

21 November 2016

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I write in relation to the ACCC Domestic Mobile Roaming Declaration Inquiry.

As a regional Member of Parliament with an expansive electorate, mobile coverage is not only important to me but also to my constituents.

The best way to deliver greater choice is to encourage mobile companies to invest in its own network infrastructure in regional areas.

Regulated roaming could increase retail mobile prices overall as companies seek to recoup the additional costs of providing services over Telstra's regional network.

Regional customers already benefit from intense competition between mobile network operators because nationally, prices are falling and data inclusions are rising.

We know how important the latest technology is to rural communities. It is therefore vital that the current strong competitive incentives to continue investing are preserved.

Regulated roaming would destroy incentives to keep investing in our network, jeopardising future upgrades in coverage or technology without delivering additional coverage.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information.

Yours sincerely



THOMAS GEORGE MP

