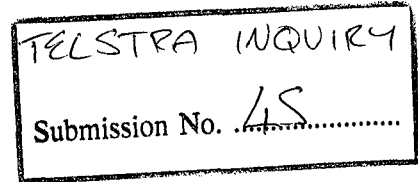


Brien, Andrew (REPS)

From: Tim Hall [timhall@iinet.net.au]
Sent: Friday, 31 January 2003 1:48 PM
To: Committee, CITA (REPS)
Subject: Inquiry into the Structure of Telstra



Dear Sir or Madam

As a both a shareholder and a stakeholder (being a tax paying citizen) in telstra as well as an IT Professional I welcome the chance to have my opinion heard in this very crucial matter.

It is my strong belief that Telstra should be separated into a wholesale and retail company. And have the ACCC make sure that the two companies do not have any anti competitive dealings.

The wholesale company should always remain public so that (hopefully) it will benefit the country more so than a private company would (as they often bow to pressure from shareholders to maximise profits regardless of customer service etc). The wholesale service should include the mobile network, pstn, isdn and dsl services (i.e., all the current equipment should stay with the wholesale and other companies can rent the equipment and lines off them at decent prices).

Doing it like that would mean that the main focus of the wholesaler would be to provide a state of the art system open to anyone to rent (assuming there is capacity to do so). The main focus of the retailer would be to sell the services that provides through the wholesaler.

Hence the overall quality of the Australian telecommunications network and providers should increase (within reason of course we don't want 30 phone companies all calling us asking if we want to switch to them etc, it should all be transparent for the end users as well). Opening the door for more providers would introduce more competition and provide a better service for everyone. And since they would all be using the same network, there shouldn't be any compatibility issues like in America when on a payphone if you want to make a call to someone on the other side of town you have to go through 5 different providers paying each time.

I hope that give some insight, some of the stuff in here would need more thought put into it before it was implemented but its general ideas that I cam up with while writing the email. If you would like further clarification on any of the ideas I am more than willing to elaborate and refine.

Thank you,

Tim Hall