

Sent: Monday, 12 May 2008 5:15 PM

To: Regulatory

Subject: re: broadband regulations

I would like to see regulations enforce broadband / internet plans that compare favourably with other first world countries instead of the third world standards we currently have forced upon us.

Why do we still have usage charges that were agreed to so that Telstra wouldn't implement timed local calls when legislation could easily stop any such move or attempt, i could have accepted such a move if the money had been spent on a fibre network instead of Telstra profit and keeping copper lines. The copper telephone line near my place is older than i am (and Im 40!).

A quick comparison with other countries in the first world quickly shows how disadvantaged we are - why would a company re-locate to Australia when the cost of internet access is so expensive and substandard? A better network might help attract and retain technology companies and encourage others - such as outsourcing.

Telstra can implement a similar structure to other countries - ask them about the plans available in North Korea. They have a 49% stake and paid for the entire network, yet have access plans with no limit, not the deceptive and misleading "unlimited" plans pushed on us in Australia.

The FTTN should / will have to be to the customers door and owned by a separate company so that pricing and the market will be truly competitive and so that technological changes will be kept pace with - Telstra made more money by keeping us on dial-up access and still keeps us behind the rest of the world. Our "superfast" broadband is still slower than what most consumers in America are prepared to pay for - why do we?

The internet is a wonderful resource - it allows Australians to talk to people from other countries and be laughed at - i would like that to end.

regards

Scott Parker