



**Australian Government**

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**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  
Regional Development and Communications**

Mr Jason Lange  
Executive Director  
Office of Best Practice Regulation  
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
1 National Circuit  
BARTON ACT 2600

Email: [helpdesk-OBPR@pmc.gov.au](mailto:helpdesk-OBPR@pmc.gov.au)

Dear Mr Lange

**Regulation Impact Statement – Improving the telecommunications powers and immunities framework, Tranche One amendments – OBPR ID 42617 – Second Pass Final Assessment**

I am writing in relation to the attached Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) prepared for the Improving the telecommunications powers and immunities framework – Tranche One amendments.

I am satisfied that the RIS addresses the concerns raised in your letter of 4 August 2021, as outlined below.

Specifically, the RIS better articulates the policy problem to be addressed in the context of providing a regulatory environment that better supports the rollout of telecommunications infrastructure in a nationally consistent, cost-effective and efficient way.

Improving the operation of the telecommunications powers and immunities framework will help to realise the broader policy objectives set out in the Australian Government's existing 5G Strategy and the Digital Economy Strategy 2030 by supporting technology and infrastructure deployments that will enable the growth of the digital economy.

The new structure of the RIS also better explains the impacts of inaction and sets out the costs and benefits of each of the regulatory options considered, as well as providing an overall summary of that analysis. Implementing the recommended option in the RIS would attract regulatory costs of approximately \$27.6 million per year. These costs represent approximately 30 per cent of the total benefit of the proposed reforms which have been calculated at approximately \$149 million per year.

The RIS also includes quantitative information from the telecommunications industry about the benefits that would be lost if specific reforms sought by industry were not implemented. Industry consider that maintaining the status quo would mean approximately \$76 million of benefits would be lost per year.

The recommended option in the RIS is inclusive of the reforms sought by industry and those from the landowner sector to provide a policy outcome that balances sectors' interests.

Accordingly, I am satisfied that the RIS now meets best practice consist with the *Australian Government Guide to Regulatory Impact Analysis*.

I submit the RIS to the Office of Best Practice Regulation for formal final assessment.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Windeyer', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard Windeyer  
Deputy Secretary  
Communications and Media  
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications  
21 October 2021