



**Victorian
Chamber of Commerce
and Industry**

Thursday 9 June 2022

Janet Li, Soo Sian Koh
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission
By email: mergerauthorisations@accc.gov.au

Office of the Chief Executive
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Dear Janet Li and Soo Sian Koh,

Telstra and TPG application for merger authorisation for proposed spectrum sharing in regional Australia

I write in support of the pending sharing agreement between TPG and Telstra to share mobile network infrastructure across Australia.

The Victorian Chamber supports a long-term agreement to expand Australia's communication footprint across regional and remote areas which we believe would improve the quality of access of mobile connectivity for all Australians. From a business perspective this improvement in connectivity is what is required in order to provide businesses with greater operational certainty which will be beneficial for all Australians. Certainty through improved connectivity is often raised by our members especially in regional Victoria and if a sharing agreement can help address this then it will be most welcomed.

The Chamber believes the proposed agreement would improve the depth of mobile coverage and broaden the capacity for more connectivity for Australian businesses and communities. The current cost of the separate provider model is preclusive to the growth of the sector and has moved Australia further away from a high-quality national communication network.

It's our view that this agreement would benefit consumers in terms of quality of services, greater coverage, and quicker access to 5G services.

I would welcome further discussion on this matter. To arrange, please contact Dylan Broomfield, General Manager of Policy and Advocacy, on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Paul Guerra
Chief Executive