

To the Standing Committee on Communications and the Arts regarding the inquiry into and report on the deployment, adoption and application of 5G in Australia,

Europe, USA, China, Russia and India have already begun deploying 5G. We are behind.

There's a huge list of case uses available. i'll give two:

TETRA Enhanced Data Services (TEDS) for public safety communications  
European Rail Traffic Management System (ERTMS)

We would be able to engage tighter rail blocking, better regulate train traffic to increase throughput on existing infrastructure at a lower cost and use the same communications infrastructure for rural disaster response. But wait, that's all national security so you can't consider it.

This inquiry is a sham and ill-considered because of the final statement in the terms of reference,

"Matters relating to national security are out of scope for this Committee."

Telecommunications infrastructure is defined as critical infrastructure. Security and reliability are the main operational concerns of any critical infrastructure. Any consideration of its deployment is therefor a matter of national security rendering this analysis pointless. We're a 3rd world country when it comes to intelligence and our only plan is to leave our drop-seat open for the U.S.A. who are so amazing lately with their ability to maintain operational security. If we were serious, we would be partnering A.S.I.O. with an IPCore developer and a manufacturer, designing and auditing our own in-house netlists and producing our own secure supply-chain for 5G radios. The matter will simply be vetoed on dubious national security grounds therefor any work done by the committee is in vain. Just announce that you've decided to make a captain's pick to sign a blank cheque to Cisco or Motorola Solutions because that's all just too hard for Australia.

Robert Heron

