions should be lodged electronically, preferably in Microsoft Word or other text-based formats via the email address mobilecoverage@communications.gov.au

Alternatively, submissions can be sent to the postal address below (to arrive by the due date):

The Manager
Mobile Coverage Programme
Department of Communications
GPO Box 2154
CANBERRA ACT 2615

All submissions lodged will be acknowledged by the Department of Communications by email (or by letter if no email is provided). Respondents lodging a submission who do not receive acknowledgement of their submission should contact the Department. Submissions which are not acknowledged by the Department as being received may not be considered. Respondents should be aware that emails greater than 10Mb may not be successfully delivered.

The Manager
Mobile Coverage Programme
Department of Communications
GPO Box 2154
CANBERRA ACT 2615

Mobile Coverage Programme Discussion Paper Submission

To the Manager of the Mobile Coverage Programme,

The Hunter Local Land Services (LLS) region extends from Greater Taree City Council in the north to Lake Macquarie City Council in the south, Upper Hunter Shire Council in the west to the Great Lakes Council in the east.

LLS have four pillars of: agricultural production, biosecurity, natural resource management and emergency management; and works with landholders to build a healthy, productive and resilient landscape.

Importantly, LLS has a local focus. It is run by local people, like vets, rangers, livestock, agronomy and natural resource management advisors, and focuses on local issues and delivery of quality services in the region. We are seeking to be a modern service delivery organisation that uses a range of tools and approaches, including mobile applications, which deliver effective and efficient services to rural clients.

The heart of Hunter LLS, or our head office, houses over 25 staff at Paterson across the road from the Tocal Agricultural College. Our staff and the nearby community we serve are disadvantaged by the poor mobile reception at our address and in the surrounding area. This is a particular concern in the event of natural disasters or outbreaks of animal diseases. It also poses additional safety risks for our staff, many of whom work remotely on a daily basis and rely upon mobile coverage to undertake their work safely.

Our mobile communications limitations directly impacts our work and the community we support; which in turn impacts the people outside our region that depend on the commodities we produce for Australia and beyond.

We applaud the Australian Department of Communications Mobile Coverage Programme.

Kind regards,



Brett Miners, General Manager