



Third NBN Rollout Report Presented

The Joint Committee on the National Broadband Network today presented its Third Report on the Six Monthly Review of the Rollout of the National Broadband Network (NBN), which includes an examination of the Government's second performance report NBN Co's performance in managing the NBN rollout.

As part of the Third Review, the committee considered several issues arising from the previous and current six-month NBN rollout period. The matters under review included: the Rollout of wireless and satellite services, performance reporting, regulatory matters, national uniform pricing under the NBN, the e-readiness of small and medium-sized enterprises, the potential of private equity to fund the NBN, and Telstra workforce issues associated with the Retraining Funding Deed under the Telstra Agreement.

Principle findings include:

- The NBN rollout has experienced an 8 month delay due largely to the time taken to complete the Telstra Agreement.
- The next Performance Report should include KPIs listing and detailing established business plan targets and actual results for: homes passed, homes connected and services in operation.
- The NBN Co's half yearly financial result (consolidated loss of \$221 million) reflects the company is in start-up mode.
- Community consultation and education on the timing of receipt, how to connect and the potential benefit of the NBN for regional and remote areas have not been effective. This is also the case for areas not yet included in the NBN three year rollout schedule.
- The policy for extensions to the fibre network has not been effectively communicated to satellite and wireless network areas.
- Government leadership is required to accelerate the education and engagement of SMEs about how to gain a commercial benefit from the NBN.
- The NBN Co website does not include consolidated information at one access point for the date of commencement of work in service areas, progress of this work, exact date of completion and connection instruction and the retail service providers in these areas.
- The terms of the Consumer Service Guarantee should be preserved in the Wholesale Broadband Agreement.
- The NBN Co should investigate its options for considering equity and debt financing early in the NBN build.
- There should be disclosure of the annual progress of training arrangements executed under the Telstra Retraining Funding Deed.
- Major areas of emerging training need and workforce demand relating to NBN rollout should be publicly communicated.

Copies of the report are available at:

www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jcnbn/report3.htm

For media comment: contact the Chair's Office on 0429 787 320.

Further information is available: by contacting the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 2322 via email jcnbn@aph.gov.au or by visiting the committee's webpage at: www.aph.gov.au/jcnbn