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Australian Competition & Consumer Commission 23 Marcus Clarke St Canberra ACT 2601

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## MA1000021 - Telstra and TPG application for merger authorisation for proposed spectrum sharing in regional Australia – interested party consultation

Regional Development Australia Peel Inc. is aware of the application for merger authorisation from Telstra Corporation Limited (Telstra) and TPG Telecom Limited (TPG).

Our view is that the likely public benefits of the proposed merger to the regional communities of the Peel region of Western Australia would include very much improved mobile coverage.

If approved the application will help to bridge the digital divide between urban and regional/rural Australia and improve the reliability of communications services so that our communities can more effectively remotely access health, education and banking services and job opportunities.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

Yours sincerely

John Erren Chair 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022

