

## 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Manager - Community Consultations
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission
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Dear Manager,

Regional Development Australia (RDA) Riverina is writing in support of the Telstra-TPG Telecom regional Multi-Operator Core Network (MOCN) agreement.

The Riverina region covers 14 Local Government Areas, including Wagga Wagga, Griffith, Snowy Valleys, Lockhart, Cootamundra-Gundagai, Junee, Coolamon, Temora, Bland, Narrandera, Leeton, Murrumbidgee, Carrathool and Hay.

RDA Riverina's first two strategic priorities include:

- 1. Workforce Development
- 2. Enhancing Liveable Communities.

RDA Riverina acknowledges that the proposal for asset-sharing between Telstra and TPG Telecom will result in increased 4G and 5G coverage and increased capacity for regional customers of both Telstra and TPG Telecom. This will improve connectivity both for workplaces and increase liveability across our region.

Furthermore, as part of the Workforce Development and Enhancing Liveable Communities strategic priorities, RDA Riverina actively promote the program Country Change, designed to encourage people to live and work in our Riverina regional communities. Upgrades to telecommunications in the Riverina improves the liveability and accessibility of online services to our region which makes it more attractive to relocators.

The RDA Riverina Board supports the proposal for the Telstra and TPG Telecom, Multi-Operator Core Network (MOCN) commercial arrangement: a MOCN Service Agreement, a Spectrum Authorisation Agreement, and a Mobile Site Transition Agreement. We feel that this asset sharing project will be of benefit to the greater Riverina community.

Yours Sincerely,

**Rachel Whiting** 

RDA Riverina CEO and Director of Regional Development

