

Hello Mr Oakeshott,

I write to you in your role of oversight of NBN issues.

Could you please ensure the electorate sees public debate on whether:-

"NBN should provide an undertaking that wherever the Telstra local copper loop currently supplies phone services to domestic dwellings via underground ducting and underground connections in the streets and to the dwellings, that the replacement NBN *will underground* the NBN broadband supply and connection in that street and to those dwellings.

Apart from the unsightly nature of overhead cabling, lack of underground NBN broadband / phone cabling to replace Telstra cabling represents a retrograde step in community standards, and is more susceptible to adverse weather conditions.

By way of explanation I live in a residential suburb with underground Telstra phone cabling and an overhead electrical reticulation. Some years ago, two separate suppliers of cable TV / broadband installed two separate cable TV installations on the electrical reticulation pole structures. As well as being quite untidy with connection units and loops of cabling left on poles for possible future extension of those cable networks, the overall height clearance under overhead cabling was substantially reduced, exacerbating the "butchering" of trees and foliage to clear the cabling.

The electorate was given no say in whether those cable TV installations should proceed in the physical form that occurred.

A third overhead cable installation for the NBN which would be below the other two, would be intolerable.

I can supply illustrative photos should this be useful.

With thanks,
Trevor Barrell