10 October 2009
Committee Secretary
Senate Select Committee on the National Broadband Network
Department of the Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

By email: broadband.sen@aph.gov.au

Submission: re Government's proposed legislation on telecommunications

The Senate must reject the government's legislation aimed at the structural separation of Telstra.

I purchased my Telstra shares from the government on the basis that Telstra was a fully integrated telecommunications company, necessary for the efficient provision of services to all Australians due to Australia's unique geographical landscape and very low population density outside of the metropolitan areas.

The Senate must reject any legislation preventing Telstra from acquiring 4G spectrum because it would not be in the interests of people in regional Australia. Telstra's competitors would be unlikely to invest in capacity for 4G mobiles outside of metro areas for many years, whereas Telstra could provide full national coverage in less than a year by utilizing its existing infrastructure.

Yours sincerely

Robert F Spinks - Telstra shareholder (Personal Superannuation Fund)