

2 March 2006



Senator Alan Eggleston
Chair
Senate Environment, Communications, Information
Technology and the Arts Committee
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600



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Dear Senator Eggleston

Information provided by Telstra Corporation Limited to the Senate Environment, Communications, Information Technology and Arts Standing Committee's Estimates hearing on 13 February 2006

As you are aware, Telstra appeared before the Senate Environment, Communications, Information Technology and Arts Standing Committee ("the Committee") on 13 February 2006.

We have now had an opportunity to review the Proof Committee Hansard and the answers provided by Telstra representatives in response to questions by individual Senators.

In relation to the questions asked by Senator Conroy about Telstra's mobile roaming agreements at pages ECITA 38 and 39, Telstra would like to correct and clarify aspects of the evidence given by Mr Jennings who was asked a series of questions around roaming on government funded mobile towers.

Telstra has two CDMA roaming agreements, one with Hutchison Telecommunications (Australia) Limited and one with Globalstar Australia Pty Ltd. Those agreements provide roaming access to the entire Telstra CDMA network, inclusive of any government funded CDMA sites.

In relation to GSM roaming, there are 45 government funded 2G GSM sites in Telstra's network. One customer approached Telstra in relation to the possibility of establishing 2G GSM roaming on Telstra's government funded 2G GSM sites. However, the proposal did not proceed and no agreement was entered into as a result of that approach.

Telstra does, however, have two 2G GSM roaming agreements, one with Hutchison 3G Australia Pty Ltd and one with Vodafone. Those agreements do not provide

roaming access to the entire Telstra 2G GSM network. In the Hutchison 3G Australia Pty Ltd agreement there are limited areas where access is not provided, and that agreement includes access to 42 of the 45 government funded GSM sites. In the Vodafone agreement Vodafone has access to a relatively small section of the Telstra 2G GSM network, and that agreement does not include access to any government funded 2G GSM sites.

It would be appreciated if you could please draw this matter to the attention of the Committee, and in particular Senator Conroy.

Let me also reassure you and the Committee that the evidence provided by Telstra on the day was, to the best of our knowledge, accurate and that we take our responsibilities very seriously when we appear before the Committee.

Should you require further information, please contact me on (02) 6208 0700.

Yours sincerely

David Quilty

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