

From: Dowse, Peter (Perth)
Sent: Wednesday, 19 March 2008 6:00 PM
To: National Broadband Network Taskforce
Subject: National Broadband Network Request for Proposals

Dear Minister

My family live less than 5km from the CBD of Perth and still can't get ADSL and still have to pay \$29 for dial-up. We and others are on numerous lists, and have discussed with various Ministers and local governments, but still nothing has happened after years of requests.

We have registered with <http://www.emrc.org.au/> recently and just last week entered the next step in applying for the ABG (waiting for another letter from a government department which doesn't know the facts, but should).

My request: please supply our area and others like it with AFFORDABLE broadband so we can catch-up with the rest of Australia.

In reality though and from a business investment/return – we will remain in the dark. Why should a company spend \$1 in infrastructure to gain 300 clients when they can spend that in a new area and gain 1000 new clients. The government has to cover the blackspots.

Regards,
Peter Dowse

Previous emails;

From: Dowse, Peter (Perth)
Sent: Thursday, 25 August 2005 1:22 PM
To: 'southerngazette@communitynews.com.au'
Cc: 'ggodfrey@iexpress.net.au'
Subject: Broadband Ballyhoo

"Broadband at Rivervale while other suburbs will miss out" - headline on page 5 of 23-29 August Southern Gazette.

Sorry, but this is not quite true. I live in Rivervale and have been enquiring about broadband for over one year. The Telstra response is that my house is too far away from the exchange. Being that I and many others in the area are less than 10km from a major capital city, you would think that we could keep up with modern technology.

Currently, you and I as a constituent, own a share of Telstra. With the full sale of Telstra pending on the provision of a pathetic amount of 3 billion for future infrastructure, older suburbs will see no improvement to infrastructure. Especially, in WA as we just don't have the numbers for political influence.

It is even more frustrating when you have to 1. pay nearly \$30 per month for dial-up + call costs, 2. Telstra keep advising you of the benefits of broadband via Media ads and emails, 3. You have tested broadband (requested by Telstra – "but don't tell anyone") for over 3 months on your line with no problems.

When our Telstra is sold, it should be a provision of the sale that all those house holds within Australia who cannot get broadband should be supplied with satellite connection, but at \$30 per month – Will this happen Minister Helen Coonan? \$100 per month is not affordable!

Peter Dowse

Cr. Glenys Godfrey

I have cc this to you, to register that our household is not one of the 95 per cent of Belmont residents that can access broadband internet via ADSL.....but do want 'affordable' access.

Tue 25/10/2005 10:55 AM

Hello Peter

Thanks for the information. You won't believe this, but I was just about to send an email to Mr Wilke about this. What timing!

I can only speak for ourselves, but we are just out of the wireless area.

I have just spoken to Karen Pratt and she has registered our interest in ADSL. There must now be a few of these 'interest lists' around. She also advised that our number is in the 'excessive transmission loss' category.

Realistically, there will be no hurry by Telstra to have the 'dialups' on broadband as it is not profitable. They make exceptional money now from dialup and new infrastructure for ADSL is costly for probably only a marginal increase in broadband customers – 'economies of scale'. **Telstra should be forced to significantly reduce dialup pricing, ie \$9.90/per month** – can this be instigated?

Regards

Peter Dowse

From: Peter Schifferli [mailto:Peter.Schifferli@belmont.wa.gov.au]

Sent: Tuesday, 25 October 2005 10:27 AM

To: Dowse, Peter (Perth)

Subject: Broadband

Hi Peter

As you are aware, The City of Belmont has been in negotiations with Telstra for several months for the provision of ADSL Broadband to certain areas within our region. In addition, State and Federal politicians have been approached to assist with this unacceptable situation.

I am pleased to advise some progress has been made with Broadband now being available on the airport precinct and certain areas in Rivervale and Belmont which previously were to connect. For those who have not checked with Telstra in the last six weeks it would be advisable to contact them again

to re-check availability. Telstra's Customer Service Officer, Karen Pratt can be called on tel: 9491 2773.

Telstra have advised upgrades are continuing within the City. In addition, Wireless Broadband is now available at a fairly low cost of \$34.95 p/m for most of the Rivervale and Belmont areas. A number of residents have now been successful in being connected to broadband via this method and the Belmont Forum Telstra Shop (tel: 9477 5088) can assist residents and businesses with enquiries.

The major problem in the past has been the distance from the telephone exchange. Residents further than 4.5km from the exchange have been unable to connect to ADSL Broadband. Technology is currently being tested to increase this distance and the latest advice is that this problem is unlikely to be solved until some time in the new year.

From the City's viewpoint, we are most unhappy that some our community cannot still connect to broadband. The City will continue to pressure Telstra to provide Broadband at an affordable rate for our community. As further information comes to hand, press releases will be made to inform our community.

Regards,

Peter Schifferli
Manager - Property & Economic Development
City of Belmont
