From: Tristan Lynass ████████████████████
Sent: Friday, 1 April 2022 5:04 PM
To: Digital Monitoring
Subject: Interim Report 5 - iOS

To whom it may concern,

I am a Perth based front end software engineer. My team and I develop websites to be used by Australians across the country to help manage critical energy infrastructure.

Apple has codified under App Store rule 2.5.6 that third-party browsers are banned for use on iOS. Through this rule, they have mandated that all third-parties must use the Apple WebKit to build their browsers; effectively monopolising web browsers on iOS. Consequently, this has had a negative effect on developers, and the end-user.

For many websites, it is important they are able to compete with native applications. The ability to do so can significantly impact the end user's experience. Apple has hamstrung any website looking to compete with the native experience with this rule. WebKit does not offer the full suite of contemporary tools developers have come to accept as industry standard. WebKit has little or no support for the following:
- Several CSS features (website styling options)
- Progressive Web Application installation
- Fullscreen API
- Do Not Track API

These are only a handful of the most egregious limitations placed on developers. These limitations often mean my team, and many more like us are forced to compromise on the end-user's experience.

I would welcome any reform to the iOS rules which encourage healthy competition between browsers. Competition is a time-tested principle, which would see bigger investments in WebKit, a better experience for the end user, and better quality of life for developers.

Thank you for your consideration,
Tristan