

From: Lyle Williams
Sent: Friday, 21 March 2008 12:01 AM
To: National Broadband Network Taskforce
Subject: Public comments sought on National Broadband Network

I design large telecommunications systems for a living. Increased investment in this area will certainly be good for my career.

A lot is said about the potential benefits of a national broadband network. I am certain that some of the claimed benefits are true. There have been many studies over the years that have linked telecommunications to productivity.

However, I'd like to make a negative observation about fast broadband.

Most users who want the fastest broadband speeds want to share movies, music, and software. These high-end users also the ones that want uncapped broadband plans.

Currently the "sharing" of copyrighted material is classed as stealing. The law specifies serious penalties for these offences.

I'll probably be classed as something of a "wowser", but I am concerned about the government subsidising crime. I'm also concerned about the direction of a society that turns a blind eye to this widespread criminal activity.

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