

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings November 2013**

**Communications Portfolio**

**NBN Co Limited**

**Question No: 203**

**Program No. NBN Co**

**Hansard Ref: In writing**

**Topic: NBN Co's acquisition of the TransACT network**

**Senator Lundy asked:**

What will be the impact of NBN Co's acquisition of the TransACT's network on the provision of fibre and other NBN Co's services in the Australian Capital Territory?

- a. Does this acquisition appreciably change NBN Co's rollout intentions in the Australian Capital Territory?
- b. Will the services provided by NBN Co using TransACT infrastructure be analogous to the services provided by the infrastructure constructed by NBN Co?
  - i. Will these services be able to provide up to 100Mbps downstream?
  - ii. Would it be accurate to characterise the services that NBN Co will be capable of providing using TransACT's existing infrastructure as VDSL or VDSL2? What is the most appropriate description of the services NBN Co will be capable of providing with TransACT's acquired infrastructure. Ie. FTTP, FTTN, other?

**Answer:**

- a. No, this once off transaction is specific to NBN Co purchasing TransACT's existing fibre-to-the-premises (FTTP) network assets, which includes both TransACT's completed FTTP network that covers around 8,500 premises/lots across ten residential estates within Canberra, as well as agreement to purchase fibre-to-the-premises and related infrastructure currently planned or under construction covering a further 4,500 premises/lots.

This transaction avoids duplication of network infrastructure and therefore reduces construction costs and community disruption whilst bringing forward the provision of NBN to residents in Canberra. This agreement means that TransACT's FTTP customers will be able to experience the benefits that come from being on the NBN, in particular access to a broader range of retail service providers (RSPs) and access to NBN Co's current and future fibre access service products.

- b. Yes
  - i. Once the TransACT FTTP network is integrated into the NBN, NBN Co will be offering its standard fibre access service products to RSPs on the same terms as it does elsewhere where fibre infrastructure is constructed by NBN Co.
  - ii. This transaction relates to TransACT's FTTP network only and does not include TransACT's other networks such as their FTTN infrastructure. As noted above, NBN Co will be offering its standard fibre access service products.