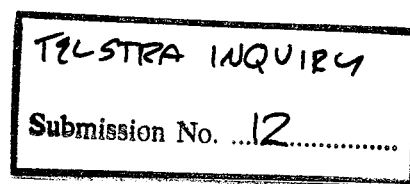


McMahon, Paul (REPS)

From: Geoffrey Taylor [cindynic@starwon.com.au]
Sent: Friday, 27 December 2002 3:00 PM
To: Committee, CITA (REPS)
Subject: Structure of Telstra
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged



The Secretary
House of Representatives
CITA Committee

Dear Secretary

1. Exactly what advantages to the Australian public have accrued since phone services were operated by the PMG?
2. Telstra operates in an environment in which its main competitor belongs to the Singapore government.
3. Do you believe it when you are told that there will be no leak of commercial information since Qantas signed up for communications with the Singapore government owned Optus which also owns Singapore Airlines?
4. Joseph Stiglitz Nobel prizewinner in economics 2001, former US Presidential adviser and Chief Economist for the World Bank makes the point that there is nothing wrong with efficiently run corporatised infrastructure owned by government. It simply runs counter to the Washington Consensus (a consensus of the US Treasury and IMF) which has been found to be wanting.
5. The best thing for Telstra would be a government buy back.
6. At very least the hardware should remain owned and operated in government hands.
6. So called cable rollout resulted in massive duplication in some areas and no services in others including metropolitan areas. Environmental constraints were only factored in after a lot of public pressure. One carrier operating under the direction of the federal government could have done a more equitable job.

Geoff Taylor
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