

To Whom It May Concern

Mobile Roaming

I write to the ACCC to applaud the Commission's draft decision on Mobile Roaming, handed down on 5 May 2017.

As a former CEO of a remote Queensland Council (the Burke Shire Council) and as a current advisor to a range of Local Government entities, it is difficult to understate the significance that regional, rural and remote communities place on accessing improved telecommunication services.

In my previous role, I worked with the Commonwealth and State Governments, the Burke Shire Council and Telstra to secure funding to deliver mobile phone base stations in Gregory, the Burke & Wills Roadhouse and an upgrade to Burketown's mobile capabilities, itself enabled by the Doomadgee to Burketown Fibre Link Project, which delivered the transmission required to deliver 4g services. In my current role, I am working with a range of entities to attempt to deliver a variety of digital expansion/upgrade projects to remote Indigenous communities in Queensland.

All of these project have required governments and telcos to put 'skin in the game' to ensure these otherwise unfeasible projects are progressed. Where any part of this puzzle goes missing – Local, State, Federal, Telco – these critical projects won't proceed.

Accordingly, I applaud the ACCC's draft decision and look forward to its confirmation, which will ensure continued investment into regional, rural and remote Australia.

Yours sincerely,



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