



Mark Coulton MP

Federal Member for Parkes

Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives

24th May 2017

Mr Rod Sims
Chairman
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission
Level 35, The Tower
GPO Box 520
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Via email: mobileroaminginquiry@accc.gov.au

Dear Chairman,

Re: Domestic Mobile Roaming Declaration Inquiry 2016

I welcome the interim decision by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) for a Domestic Mobile Roaming Inquiry.

I am reconfirming my support for the status quo.

The issue of national roaming has generated a huge amount of interest amongst my constituents. The availability of reliable telecommunications is possibly the number one issue that affects a large number of the residents in western New South Wales. The ability for consumers to roam between service providers is seen by some people as a possible solution to their telecommunication problems.

After careful consideration of this issue I am firmly of the belief that national roaming will not increase the availability of service. It may allow lower prices due to competition, but it is my opinion that it will remove the incentive for worthwhile investment in regional areas. Access to telecommunications is a far greater issue than competition for the people in my electorate. Therefore I am opposed to the implementation of national roaming.

As the Federal Member for almost half of New South Wales, it is imperative we do not discourage future investment in telecommunications infrastructure in regional and rural areas.

Kind regards,

Mark Coulton MP
Federal Member for Parkes

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