
From: Sophie Mills [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 10 October 2022 2:48 PM
To: Merger Authorisations
Subject: SOPHIE BROWNE: MA1000021 – submission

Dear ACCC,

I live only 1.5 hours north of Adelaide however I can only "reliably" get Telstra coverage. Unless it's windy, cloudy, hot, raining, early in the morning you get the point!

I have two small children and have had 2 c-sections to have them, so I have been left at home with 1 or 2 small children I can't drive or lift anything, and my husband might be 30 mins away working on our various properties but I can't contact him because we don't have reliable mobile phone coverage in our house or on our properties. This is also means if my father-in-law suffers another heart attack while working alone somewhere he may not have enough service to call someone.

The ATO requires all small business to use STP, rural bank branches are closing down in favour of us "going online", online continuing professional development has taken off due to COVID all of this is great if you live in a metro region. We have one provider of mobile phone coverage here and most days it's not worth the ridiculous money we have to spend per month.

I would very much like to see the ACCC look at this from a regional families point of view the cost of everything is going up and we have no choice but to drive our kids to the bus for school or 50km to the doctor or dentist and when I got our last phone bill it has risen \$5 no explanation or warning just gone up - so we suck it up and pay it because we can't shop around and we need phone and internet - even though its taken me 30 mins to open an email today thats ok because I have pay the bills.

Agricultural businesses are the only ones who pay the freight both ways on goods we produce and sell and we continue to get shafted by large companies who see our isolation as a way to jack up their profits.

Please remember the ACCC is meant to help the consumer stand up to this large corporations and make our voices heard.

We are sick and tired of being forgotten

Please allow this infrastructure sharing to go through, please remember we all have a right to reliable communication to provide a safe environment for our families and businesses

Agriculture is still one of the biggest industries in our country and it's about time we got treated fairly.

Kind Regards

Sophie Browne