

2010-2011

The Parliament of the  
Commonwealth of Australia

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Presented and read a first time*

**Telecommunications Legislation  
Amendment (Fibre Deployment) Bill  
2011**

**No.     , 2011**

*(Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy)*

**A Bill for an Act to amend legislation relating to  
telecommunications, and for other purposes**



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1 **A Bill for an Act to amend legislation relating to**  
2 **telecommunications, and for other purposes**

3 The Parliament of Australia enacts:

4 **1 Short title**

5 This Act may be cited as the *Telecommunications Legislation*  
6 *Amendment (Fibre Deployment) Act 2011*.

7 **2 Commencement**

8 (1) Each provision of this Act specified in column 1 of the table  
9 commences, or is taken to have commenced, in accordance with  
10 column 2 of the table. Any other statement in column 2 has effect  
11 according to its terms.  
12

<b>Commencement information</b>		
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>
<b>Provision(s)</b>	<b>Commencement</b>	<b>Date/Details</b>
1. Sections 1 to 3 and anything in this Act not elsewhere covered by this table	The day this Act receives the Royal Assent.	
2. Schedule 1, Part 1	The later of: (a) the day after this Act receives the Royal Assent; and (b) 1 July 2011.	
3. Schedule 1, Part 2	The later of: (a) immediately after the commencement of the provision(s) covered by table item 2; and (b) immediately after the commencement of Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the <i>Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (National Broadband Network Measures—Access Arrangements) Act 2011</i> .  However, the provision(s) do not commence at all if the event mentioned in paragraph (b) does not occur.	

1 Note: This table relates only to the provisions of this Act as originally  
2 enacted. It will not be amended to deal with any later amendments of  
3 this Act.

4 (2) Any information in column 3 of the table is not part of this Act.  
5 Information may be inserted in this column, or information in it  
6 may be edited, in any published version of this Act.

### 7 **3 Schedule(s)**

8 Each Act that is specified in a Schedule to this Act is amended or  
9 repealed as set out in the applicable items in the Schedule  
10 concerned, and any other item in a Schedule to this Act has effect  
11 according to its terms.  
12

1 **Schedule 1—Amendments**

2 **Part 1—General amendments**

3 *Telecommunications Act 1997*

4 **1 Section 7**

5 Insert:

6 *building lot* has the meaning given by section 372Q.

7 **2 Section 7**

8 Insert:

9 *building unit* has the meaning given by section 372S.

10 **3 Section 7**

11 Insert:

12 *fibre-ready facility* has the meaning given by section 372W.

13 **4 Section 7**

14 Insert:

15 *fixed-line facility* has the meaning given by section 372V.

16 **5 Section 7**

17 Insert:

18 *project area* for a real estate development project has the meaning  
19 given by section 372Q.

20 **6 Section 7**

21 Insert:

22 *real estate development project* has the meaning given by  
23 section 372Q.

24 **7 Section 7**

25 Insert:

- 1                    *sell*:  
2                    (a) when used in relation to a building lot—has the meaning  
3                    given by section 372T; or  
4                    (b) when used in relation to a building unit—has the meaning  
5                    given by section 372U.

6                    **8 Section 7**

7                    Insert:

8                    *subdivision* of an area of land has a meaning affected by  
9                    section 372R.

10                  **9 Subsections 22(1) and (4)**

11                  Omit “and 30”, substitute “, 30, 372B, 372C and 372V”.

12                  **10 After Part 20**

13                  Insert:

14                  **Part 20A—Deployment of optical fibre etc.**

15                  **Division 1—Simplified outline**

16                  **372A Simplified outline**

17                  The following is a simplified outline of this Part:

- 18                  • If a real estate development project is specified in a legislative  
19                  instrument made by the Minister, a person must not install a  
20                  line in the project area unless the line is an optical fibre line.
- 21                  • A person must not install a fixed-line facility in the project  
22                  area for a real estate development project unless the facility is  
23                  a fibre-ready facility.
- 24                  • The rule about the installation of a fixed-line facility does not  
25                  apply if NBN Co has issued a statement to the effect that  
26                  neither it nor any other NBN corporation has installed, is  
27                  installing, or proposes to install, optical fibre lines in the  
28                  project area.



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- If the developer of a real estate development project is a constitutional corporation, the developer must not, in the course of carrying out the project, sell or lease a building lot or building unit unless a fibre-ready facility is installed in proximity to the lot or unit.
- The rule about selling or leasing a building lot or building unit does not apply if NBN Co has issued a statement to the effect that neither it nor any other NBN corporation has installed, is installing, or proposes to install, optical fibre lines in the project area.
- These rules are subject to any exemptions specified in a legislative instrument made by the Minister.
- A third party access regime applies to fixed-line facilities owned or operated by a person other than a carrier.

## **Division 2—Deployment of optical fibre lines**

### **372B Deployment of optical fibre lines to building lots**

#### *Scope*

- (1) This section applies to the installation of a line in the project area, or any of the project areas, for a real estate development project if:
  - (a) the project involves the subdivision of one or more areas of land into building lots; and
  - (b) the project is specified in, or ascertained in accordance with, a legislative instrument made by the Minister; and
  - (c) the line is wholly or primarily used, or wholly or primarily for use, to supply one or more carriage services to either or both of the following:
    - (i) one or more end-users in one or more building units;
    - (ii) one or more prospective end-users in one or more building units; and
  - (d) those building units have been, are being, are to be, or may be, constructed on any of those building lots; and
  - (e) the line is not on the customer side of the boundary of a telecommunications network; and

**Schedule 1** Amendments  
**Part 1** General amendments

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- 1 (f) the line is used, or for use, to supply a carriage service to the  
2 public; and  
3 (g) the installation occurs after the commencement of this  
4 section.

