

Reference: 07/05/0007

24 November 2016

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
Mobile Roaming Inquiry
Level 20 175 Pitt Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam

Domestic Mobile Roaming Declaration Inquiry

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the Domestic Mobile Roaming Declaration Inquiry.

Council is concerned that the regulation of mobile roaming will not provide any further benefit to our rural area rather it has the potential to stymie future investment.

Within our municipality we are continually reminded by our local businesses, industry and community stakeholders that investment in infrastructure is critical to ensure the social and economic wellbeing of our local economies and communities.

Connectivity to a globally connected world via various digital and connected platforms, including access to world class mobile/wireless telecommunications network plays a critical role in the current and future wellbeing of Towong Shire. Mobile coverage and investment in new technologies supports and drives prosperity within our local government area.

In terms of the Mobile Roaming Inquiry, it is Council's view that there is a need for policy that encourages further investment in mobile technology via world class platforms such as 4G in rural and regional areas to increase accessibility to new technologies to meet current and future demand for our local communities.

Council strongly believes that the regulation of mobile roaming will reduce the incentive for current network providers to invest in rural and regional mobile networks.

If mobile roaming is declared we believe that our rural local government area will struggle to secure services such as those offered in metropolitan areas. Accordingly, Council does not support regulation of mobile roaming.

If any further information is required please do not hesitate to contact Council's Chief Executive Officer, Ms Juliana Phelps, on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,



Cr David Wortmann
Mayor