
From: tariq kelekolio [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 14 October 2022 7:54 AM
To: Merger Authorisations
Subject: Tariq Kelekolio MA1000021 – submission

Hello. My name is Tariq Kelekolio. And I live in Melbourne west. And I think that the network sharing deal with telstra and vodafone should not go through.

I have used all the networks through Telstra/Optus/Vodafone. And have multiple sim cards to test them all.

And I think that if this deal goes through. It will be so bad for competition.

1 If deal goes through. Then vodafone will in my opinion less likely to build their own towers. Creating less competition in regional areas. If testing was done.

you can find that if vodafone was better or faster than telstra in your area. Then you can switch and get all the benefits of vodafone. Same with telstra.

2 The downside that I fear with this deal going ahead is Vodafone will ease off a lot on extended mobile coverage because they got telstra. That vodafone will not extend into new areas using their own network.

Vodafone will relax network development because of the roaming deal using the telstra coverage.

What happens when the roaming deal is done and those regional areas get put back to native vodafone coverage. And then they get no service? That is because they were roaming off of telstra. Relaxed and no incentive to improve the coverage in that area.

My point there is that vodafone will not have an incentive to build a better network because of the partnership with telstra.

question 3 was "the extent to which an MNO's geographic coverage in regional areas influences its overall success in acquiring and maintaining customers in metropolitan and regional areas"

If the deal went through. Vodafone would be shouting from the rooftops that they are now with telstra network. I think that there will be a different choice but not by much. Telstra still have the marketing power of Australia's largest mobile network. They have advising been the largest network for years.

If the deal went through that telstra and vodafone shared networks. And that was fair to do. Then why isn't optus network allowed in the deal? Why are optus excluded from this deal? Isn't that unfair competition.

Optus is buliding a network from scratch while telstra and vodafone share resources from each other. Doesnt make sense to me why 1 mobile company is excluded.

So a summary then of my closing points.

In my opinion this deal is very bad for customers over a long term

I think this deal is taking out

Vodafone network development.

Telstra continues as the dominated network

Optus is forced to bulid out their network on their own.

When the roaming deal ends. Vodafone will have no coverage in those places that telstra have. Meaning no coverage extending from vodafone end.

And when the roaming deal ends. People will have to switch back to telstra or optus anyway.

This deal leaves vodafone in a worse spot over the long term of the deal and telstra in a better spot. by long term. Im thinking 5 to 10 years.

Thats my thoughts.

I do not work for any telco. But I do travel to the city and to regional areas a lot. And do lots of mobile speed testing as well.

Tariq Signing off