- 5 Note 1: For *real estate development project*, see section 372Q.  
6 Note 2: For *subdivision* of an area of land, see section 372R.  
7 Note 3: For *building lot*, see section 372Q.  
8 Note 4: For specification by class, see subsection 13(3) of the *Legislative*  
9 *Instruments Act 2003*.  
10 Note 5: For *building unit*, see section 372S.  
11 Note 6: For *boundary of a telecommunications network*, see section 22.  
12 Note 7: For *supply to the public*, see section 372ZA.  
13 Note 8: For exemption of certain projects, see section 372P.

14 *Requirement*

- 15 (2) A person must not install a line in the project area, or any of the  
16 project areas, for a real estate development project, unless:  
17 (a) the line is an optical fibre line; and  
18 (b) the conditions (if any) specified in an instrument under  
19 subsection (4) are satisfied.  
20 Note: For exemptions, see section 372D.

21 *Ancillary provisions*

- 22 (3) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(c), it is immaterial whether the  
23 end-users or prospective end-users are capable of being identified.

24 *Conditions*

- 25 (4) The Minister may, by legislative instrument, specify conditions for  
26 the purposes of paragraph (2)(b).

27 *Functions and powers*

- 28 (5) An instrument under paragraph (1)(b) may confer functions or  
29 powers on the ACMA.

30 *Ancillary contraventions*

- 31 (6) A person must not:
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- 1 (a) aid, abet, counsel or procure a contravention of  
2 subsection (2); or  
3 (b) induce, whether by threats or promises or otherwise, a  
4 contravention of subsection (2); or  
5 (c) be in any way, directly or indirectly, knowingly concerned in,  
6 or party to, a contravention of subsection (2); or  
7 (d) conspire with others to effect a contravention of  
8 subsection (2).

9 *Civil penalty provisions*

- 10 (7) Subsections (2) and (6) are *civil penalty provisions*.

11 Note: Part 31 provides for pecuniary penalties for breaches of civil penalty  
12 provisions.

13 **372C Deployment of optical fibre lines to building units**

14 *Scope*

- 15 (1) This section applies to the installation of a line in the project area,  
16 or any of the project areas, for a real estate development project if:  
17 (a) the project involves the construction of one or more building  
18 units on one or more areas of land; and  
19 (b) the project is specified in, or ascertained in accordance with,  
20 a legislative instrument made by the Minister; and  
21 (c) the line is wholly or primarily used, or wholly or primarily  
22 for use, to supply one or more carriage services to either or  
23 both of the following:  
24 (i) one or more end-users in those building units;  
25 (ii) one or more prospective end-users in those building  
26 units; and  
27 (d) the line is not on the customer side of the boundary of a  
28 telecommunications network; and  
29 (e) the line is used, or for use, to supply a carriage service to the  
30 public; and  
31 (f) the installation occurs after the commencement of this  
32 section.

33 Note 1: For *real estate development project*, see section 372Q.

34 Note 2: For *building unit*, see section 372S.

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**Part 1 General amendments**

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1 Note 3: For specification by class, see subsection 13(3) of the *Legislative*  
2 *Instruments Act 2003*.

3 Note 4: For *boundary of a telecommunications network*, see section 22.

4 Note 5: For *supply to the public*, see section 372ZA.

5 Note 6: For exemption of certain projects, see section 372P.

6 *Requirement*

7 (2) A person must not install a line in the project area, or any of the  
8 project areas, for a real estate development project, unless:

9 (a) the line is an optical fibre line; and

10 (b) the conditions (if any) specified in an instrument under  
11 subsection (4) are satisfied.

12 Note: For exemptions, see section 372D.

13 *Ancillary provisions*

14 (3) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(c), it is immaterial whether the  
15 end-users or prospective end-users are capable of being identified.

16 *Conditions*

17 (4) The Minister may, by legislative instrument, specify conditions for  
18 the purposes of paragraph (2)(b).

19 *Functions and powers*

20 (5) An instrument under paragraph (1)(b) may confer functions or  
21 powers on the ACMA.

22 *Ancillary contraventions*

23 (6) A person must not:

24 (a) aid, abet, counsel or procure a contravention of  
25 subsection (2); or

26 (b) induce, whether by threats or promises or otherwise, a  
27 contravention of subsection (2); or

28 (c) be in any way, directly or indirectly, knowingly concerned in,  
29 or party to, a contravention of subsection (2); or

30 (d) conspire with others to effect a contravention of  
31 subsection (2).

1 *Civil penalty provisions*

2 (7) Subsections (2) and (6) are *civil penalty provisions*.

3 Note: Part 31 provides for pecuniary penalties for breaches of civil penalty  
4 provisions.

5 **372D Exemptions—Ministerial instrument**

6 (1) The Minister may, by legislative instrument, exempt:

7 (a) conduct specified in the instrument; or

8 (b) conduct ascertained in accordance with the instrument;

9 from the scope of either or both of the following provisions:

10 (c) subsection 372B(2);

11 (d) subsection 372C(2).

12 (2) An exemption under subsection (1) may be unconditional or  
13 subject to such conditions (if any) as are specified in the  
14 exemption.

15 (3) An instrument under subsection (1) may confer functions or  
16 powers on the ACMA.

17 **Division 3—Installation of fibre-ready facilities**

18 **Subdivision A—Installation obligations**

19 **372E Installation of fibre-ready facilities—building lots**

20 *Scope*

21 (1) This section applies to the installation of a fixed-line facility in the  
22 project area, or any of the project areas, for a real estate  
23 development project if:

24 (a) the project involves the subdivision of one or more areas of  
25 land into building lots; and

26 (b) the installation occurs after the commencement of this  
27 section; and

28 (c) sewerage services, electricity or water is, are, or will be,  
29 supplied to those lots.

