

Hi

My phone is a Blackberry Classic – Telstra use to sell these phones until 2-3 years ago. Although this phone has the appropriate 4G wave band, it isn't compatible with Telstra's implementation of 4G (4GX). So I transferred my number, quickly and easily due to government regulation, to Vodafone. Vodafone works very well in the town close to my work (Beta Hunt Mine near Kambalda). The Telstra coverage of my workplace is very good, but the Vodafone network can't quite reach my workplace – I have to walk up the hill to get only an intermittent signal.

From my perspective, domestic mobile roaming would enable my access to the Vodafone network through the Telstra network, and finally have 4G access in my office. The mine sites I work on generally use Telstra, although some use other carriers. Do we have to carry multiple SIMS, multiple numbers, one for each carrier?

The objection to domestic mobile roaming from the public good point of view, is that domestic roaming would inhibit new investment. Surely the payments made by other carriers can be negotiated/set at a level that would provide that would compensate Telstra. Carriers could share the capital costs of new towers, proportionally according to market share, the carriers would then compete to increase market share based on equal access. This would lead to lower prices.

Currently Telstra has a monopoly over much of Australia. That plainly is not in the interests of Australian mobile users. Please recommend domestic mobile roaming. Objections can all be met with market based solutions. Telstra's position on this matter is driven by the perpetuation of its monopoly.

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