



BUDGET
PORTFOLIO BUDGET STATEMENTS 2010-11
BUDGET RELATED PAPER NO. 1.3

**BROADBAND, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE
DIGITAL ECONOMY PORTFOLIO**

**BUDGET INITIATIVES AND EXPLANATIONS OF
APPROPRIATIONS SPECIFIED BY OUTCOMES
AND PROGRAMS BY AGENCY**

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SENATOR THE HON STEPHEN CONROY

MINISTER FOR BROADBAND, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY
DEPUTY LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT IN THE SENATE

President of the Senate
Australian Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Speaker
House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr President
Dear Mr Speaker

I hereby submit Portfolio Budget Statements in support of the 2010-11 Budget for the Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio.

These statements have been developed, and are submitted to the Parliament, as a statement on the outcomes for the Portfolio.

I present these statements to provide accountability to the Parliament and, through it, the public.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Stephen Conroy'.

Stephen Conroy
Minister for Broadband
Communications and the Digital Economy

May 2010

Abbreviations and conventions

The following notation may be used:

NEC/nec	not elsewhere classified
-	nil
..	not zero, but rounded to zero
na	not applicable (unless otherwise specified)
nfp	not for publication
\$m	\$ million
\$b	\$ billion

Figures in tables and in the text may be rounded. Figures in text are generally rounded to one decimal place, whereas figures in tables are generally rounded to the nearest thousand. Discrepancies in tables between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

Enquiries

Should you have any enquiries regarding this publication please contact Simon Ash, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy on (02) 6271 1438.

A copy of this document can be located on the Australian Government Budget website at: <http://www.budget.gov.au>.

**USER GUIDE
TO THE
PORTFOLIO BUDGET
STATEMENTS**

USER GUIDE

The purpose of the 2010-11 Portfolio Budget Statements (PB Statements) is to inform Senators and Members of Parliament of the proposed allocation of resources to Government outcomes by agencies within the portfolio. Agencies receive resources from the annual appropriations acts, special appropriations (including standing appropriations and special accounts), and revenue from other sources.

A key role of the PB Statements is to facilitate the understanding of proposed annual appropriations in Appropriation Bills No. 1 and No. 2 2010-11 (or Appropriation Bill [Parliamentary Departments] No. 1 2010-11 for the parliamentary departments). In this sense the PB Statements are Budget related papers and are declared by the Appropriation Acts to be 'relevant documents' to the interpretation of the Acts according to section 15AB of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

The PB Statements provide information, explanation and justification to enable Parliament to understand the purpose of each outcome proposed in the Bills. Figures quoted are GST exclusive unless stated otherwise.

As required under section 12 of the *Charter of Budget Honesty Act 1998*, non-general government sector entities are not consolidated into the Commonwealth general government sector fiscal estimates and accordingly, these entities are not reported in the PB Statements.

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PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

BROADBAND, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

MINISTER AND PORTFOLIO RESPONSIBILITIES

The Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio includes the following agencies:

- **Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy** – The Department aims to develop a vibrant, sustainable and internationally competitive broadband, broadcasting and communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, which promotes the digital economy for the benefit of all Australians.
- **Australia Post** – Australia Post is a Government Business Enterprise, wholly owned by the Commonwealth Government. It provides a high-quality mail and delivery service to all Australians and a range of parcel and logistics services.
- **Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)** – The ABC is a national broadcaster. It contributes to and reflects Australia’s national identity, fosters creativity and the arts and encourages cultural diversity. The ABC is an integral part of the radio, television and online production industries and the news and information media.
- **Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA)** – The ACMA is responsible for regulating in accordance with legislation related to broadcasting, radio communications, telecommunications and online content. The ACMA works with all stakeholders to maximise the public benefit, including the extent to which the regulatory framework addresses the broad concerns of the community, meets the needs of industry, and maintains community and national interest safeguards.
- **NBN Co Limited (NBN Co)** – The NBN Co is a Government Business Enterprise, wholly owned by the Commonwealth Government. Its responsibilities are to plan, rollout and operate the national broadband network, providing access to high speed broadband to all Australians.
- **Special Broadcasting Service Corporation (SBS)** – The SBS is a national broadcaster. It provides multicultural and multilingual services that inform, educate and entertain all Australians. Its mission is to contribute to a more cohesive, equitable and harmonious Australia through its television, radio and online services.

Australia Post and NBN Co Limited do not appear in the 2010-11 Portfolio Budget Statements as they are not part of the general government sector.

Senator the Hon Stephen Conroy is the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy. A summary of the Portfolio structure is at Figure 1. Further detail about the responsibilities of each agency appears in individual agency chapters.

Figure 1: Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy portfolio structure and outcomes



PORTFOLIO RESOURCES

Table 1 shows the total resources provided to the portfolio in the 2010-11 budget year, by agency.

Table 1: Portfolio Resources 2010-11

	Appropriation			Receipts	Total
	Bill No. 1 \$m	Bill No. 2 \$m	Special \$m	\$m	\$m
Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE)					
Administered appropriations	170.3	300.7	-	2,062.3	2,533.3
Departmental appropriations	113.6	1.1	-	-	114.7
Total:	283.9	301.9	-	2,062.3	2,648.1
Payments to CAC Act bodies:					
Australian Broadcasting Corporation	956.1	16.5	-	210.3	1,182.9
Special Broadcasting Service Corporation	211.4	5.6	-	103.4	320.4
Australian Communications and Media Authority					
Administered appropriations	-	-	0.3	66.9	67.2
Departmental appropriations	118.0	5.4	-	1.5	124.9
Total:	118.0	5.4	0.3	68.4	192.1
Portfolio total					4,343.5
Less amounts transferred within portfolio	-	-	-	-	-
Resources available within Portfolio:					4,343.5

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