30 Note 1: For *fixed-line facility*, see section 372V.

31 Note 2: For *real estate development project*, see section 372Q.

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**Schedule 1 Amendments**  
**Part 1 General amendments**

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- 1 Note 3: For *subdivision* of an area of land, see section 372R.  
2 Note 4: For *building lot*, see section 372Q.  
3 Note 5: For *supply* of sewerage services, electricity or water, see section 372Z.  
4 Note 6: For exemptions, see section 372K.  
5 Note 7: For exemption of certain projects, see section 372P.

6 *Requirement*

- 7 (2) A person must not install a fixed-line facility in the project area, or  
8 any of the project areas, for a real estate development project,  
9 unless:  
10 (a) the facility is a fibre-ready facility; and  
11 (b) the conditions (if any) specified in an instrument under  
12 subsection (4) are satisfied.

13 Note 1: For *fibre-ready facility*, see section 372W.

14 Note 2: For exemptions, see section 372K.

- 15 (3) Subsection (2) does not apply if NBN Co has issued a statement  
16 under section 372J to the effect that neither it nor any other NBN  
17 corporation has installed, is installing, or proposes to install, optical  
18 fibre lines in the project area, or any of the project areas, for the  
19 project.

- 20 (4) The Minister may, by legislative instrument, specify conditions for  
21 the purposes of paragraph (2)(b).

22 *Ancillary contraventions*

- 23 (5) A person must not:  
24 (a) aid, abet, counsel or procure a contravention of  
25 subsection (2); or  
26 (b) induce, whether by threats or promises or otherwise, a  
27 contravention of subsection (2); or  
28 (c) be in any way, directly or indirectly, knowingly concerned in,  
29 or party to, a contravention of subsection (2); or  
30 (d) conspire with others to effect a contravention of  
31 subsection (2).

32 *Civil penalty provisions*

- 33 (6) Subsections (2) and (5) are *civil penalty provisions*.
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1 Note: Part 31 provides for pecuniary penalties for breaches of civil penalty  
2 provisions.

3 **372F Installation of fibre-ready facilities—building units**

4 *Scope*

5 (1) This section applies to the installation of a fixed-line facility in the  
6 project area, or any of the project areas, for a real estate  
7 development project if:

8 (a) the project involves the construction of one or more building  
9 units on one or more areas of land; and

10 (b) the installation occurs after the commencement of this  
11 section; and

12 (c) sewerage services, electricity or water is, are, or will be,  
13 supplied to those units.

14 Note 1: For *fixed-line facility*, see section 372V.

15 Note 2: For *real estate development project*, see section 372Q.

16 Note 3: For *building unit*, see section 372S.

17 Note 4: For *supply* of sewerage services, electricity or water, see section 372Z.

18 Note 5: For exemptions, see section 372K.

19 Note 6: For exemption of certain projects, see section 372P.

20 *Requirement*

21 (2) A person must not install a fixed-line facility in the project area, or  
22 any of the project areas, for a real estate development project,  
23 unless:

24 (a) the facility is a fibre-ready facility; and

25 (b) the conditions (if any) specified in an instrument under  
26 subsection (4) are satisfied.

27 Note 1: For *fibre-ready facility*, see section 372W.

28 Note 2: For exemptions, see section 372K.

29 (3) Subsection (2) does not apply if NBN Co has issued a statement  
30 under section 372J to the effect that neither it nor any other NBN  
31 corporation has installed, is installing, or proposes to install, optical  
32 fibre lines in the project area, or any of the project areas, for the  
33 project.

1 (4) The Minister may, by legislative instrument, specify conditions for  
2 the purposes of paragraph (2)(b).

3 *Ancillary contraventions*

- 4 (5) A person must not:
- 5 (a) aid, abet, counsel or procure a contravention of
  - 6 subsection (2); or
  - 7 (b) induce, whether by threats or promises or otherwise, a
  - 8 contravention of subsection (2); or
  - 9 (c) be in any way, directly or indirectly, knowingly concerned in,
  - 10 or party to, a contravention of subsection (2); or
  - 11 (d) conspire with others to effect a contravention of
  - 12 subsection (2).

13 *Civil penalty provisions*

14 (6) Subsections (2) and (5) are *civil penalty provisions*.

15 Note: Part 31 provides for pecuniary penalties for breaches of civil penalty  
16 provisions.

17 **Subdivision B—Sale of building lots and building units**

18 **372G Sale of building lots and building units—subdivisions**

19 *Scope*

- 20 (1) This section applies if:
- 21 (a) a real estate development project involves the subdivision of
  - 22 one or more areas of land into building lots; and
  - 23 (b) the project involves either or both of the following:
    - 24 (i) the making available of one or more of those lots for
    - 25 sale or lease, where it would be reasonable to expect
    - 26 that one or more building units would be subsequently
    - 27 constructed on the lots;
    - 28 (ii) the construction of one or more building units on any of
    - 29 the lots and the making available of any of those
    - 30 building units for sale or lease; and
  - 31 (c) if subparagraph (b)(i) applies—sewerage services, electricity
  - 32 or water is, are, or will be, supplied to those lots; and



1 (d) is subparagraph (b)(ii) applies—sewerage services, electricity  
2 or water is, are, or will be, supplied to those units.

3 Note 1: For *subdivision* of an area of land, see section 372R.

4 Note 2: For *building lot*, see section 372Q.

5 Note 3: For *building unit*, see section 372S.

6 Note 4: For *sale* of building lots, see section 372T.

7 Note 5: For *sale* of building units, see section 372U.

8 Note 6: For *supply* of sewerage services, electricity or water, see section 372Z.

9 Note 7: For exemptions, see section 372K.

10 Note 8: For exemption of certain projects, see section 372P.

11 *Requirements—building lots*

12 (2) If subparagraph (1)(b)(i) applies to a building lot, a constitutional  
13 corporation must not, in the course of carrying out, or carrying out  
14 an element of, the project, sell or lease the lot unless a fibre-ready  
15 facility is installed in proximity to the lot.

