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**KEZIA  
PURICK**  
MLA



**MEMBER for  
GOYDER**

10<sup>th</sup> June 2022

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I write in support of Telstra's -TPG MOCN for Regional and Rural Australia.

The electorate that I represents mainly comprises small rural land owners (some of which are small scale farmers) plus key industries including horticultural and agricultural/pastoral, extractive, some mineral exploration and aquaculture. These industries are very dependent on quality communications for the operations of their daily businesses given that some are tightly linked with internet based operations and communications.

Within my electorate there are approximately 15,000 people (28,000 total population) in total and many of the residents operate home based businesses that rely upon internet for their operations such as business packages, ordering and general communication with clients and suppliers.



Over the last two years, we have witnessed more reliance upon home and property based communications given the requirement by Government to stay at home due to the COVID virus whereby more employment and work was conducted across the rural area of the top end of the Northern Territory. The use of telecommunications for business is not a luxury, it is an essential tool needed to stay in business providing the much needed services, products and employment.

Within the greater rural area there are two streams of emergency fire services provided: NT Fires Services; and, Bushfires NT. Through these two organisation are a group of volunteer fire fighting brigades and in my electorate of Goyder, there are Humpty Doo, Virginia, Koolypinyah attached to the NT Fire Service and Elizabeth Valley, Acacia, Marrakai, Point Steward and Lambells Lagoon with the Bush Fires NT. It is critical that these groups have access to high quality and reliably telecommunication services because if this does not occur, lives and property are put at severe risk. Each and every year, we experience devastating bush/wildfires across the rural area and quality telephone and internet communication is critical for survival not only for residents but for the fire fighter themselves.

Over the years, my office has had a good working relationship with Telstra Team NT and the General Manager Mr Nic Dank has been exceptional in his service to the rural area, the local business people and the community in general. From my reading of the proposed agreement, it can only help the rural area, residents and businesses and that is why it has my full support.

If you require further information, I would be pleased to provide it for you.

Yours sincerely

  
 ~~Hon. Kezia Purick~~  
Member for Goyder