

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Additional Estimates Hearings May 2014**

**Communications Portfolio**

**NBN Co Limited**

**Question No: 274**

**Program No. NBN Co Limited**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Brownfields premises passed**

**Senator Urquhart asked:**

Mr Adcock said during the hearing that “I have in front of me my figures as at the end of March, and brownfields premises passed was 340,956, and the last I had, which was 26 May, it was 365,370.” He subsequently acknowledged that the public number was 349,555.

- a. Mr Adcock subsequently said that “the company is now declaring premises ready for service, which is when 90 per cent of the FSAM has been filled. There has been a change in reporting to align with the agreements.” What agreements are being referred to here?
- b. On what date was this change implemented?
- c. Mr Adcock subsequently said that “I believe there is an explanatory note on the website.” The definition of premises passed in the 3 November 2013 Weekly Summary is “Premises passed refers to homes and businesses passed by the active network, including premises activated and those which can’t yet access a service (i.e Service Class Zero or SC0). This is identical to the definition in the 25 May Weekly Summary. Can NBN Co advise where the change of metric was advised?
- d. Please set out the total premises passed, in brownfields, under the old metric and the new metric, for every week since the change in metric was implemented; and
- e. How does NBN Co’s conduct in relation to the changes of this metric meets the standards of transparency the Minister has demanded of NBN Co?

**Answer:**

- a. Agreement with Access Seekers to cease partial FSAM releases.
- b. 1 April 2014.
- c. This was an internal metric definitional change as agreed with our Access Seekers. It was a more accurate reflection of those areas where our customers were prepared to market a service.
- d. From 1 April 2014 to end of May 2014, total brownfields premises passed went from 340,884 to 376,346 under the previous metric and to 363,542 under the revised definition.
- e. NBN Co has increased the frequency of providing Network Rollout information by publishing a Weekly Progress Report on its website, since the last Federal election. There is also a heightened level of transparency on rollout progress and financial results through the half year and full year results briefings.