16 Note 1: For *fibre-ready facility*, see section 372W.

17 Note 2: For *proximity*, see section 372Y.

18 Note 3: For exemptions, see section 372K.

19 (3) Subsection (2) does not apply if NBN Co has issued a statement  
20 under section 372J to the effect that neither it nor any other NBN  
21 corporation has installed, is installing, or proposes to install, optical  
22 fibre lines in the project area, or any of the project areas, for the  
23 project.

24 *Requirements—building units*

25 (4) If subparagraph (1)(b)(ii) applies to a building unit, a constitutional  
26 corporation must not, in the course of carrying out, or carrying out  
27 an element of, the project, sell or lease the unit unless a fibre-ready  
28 facility is installed in proximity to the unit.

29 Note 1: For *fibre-ready facility*, see section 372W.

30 Note 2: For *proximity*, see section 372Y.

31 Note 3: For exemptions, see section 372K.

32 (5) Subsection (4) does not apply if NBN Co has issued a statement  
33 under section 372J to the effect that neither it nor any other NBN

1 corporation has installed, is installing, or proposes to install, optical  
2 fibre lines in the project area, or any of the project areas, for the  
3 project.

4 *Ancillary contraventions*

- 5 (6) A person must not:
- 6 (a) aid, abet, counsel or procure a contravention of subsection (2)  
7 or (4); or
  - 8 (b) induce, whether by threats or promises or otherwise, a  
9 contravention of subsection (2) or (4); or
  - 10 (c) be in any way, directly or indirectly, knowingly concerned in,  
11 or party to, a contravention of subsection (2) or (4); or
  - 12 (d) conspire with others to effect a contravention of  
13 subsection (2) or (4).

14 *Civil penalty provisions*

- 15 (7) Subsections (2), (4) and (6) are *civil penalty provisions*.

16 Note: Part 31 provides for pecuniary penalties for breaches of civil penalty  
17 provisions.

18 *Validity of transactions*

- 19 (8) A contravention of subsection (2) or (4) does not affect the validity  
20 of any transaction.

21 **372H Sale of building units—other projects**

22 *Scope*

- 23 (1) This section applies if:
- 24 (a) a real estate development project involves:
    - 25 (i) the construction of one or more building units on one or  
26 more areas of land; and
    - 27 (ii) the making available of any or all of those building units  
28 for sale or lease; and
  - 29 (b) sewerage services, electricity or water is, are, or will be,  
30 supplied to those units.

31 Note 1: For *building unit*, see section 372S.

32 Note 2: For *sale* of building units, see section 372U.

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1 Note 3: For *supply* of sewerage services, electricity or water, see section 372Z.

2 Note 4: For exemptions, see section 372K.

3 Note 5: For exemption of certain projects, see section 372P.

4 *Requirements*

5 (2) A constitutional corporation must not, in the course of carrying out,  
6 or carrying out an element of, the project, sell or lease such a  
7 building unit unless a fibre-ready facility is installed in proximity  
8 to the unit.

9 Note 1: For *fibre-ready facility*, see section 372W.

10 Note 2: For *proximity*, see section 372Y.

11 Note 3: For exemptions, see section 372K.

12 (3) Subsection (2) does not apply if NBN Co has issued a statement  
13 under section 372J to the effect that neither it nor any other NBN  
14 corporation has installed, is installing, or proposes to install, optical  
15 fibre lines in the project area, or any of the project areas, for the  
16 project.

17 *Ancillary contraventions*

18 (4) A person must not:

19 (a) aid, abet, counsel or procure a contravention of  
20 subsection (2); or

21 (b) induce, whether by threats or promises or otherwise, a  
22 contravention of subsection (2); or

23 (c) be in any way, directly or indirectly, knowingly concerned in,  
24 or party to, a contravention of subsection (2); or

25 (d) conspire with others to effect a contravention of  
26 subsection (2).

27 *Civil penalty provisions*

28 (5) Subsections (2) and (4) are *civil penalty provisions*.

29 Note: Part 31 provides for pecuniary penalties for breaches of civil penalty  
30 provisions.

1                    *Validity of transactions*

2                    (6) A contravention of subsection (2) does not affect the validity of  
3                    any transaction.  
4

5                    **Subdivision C—NBN Co may issue statement about the**  
6                    **non-installation of optical fibre lines**

7                    **372J NBN Co may issue statement about the non-installation of**  
8                    **optical fibre lines**

9                    (1) NBN Co may issue a written statement to the effect that neither it  
10                    nor any other NBN corporation has installed, is installing, or  
11                    proposes to install, optical fibre lines in the project area, or any of  
12                    the project areas, for a specified real estate development project.

13                    (2) NBN Co may exercise the power conferred by subsection (1):  
14                    (a) at the request of a person; or  
15                    (b) on NBN Co's own initiative.

16                    (3) A statement issued under subsection (1) is not a legislative  
17                    instrument.

18                    **372JA Register of Statements about the Non-installation of Optical**  
19                    **Fibre Lines**

20                    (1) NBN Co must keep a register, to be known as the Register of  
21                    Statements about the Non-installation of Optical Fibre Lines, that  
22                    sets out each statement issued under subsection 372J(1).

23                    (2) The register is to be maintained by electronic means.

24                    (3) The register is to be made available for inspection on NBN Co's  
25                    website.

1 **Subdivision D—Exemptions**

2 **372K Exemptions—Ministerial instrument**

3 *Real estate development projects*

- 4 (1) The Minister may, by legislative instrument, exempt:  
5 (a) a real estate development project specified in the instrument;  
6 or  
7 (b) a real estate development project ascertained in accordance  
8 with the instrument;  
9 from the scope of any or all of the following provisions:  
10 (c) section 372E;  
11 (d) section 372F;  
12 (e) section 372G;  
13 (f) section 372H.

