

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings October 2015**

**Communications Portfolio**

**nbn**

**Question No: 104**

**nbn**

**Hansard Ref: Written, 22/10/2015**

**Topic: NBN Co's Rollout Policy – TPG/iinet existing fixed line ownership**

**Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:**

What is NBN Co's policy for rolling out the NBN in areas where TPG/iinet owns existing fixed line networks (e.g. HFC in Geelong, Mildura and Ballarat, VDSL in Canberra)?

- a) Is NBN Co currently negotiating with Iinet/TPG to acquire these networks?
- b) When will NBN start construction in Geelong, and what access technology is planned?
- c) When will NBN start construction in Mildura, and what access technology is planned?
- c) Do areas to get FTTN in Canberra in NBN's 18 month plan overlap Iinet/TPG's existing network? If so, will this network be overbuilt in these cases?

**Answer:**

The Government's policy is that **nbn** should not build another fibre network over the top of any existing adequately served networks in residential areas. The only exception will be if it's too expensive or impractical to go around or past an existing network rather than overbuild.

- (a) **nbn** engages in commercial discussions with a number of infrastructure providers but due to potential market sensitivities and confidentiality restrictions, these matters are confidential between the parties.
- (b) Geelong Fibre Serving Area (FSA) Planned Q3-2016 – (Fibre to the Node) FTTN
- (c) Mildura FSA: Planned H1-2018 - FTTN
- (d) Yes. The **nbn**<sup>TM</sup> network will be deployed in these areas, as they are not defined as being adequately served. The iiNet/TPG networks do not cover all of the Telstra Distribution Areas (DAs) in those localities.