

Submission

NBN Joint Committee

Broken Hill 27th July 2011

The rollout of the National Broadband Network [NBN] to the Far West of NSW is a welcome one. The NBN will provide a vital link in removing the isolation and remoteness felt by our communities socially and economically. Within these two factors I believe education plays a vital role, especially in my community of Tibooburra.

Education is a social medium that reflects the many changes within our society. One of the greatest influences of the 21st century has been the continual evolvment and growth of information technology. Today teaching and learning is underpinned by technology. In Tibooburra our school is the centre for teaching and learning in the district.

The school students in Tibooburra and the students in the surrounding districts connected by the Distance Education Satellite Network rely on an efficient and fast internet service to engage with the proliferation of social media that is used to complement and drive education. The school staff relies on technology for professional support and training. Community members can use the technology infrastructure to access TAFE courses.

An improved internet service will enable and empower everyone in Tibooburra to remove the barriers of isolation and remoteness. It will enable and empower an informed community, which in turn is a strong and vibrant community.

We cannot afford to wait years and years for the NBN rollout.

Our community cannot afford a generation to be left behind because we had to wait.

Thank you,

Andrew Chapman

Briscoe Street,

Tibooburra

25th July 2011