14 Note: For specification by class, see subsection 13(3) of the *Legislative*  
15 *Instruments Act 2003*.

- 16 (2) An exemption under subsection (1) may be unconditional or  
17 subject to such conditions (if any) as are specified in the  
18 exemption.

19 *Installations*

- 20 (3) The Minister may, by legislative instrument, exempt:  
21 (a) conduct specified in the instrument; or  
22 (b) conduct ascertained in accordance with the instrument;  
23 from the scope of either or both of the following provisions:  
24 (c) subsection 372E(2);  
25 (d) subsection 372F(2).

26 Note: For specification by class, see subsection 13(3) of the *Legislative*  
27 *Instruments Act 2003*.

- 28 (4) An exemption under subsection (3) may be unconditional or  
29 subject to such conditions (if any) as are specified in the  
30 exemption.

31 *Building lots*

- 32 (5) The Minister may, by legislative instrument, exempt:
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- 1 (a) a building lot specified in the instrument; or  
2 (b) a building lot ascertained in accordance with the instrument;  
3 from the scope of subsection 372G(2).

4 Note: For specification by class, see subsection 13(3) of the *Legislative*  
5 *Instruments Act 2003*.

- 6 (6) An exemption under subsection (5) may be unconditional or  
7 subject to such conditions (if any) as are specified in the  
8 exemption.

9 *Building units*

- 10 (7) The Minister may, by legislative instrument, exempt:  
11 (a) a building unit specified in the instrument; or  
12 (b) a building unit ascertained in accordance with the instrument;  
13 from the scope of either or both of the following provisions:  
14 (c) subsection 372G(4);  
15 (d) subsection 372H(2).

16 Note: For specification by class, see subsection 13(3) of the *Legislative*  
17 *Instruments Act 2003*.

- 18 (8) An exemption under subsection (7) may be unconditional or  
19 subject to such conditions (if any) as are specified in the  
20 exemption.

21 *Functions and powers*

- 22 (9) An instrument under subsection (1), (3), (5) or (7) may confer  
23 functions or powers on the ACMA.

24 **Division 4—Third party access regime**

25 **372L Third party access regime**

26 *Scope*

- 27 (1) This section applies to a fixed-line facility installed in Australia if:  
28 (a) the installation occurs after the commencement of this  
29 section; and  
30 (b) the facility is owned or operated by a person other than a  
31 carrier.

1 Note 1: For *fixed-line facility*, see section 372V.

2 Note 2: For exemptions, see section 372N.

3 *Access to facility*

4 (2) The owner or operator of the facility must, if requested to do so by  
5 a carrier, give the carrier access to the facility.

6 (3) The owner or operator of the facility is not required to comply with  
7 subsection (2) unless:

8 (a) the access is provided for the sole purpose of enabling the  
9 carrier:

10 (i) to provide facilities and carriage services; or

11 (ii) to establish its own facilities; and

12 (b) the carrier gives the owner or operator of the facility  
13 reasonable notice that the carrier requires the access.

14 (4) The owner or operator of the facility is not required to comply with  
15 subsection (2) in relation to the facility if there is in force a written  
16 certificate issued by the ACCC stating that, in the ACCC's  
17 opinion, compliance with subsection (2) in relation to the facility is  
18 not technically feasible.

19 (5) In determining whether compliance with subsection (2) in relation  
20 to a facility is technically feasible, the ACCC must have regard to:

21 (a) whether compliance is likely to result in significant  
22 difficulties of a technical or engineering nature; and

23 (b) whether compliance is likely to result in a significant threat  
24 to the health or safety of persons who operate, or work on,  
25 the facility; and

26 (c) if compliance is likely to have a result referred to in  
27 paragraph (a) or (b)—whether there are practicable means of  
28 avoiding such a result, including (but not limited to):

29 (i) changing the configuration or operating parameters of  
30 the facility; and

31 (ii) making alterations to the facility; and

32 (d) such other matters (if any) as the ACCC considers relevant.

33 (6) Before issuing a certificate under subsection (4), the ACCC may  
34 consult the ACMA.

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1 (7) If the ACCC receives a request to make a decision about the issue  
2 of a certificate under subsection (4), the ACCC must use its best  
3 endeavours to make that decision within 10 business days after the  
4 request was made.

5 (8) Subsection (2) does not impose an obligation to the extent (if any)  
6 to which the imposition of the obligation would have the effect of  
7 depriving any person of a right under a contract that was in force at  
8 the time the request was made.

9 *Ancillary contraventions*

- 10 (9) A person must not:
- 11 (a) aid, abet, counsel or procure a contravention of
  - 12 subsection (2); or
  - 13 (b) induce, whether by threats or promises or otherwise, a
  - 14 contravention of subsection (2); or
  - 15 (c) be in any way, directly or indirectly, knowingly concerned in,
  - 16 or party to, a contravention of subsection (2); or
  - 17 (d) conspire with others to effect a contravention of
  - 18 subsection (2).

19 *Civil penalty provisions*

20 (10) Subsections (2) and (9) are *civil penalty provisions*.

21 Note: Part 31 provides for pecuniary penalties for breaches of civil penalty  
22 provisions.

23 **372M Terms and conditions of access**

- 24 (1) The owner or operator of a fixed-line facility must comply with  
25 subsection 372L(2) on such terms and conditions as are:
- 26 (a) agreed between the following parties:
    - 27 (i) the owner or operator of the facility;
    - 28 (ii) the carrier who made the request under that subsection;
    - 29 or
    - 30 (b) failing agreement, determined by an arbitrator appointed by
    - 31 the parties.

