

16<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Mr Boyd Brown  
Regional General Manager WA  
Telstra Retail and Regional

**p:** 08 9144 0651  
**w:** rdapilbara.org.au  
Level 1, 18 Hedland Place  
The Business Centre Pilbara  
Karratha WA 6714

**RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT: TPG/Telstra Multi Operator Core Network Proposal**

**BGEA Submission: MA1000021**

All Postal  
Correspondence  
GPO Box 1404  
Karratha WA 6714

Dear Boyd

Regional Development Australia (RDA) Pilbara is a not-for-profit organisation funded by the Australian Government through the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications and represent the federal government for regional development. RDA Pilbara's focus is on working collaboratively with all levels of government, industry, local businesses, and community organisations to strengthen the Pilbara region.

Like many Regions in Australia, mobile coverage within the Pilbara region is still highly variable and data services inadequate in many situations. This has significant impacts on our residents and businesses who are unable to access services for health and safety, finance, education, business systems and remote work. This places our businesses at a competitive disadvantage and often limits our Region's ability to attract new investment through expansion or attraction of new industries.

The MOCN proposal is a common-sense approach to improve mobile coverage and data services in our Region and we strongly support this agreement. As is often the case in regional areas, the cost of installing new infrastructure and data capacity is uneconomic when the population or customer base is relatively small. In this case the MOCN proposal makes the best use of existing infrastructure that Telstra has, combined with access to TPG's spectrum which provides more bandwidth and ultimately an improved mobile network service. With Telstra proposing to share their radio network with TPG, this will also provide TPG customers with a much-improved mobile coverage in our Region. As both providers' services will be improved under this agreement, we are confident that market choice and competition will also be maintained.

If you require anything further, please do not hesitate to contact my office on (08) 9144 0651 or

Warm regards,



Tony Simpson  
Regional Development Australia Pilbara  
Chief Executive Officer

