

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:	Carmen Quade
Name of organisation:	Tallimba Advancement Group
Phone:	
Email:	
Website (if applicable):	
Date:	28/2/13

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):

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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.

To Whom It may Concern

I am writing to request that Tallimba NSW is included in the \$20 million mobile black spot project as a high priority project.

Tallimba is a small rural farming community in the Northern Riverina of NSW. We are located 30 mins west of West Wyalong.

The village of Tallimba has little or no mobile service coverage. The majority of us in the wider Tallimba/Weethalle are experiencing marginal to poor mobile phone reception, regardless of the information provided to the contrary by telephone providers. For those of us using wireless internet, based on the mobile phone network, a double burden is suffered. Satellite internet provides a less than satisfactory substitute as it is both slow and expensive.

This results in safety issues for those attending schools, our local school bus run and visitors to the area. Further we are in an identified bush fire risk area and our access within the area is affected by flooding on average once per year, generally in the summer storm season. As an area reliant predominantly on winter cropping, our population increases significantly at harvest time. Our ability to attract and retain seasonal casual staff is hampered by our lack of mobile and internet coverage, considered both as a safety and essential lifestyle provision by potential staff.

Internet and mobile phone services have become an essential part of daily life. For those of us living so far from shops, banks, post offices and friends, services like internet shopping, internet banking, and email are a necessity rather than a choice. For those running farming businesses, the ability to have accurate and timely weather and grain price information can cost or save tens of thousands of dollars.

We call on the government to improve reception through the establishment of a base station to service Tallimba and surrounds. It is hoped that a tower near Tallimba would also provide overlapping coverage toward the Weethalle area and prevent total system failure when the inevitable hardware problems are experienced, as they do on a far too frequent basis.

We ask you to visit our area and meet with some of the affected people. Local residents have offered their assistance with the provision of private land on which to locate a tower or booster in our area.

If you require any further information I encourage you to contact us.

Kind regards

Carmen Quade
On behalf of
Tallimba Advancement Group