32 If the parties fail to agree on the appointment of an arbitrator, the  
33 ACCC is to be the arbitrator.



- 1 (2) The regulations may make provision for and in relation to the  
2 conduct of an arbitration under this section.
- 3 (3) The regulations may provide that, for the purposes of a particular  
4 arbitration conducted by the ACCC under this section, the ACCC  
5 may be constituted by a single member, or a specified number of  
6 members, of the ACCC. For each such arbitration, that member or  
7 those members are to be nominated in writing by the Chairperson  
8 of the ACCC.
- 9 (4) Subsection (3) does not, by implication, limit subsection (2).
- 10 (5) If:
- 11 (a) an agreement mentioned in paragraph (1)(a) is in force; and  
12 (b) the agreement is in writing;  
13 a determination under this section has no effect to the extent to  
14 which it is inconsistent with the agreement.

### 15 **372N Exemptions—Ministerial instrument**

- 16 (1) The Minister may, by legislative instrument, exempt:
- 17 (a) a fixed-line facility specified in the instrument; or  
18 (b) a fixed-line facility ascertained in accordance with the  
19 instrument;  
20 from the scope of section 372L.
- 21 Note: For specification by class, see subsection 13(3) of the *Legislative*  
22 *Instruments Act 2003*.
- 23 (2) An exemption under subsection (1) may be unconditional or  
24 subject to such conditions (if any) as are specified in the  
25 exemption.
- 26 (3) An instrument under subsection (1) may confer functions or  
27 powers on the ACCC.
- 28 (4) The ACCC may, by writing, delegate any or all of the functions or  
29 powers conferred on it by an instrument under subsection (1) to a  
30 member of the Commission (within the meaning of the  
31 *Competition and Consumer Act 2010*).

1     **372NA Code relating to access**

- 2             (1) The ACCC may, by legislative instrument, make a Code setting out  
3             conditions that are to be complied with in relation to the provision  
4             of access under this Division.
- 5             (2) The owner or operator of a fixed-line facility must comply with the  
6             Code.
- 7             (3) This section does not, by implication, limit a power conferred by or  
8             under this Act to make an instrument.
- 9             (4) This section does not, by implication, limit the matters that may be  
10            dealt with by codes or standards referred to in Part 6.
- 11            (5) Subsections (3) and (4) do not, by implication, limit subsection  
12            33(3B) of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

13                     *Ancillary contraventions*

- 14            (6) A person must not:
- 15                (a) aid, abet, counsel or procure a contravention of  
16                subsection (2); or
- 17                (b) induce, whether by threats or promises or otherwise, a  
18                contravention of subsection (2); or
- 19                (c) be in any way, directly or indirectly, knowingly concerned in,  
20                or party to, a contravention of subsection (2); or
- 21                (d) conspire with others to effect a contravention of  
22                subsection (2).

23                     *Civil penalty provisions*

- 24            (7) Subsections (2) and (6) are *civil penalty provisions*.

25            Note:     Part 31 provides for pecuniary penalties for breaches of civil penalty  
26            provisions.

27     **Division 5—Exemption of certain projects**

28     **372P Exemption of certain projects**

- 29             (1) A real estate development project is exempt from the scope of  
30             Division 2 if, before the commencement of this section, a person  
31             who carries out, or carries out an element of, the project:
-

- 1 (a) began to install lines in the project area, or any of the project  
2 areas, for the project; or  
3 (b) entered into a contract with another person for the installation  
4 of lines in the project area, or any of the project areas, for the  
5 project.
- 6 (2) A real estate development project is exempt from the scope of  
7 Division 3 if, before the commencement of this section, a person  
8 who carries out, or carries out an element of, the project:  
9 (a) began to install fixed-line facilities in the project area, or any  
10 of the project areas, for the project; or  
11 (b) entered into a contract with another person for the installation  
12 of fixed-line facilities in the project area, or any of the project  
13 areas, for the project.
- 14 (3) A real estate development project is exempt from the scope of  
15 Division 3 if, before the commencement of this section:  
16 (a) civil works associated with the project began to be carried  
17 out; or  
18 (b) a person who carries out, or carries out an element of, the  
19 project entered into a contract with another person for the  
20 carrying out of civil works associated with the project.

## 21 **Division 6—Miscellaneous**

### 22 **372Q Real estate development projects etc.**

#### 23 *Subdivisions*

- 24 (1) For the purposes of this Act, a project is a *real estate development*  
25 *project* if:  
26 (a) the project involves the subdivision of one or more areas of  
27 land in Australia into lots (however described); and  
28 (b) the project involves either or both of the following:  
29 (i) the making available of one or more of those lots for  
30 sale or lease, where it would be reasonable to expect  
31 that one or more building units would be subsequently  
32 constructed on the lots;  
33 (ii) the construction of one or more building units on any of  
34 the lots and the making available of any of those  
35 building units for sale or lease; and

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- 1 (c) the conditions (if any) specified in an instrument under  
2 subsection (4) are satisfied.
- 3 Note 1: For *subdivision* of an area of land, see section 372R.  
4 Note 2: For *sale* of building lots, see section 372T.  
5 Note 3: For *building unit*, see section 372S.  
6 Note 4: For *sale* of building units, see section 372U.
- 7 (2) For the purposes of this Act, an area of land mentioned in  
8 subsection (1) is a *project area* for the real estate development  
9 project.
- 10 (3) For the purposes of this Act, a lot mentioned in subsection (1) is a  
11 *building lot*.
- 12 (4) The Minister may, by legislative instrument, specify conditions for  
13 the purposes of paragraph (1)(c).
- 14 *Building units*
- 15 (5) For the purposes of this Act, a project is a *real estate development*  
16 *project* if:  
17 (a) the project involves:  
18 (i) the construction of one or more building units on one or  
19 more areas of land in Australia; and  
20 (ii) the making available of any or all of those building units  
21 for sale or lease; and  
22 (b) the conditions (if any) specified in an instrument under  
23 subsection (7) are satisfied.
- 24 Note 1: For *building unit*, see section 372S.  
25 Note 2: For *sale* of building units, see section 372U.
- 26 (6) For the purposes of this Act, an area of land mentioned in  
27 subsection (5) is a *project area* for the real estate development  
28 project.
- 29 (7) The Minister may, by legislative instrument, specify conditions for  
30 the purposes of paragraph (5)(b).

