

3 April 2019

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission

fixedservices@acc.gov.au



Re: Inquiry into final access determinations for fixed line services - Consultation and position paper

The Australian Communications Consumer Action Network (ACCAN) welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) on the consultation and position paper for the inquiry into final access determinations for fixed line services. ACCAN is Australia's peak communications consumer organisation representing individuals, small businesses and not-for-profit groups as consumers of communications products and services.

ACCAN supports the ACCC's position to make new final access determinations for the fixed line services and wholesale ADSL services on the same terms of access as the existing arrangements. The rollover of existing arrangements will provide a degree of stability as wholesale users transition to the NBN. It also provides immediate certainty to Telstra regarding its wholesale revenues without a prolonged and potentially problematic regulatory process.

The ACCC has proposed that the new final access determinations are for a period of five years until 30 June 2024. ACCAN agrees that a five year period aligns with the declaration and provides pricing stability for users, while noting that if circumstances change the ACCC can initiate an inquiry to vary an access determination at any time if it considers necessary.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us on the details below if you wish to discuss further.

Regards

Tara D'Souza

Senior Policy Advisor

tara.d@accan.org.au or 02 9288 4000