Joint Committee on the National Broadband Network Answers to Questions on Notice Public Hearing 30 October 2012

Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio NBN Co Limited

Question No: 10

Hansard Ref: In writing

Topic: Switchover for apartment /unit blocks

The Committee asked:

How is the NBN ensuring an efficient fibre connection and activation for apartment/unit blocks?

Answer:

Please see response to QoN 8.

Also, Mr Steffens provided some information on this topic at the JCNBN hearing (see Hansard, p8)

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Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio NBN Co Limited

Question No: 14

Hansard Ref: In writing

Topic: Greenfields

The Committee asked:

What risk mitigation strategies are in place for Greenfields developments to ensure efficient fibre rollout?

Answer:

In May 2012 at the Budget Estimates hearing, Mike Quigley said: "As we continue to build out our transit network, which I mentioned earlier, the distances we need to span reduce. We are working closely with the developers, who clearly see the appeal of having NBN rolled out to their new estates. A number of them are using the availability of the NBN rollout to differentiate their offerings from existing homes in the suburbs. So you can be assured that we are working hard to meet the requirements of our greenfields customers. In an effort to increase our rollout capacity, we are increasingly involving our brownfields construction contractors in the greenfield builds. So we are bringing more capacity online for greenfields."

In working with the developers, we are encouraging early notification to ensure civil elements with long construction timeframes are commenced ahead of other estate-dependent works. The involvement of brownfield contractors under a new construction model recognises the ability to leverage the brownfield transit elements for greenfield deployment and has allowed a focus on priority sites, including critical elements of power provision.