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*Application*

- (8) For the purposes of subsections (1) and (5), it is immaterial whether:
- (a) the project has been, is being, or will be, implemented in stages; or
  - (b) different elements of the project have been, are being, or will be, carried out by different persons; or
  - (c) one or more approvals are given, are required, or will be required, under a law of the Commonwealth, a State or Territory, for the project, or any element of the project; or
  - (d) in a case where the project relates to 2 or more areas of land—those areas of land are under common ownership.

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**372R Subdivision of an area of land**

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For the purposes of this Act, if an area of land has been subdivided into lots (however described) it is immaterial whether, after the subdivision, a part of the area of land (for example, a road) is not included in any of those lots.

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**372S Building units**

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*Scope*

- (1) This section applies to a building that has been, is being, or is to be, constructed.

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*Building units*

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- (2) For the purposes of this Act, if the whole of the building is, or is to be, for single occupation or use, the building is a **building unit**.
- (3) For the purposes of this Act, if the whole or a part of the building is, or is to be, held as a unit under a strata title system (or a similar system) established under a law of a State or Territory, the whole or the part, as the case may be, of the building is a **building unit**.
- (4) For the purposes of this Act, if a part of the building is, or is to be, for separate lease, that part of the building is a **building unit**.

1     **372T Sale of building lots**

- 2             For the purposes of this Act, a person *sells* a building lot if:
- 3             (a) in a case where the person holds a freehold interest in the
- 4                 land concerned—the person transfers the whole or a part of
- 5                 the freehold interest in the land; or
- 6             (b) in a case where the person holds a leasehold interest in the
- 7                 land concerned—the person transfers the whole or a part of
- 8                 the leasehold interest in the land.

9     **372U Sale of building units**

- 10            For the purposes of this Act, a person *sells* a building unit if:
- 11            (a) in a case where:
- 12               (i) the building unit is covered by subsection 372S(2), but
- 13                is not covered by subsection 372S(3); and
- 14               (ii) the person holds a freehold interest in the land on which
- 15                the building unit is situated;
- 16            the person transfers the whole or a part of the freehold
- 17            interest; or
- 18            (b) in a case where:
- 19               (i) the building unit is covered by subsection 372S(2), but
- 20                is not covered by subsection 372S(3); and
- 21               (ii) the person holds a leasehold interest in the land on
- 22                which the building unit is situated;
- 23            the person transfers the whole or a part of the leasehold
- 24            interest; or
- 25            (c) in a case where:
- 26               (i) the building unit is covered by subsection 372S(3); and
- 27               (ii) the person holds an interest in the unit;
- 28            the person transfers the whole or a part of the interest in the
- 29            unit.

30     **372V Fixed-line facilities**

- 31            For the purposes of this Act, a *fixed-line facility* is a facility (other
- 32            than a line) used, or for use, in connection with a line, where the
- 33            line:
- 34            (a) is not on the customer side of the boundary of a
- 35                telecommunications network; and

1 (b) is used, or for use, to supply a carriage service to the public.

2 Note 1: For *boundary of a telecommunications network*, see section 22.

3 Note 2: For *supply to the public*, see section 372ZA.

4 **372W Fibre-ready facility**

5 For the purposes of this Act, each of the following is a *fibre-ready*  
6 *facility*:

7 (a) an underground fixed-line facility that:

8 (i) is used, or for use, in connection with an optical fibre  
9 line; and

10 (ii) satisfies such conditions (if any) as are specified in a  
11 legislative instrument made by the Minister;

12 (b) a fixed-line facility that:

13 (i) is used, or for use, in connection with an optical fibre  
14 line; and

15 (ii) is specified in a legislative instrument made by the  
16 Minister; and

17 (iii) satisfies such conditions (if any) as are specified in a  
18 legislative instrument made by the Minister.

19 **372X Installation of a facility**

20 For the purposes of this Part, *install*, in relation to a facility,  
21 includes:

22 (a) construct the facility on, over or under any land; and

23 (b) attach the facility to any building or other structure.

24 **372Y Installation of a fibre-ready facility in proximity to a building**  
25 **lot or building unit**

26 *Building lot*

27 (1) For the purposes of this Part, a fibre-ready facility used, or for use,  
28 in connection with a line is installed in *proximity* to a building lot  
29 if, and only if, it is installed:

30 (a) in, on or under the lot, so as to enable the line to be readily  
31 connected to a building unit that has been, is being, is to be,  
32 or may be, constructed on the lot; or

- 1 (b) in sufficient proximity to the lot as to enable the line to be  
2 readily connected to a building unit that has been, is being, is  
3 to be, or may be, constructed on the lot.

4 *Building unit*

- 5 (2) For the purposes of this Part, a fibre-ready facility used, or for use,  
6 in connection with a line is installed in *proximity* to a building unit  
7 if, and only if, it is installed in sufficient proximity to the building  
8 unit as to enable the line to be readily connected to the building  
9 unit.

