



NBN Committee to Scrutinise Telstra Deal

The decision, by majority vote of Telstra shareholders, now allows the deal between Telstra and the NBN Co to be scrutinised in detail by the Joint Committee on the National Broadband Network, before publicly reporting in November, Committee Chair, Rob Oakeshott MP said today.

“The Telstra deal, approved by shareholders yesterday, will now be subject to detailed analysis on behalf of taxpayers, to ensure questions of risk, workforce, scheduling, and any related matters are tested for ‘value-for-money’, Mr Oakeshott said today.

“This deal has been one of the final steps before Australia enters the major construction and expansion stage of the National Broadband Network, so it is important the deal was done on the right terms and conditions for taxpayers. This is where the committee will spend some time over the coming months before reporting publicly, said Mr Oakeshott.

The committee next meets for public hearings in Sydney on Monday and Tuesday 24-25 October, where both these issues and related matters will be explored further by the 58-member bipartisan committee.

PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION

Monday, 24 October 2011, Northcott Room, Sydney Masonic Centre, 66 Goulburn Street, Sydney

10.00 am	NBN Co Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Department of Finance and Deregulation
12.00 noon	Productivity Commission
2.00 pm	Asia Pacific Consulting Group
2.30 pm	Optus
3.45 pm	Internode
4.45 pm	Vodafone Hutchison Australia

Tuesday, 25 October 2011, Northcott Room, Sydney Masonic Centre

8.30 am	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
10.15 am	Australian Communications Consumer Action Network

Audio of the hearing will be available at: <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

For media comment: please contact the Chair's Office on 0429 787 320.

Further information about the inquiry is available: by contacting the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 2322 via email jcnbn@aph.gov.au or by visiting the committee's webpage at: www.aph.gov.au/jcnbn