10 **372Z Sewerage services, electricity or water supplied to a building**  
11 **lot or building unit**

12 *Sewerage services*

- 13 (1) For the purposes of this Part, sewerage services are *supplied* to a  
14 building lot if, and only if:  
15 (a) a sewerage pipeline is installed:  
16 (i) under the lot; or  
17 (ii) in sufficient proximity to the lot as to enable sewerage  
18 services to be readily connected to a building unit that  
19 has been, is being, is to be, or may be, constructed on  
20 the lot; and  
21 (b) the pipeline is part of a public sewerage system.
- 22 (2) For the purposes of this Part, sewerage services are *supplied* to a  
23 building unit if, and only if:  
24 (a) a sewerage pipeline is installed in sufficient proximity to the  
25 building unit as to enable sewerage services to be readily  
26 connected to the building unit; and  
27 (b) the pipeline is part of a public sewerage system.

28 *Electricity*

- 29 (3) For the purposes of this Part, electricity is *supplied* to a building lot  
30 if, and only if:  
31 (a) an electricity cable is installed:  
32 (i) over or under the lot; or



- 1 (ii) in sufficient proximity to the lot as to enable electricity  
2 to be readily connected to a building unit that has been,  
3 is being, is to be, or may be, constructed on the lot; and  
4 (b) the cable is part of an electricity supply grid.

- 5 (4) For the purposes of this Part, electricity is *supplied* to a building  
6 unit if, and only if:  
7 (a) an electricity cable is installed in sufficient proximity to the  
8 building unit as to enable electricity to be readily connected  
9 to the building unit; and  
10 (b) the cable is part of an electricity supply grid.

11 *Water*

- 12 (5) For the purposes of this Part, water is *supplied* to a building lot if,  
13 and only if:  
14 (a) a water pipeline is installed:  
15 (i) under the lot; or  
16 (ii) in sufficient proximity to the lot as to enable water to be  
17 readily connected to a building unit that has been, is  
18 being, is to be, or may be, constructed on the lot; and  
19 (b) the pipeline is part of a reticulated water supply system.
- 20 (6) For the purposes of this Part, water is *supplied* to a building unit if,  
21 and only if:  
22 (a) a water pipeline is installed in sufficient proximity to the  
23 building unit as to enable water to be readily connected to the  
24 building unit; and  
25 (b) the pipeline is part of a reticulated water supply system.

26 **372ZA Supply to the public**

- 27 (1) For the purposes of this Part, if:  
28 (a) a line consists of, or forms part of, a network unit; and  
29 (b) under section 44, the network unit is taken, for the purposes  
30 of section 42, to be used to supply a carriage service to the  
31 public;  
32 the line is taken to be used, or for use, to supply a carriage service  
33 to the public.
- 34 (2) For the purposes of this Part, if:
-

- 1 (a) a line neither consists of, nor forms part of, a network unit;  
2 and  
3 (b) assuming that the line were a network unit, then, under  
4 section 44, the network unit would be taken, for the purposes  
5 of section 42, to be used to supply a carriage service to the  
6 public;  
7 the line is taken to be used, or for use, to supply a carriage service  
8 to the public.

9 **372ZB Concurrent operation of State and Territory laws**

10 This Part is not intended to exclude or limit the operation of a law  
11 of a State or Territory that is capable of operating concurrently  
12 with this Part.

13 **372ZC Optical fibre line**

14 For the purposes of this Part, an *optical fibre line* is a line that  
15 consists of, or encloses, optical fibre.

16 **372ZD NBN Co**

17 In this Part:

18 *NBN Co* means NBN Co Limited (ACN 136 533 741), as the  
19 company exists from time to time (even if its name is later  
20 changed).

21 **372ZE NBN corporation**

22 In this Part:

23 *NBN corporation* has the same meaning as in section 577BA.

24 **11 After paragraph 376(2)(d)**

25 Insert:

- 26 (da) ensuring, for the purpose of the supply of a carriage service  
27 using:  
28 (i) the national broadband network; or  
29 (ii) any other superfast telecommunications network;

- 1 the interoperability of customer equipment with such a  
2 network; or  
3 (db) ensuring that customer equipment or customer cabling that is,  
4 or is proposed to be, connected to:  
5 (i) the national broadband network; or  
6 (ii) any other superfast telecommunications network;  
7 meets particular performance requirements; or  
8 (dc) ensuring that customer equipment or customer cabling that is,  
9 or is proposed to be, connected to:  
10 (i) the national broadband network; or  
11 (ii) any other superfast telecommunications network;  
12 has particular design features; or

## 13 **12 At the end of section 376**

14 Add:

15 (7) In this section:

16 *national broadband network* has the same meaning as in  
17 section 577BA.

18 *superfast carriage service* means a carriage service, where:

- 19 (a) the carriage service enables end-users to download  
20 communications; and  
21 (b) the download transmission speed of the carriage service is  
22 normally more than 25 megabits per second; and  
23 (c) the carriage service is supplied using a line to premises  
24 occupied or used by an end-user.

25 *superfast telecommunications network* means a  
26 telecommunications network that is capable of being used to  
27 supply a superfast carriage service.

## 28 **13 After section 376**

29 Insert:

### 30 **376A ACMA must make technical standards if directed by the** 31 **Minister**

32 (1) The Minister may, by legislative instrument, direct the ACMA to:

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- 1 (a) make a technical standard under section 376 that deals with  
2 one or more specified matters; and  
3 (b) do so within a specified period.
- 4 (2) The Minister must not give the ACMA a direction under section 14  
5 of the *Australian Communications and Media Authority Act 2005*  
6 requiring the ACMA to make a technical standard under  
7 section 376 of this Act that deals with one or more specified  
8 matters.

9 **14 Subsection 440(1)**

10 After “may”, insert “, by legislative instrument,”.

11 **15 Subsection 440(2)**

12 Repeal the subsection, substitute:

- 13 (2) A direction under subsection (1) may require the ACMA to make  
14 cabling provider rules that deal with one or more specified matters.
- 15 (2A) Subsection (2) does not limit subsection (1).  
16

1 **Part 2—Other amendments**

2 *Telecommunications Act 1997*

3 **16 Sections 372ZC and 372ZE**

4 Repeal the sections.

