

About NBN Co

Who we are

NBN Co is a Government Business Enterprise (GBE) formed in July 2009 to design, build and operate the National Broadband Network (NBN). The NBN will enable high speed broadband to be delivered to all Australian households, businesses and enterprises through a combination of fibre, wireless and satellite technology.

NBN Co is committed to operating a wholesale, open access network and making its wholesale services available to Service Providers on non-discriminatory terms.

The company is wholly owned by the Australian Government through the shareholding of the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy and the Minister for Finance and Deregulation.

Mike Quigley was announced as Executive Chairman to the NBN Co Board and Chief Executive Officer on 24 July 2009.



Mike Quigley, CEO, NBN Co.

A full structure of the board team and the executive team can be found on the NBN Co website, www.nbnco.com.au

NBN Co's core values are:

- We are **safe, disciplined** and **reliable** and meet our commitments
- We engender **trust** and **integrity** and are known for this
- We are **authentic**, speak-up and involve both ourselves and others
- We are **collaborative** – one team focused on outcomes
- We are **flexible** to fit our circumstances

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Key objectives

The Government has stated its broad objectives for NBN Co as follows:

“The new super-fast network will:

- **Connect homes, schools and workplaces with optical fibre (fibre-to-the-premises or ‘FTTP’), providing broadband services to Australians in urban and regional towns with speeds of up to 100 megabits per second (mbps) – 100 times faster than those currently used by most people, extending to towns with a population of around 1,000 or more people;**
- **Use next-generation wireless and satellite technologies that will be able to deliver 12 mbps or more to people living in more remote parts of Australia;**
- **Provide fibre optic transmission links connecting cities, major regional centres and rural towns;**
- **Be Australia’s first national wholesale-only, open access broadband network;**
- **Be built and operated on a commercial basis by a company established at arm’s length from the Government and involve private sector investment; and**
- **Be expected to be rolled out, simultaneously, in metropolitan, regional and rural areas.”**

- NBN Co Corporate Plan

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Legislative framework

NBN Co is a wholly-owned Commonwealth GBE, subject to the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 (CAC Act), the Corporations Act 2001 and the Governance Arrangements for Commonwealth Government Business Enterprises.

The company maintains regular reporting to its Shareholder Ministers and as a GBE is publicly accountable and subject to Parliamentary scrutiny through Senate committees and audit by the Auditor General.

In December 2010, the Australian Parliament passed the Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Competition and Consumer Safeguards) Act 2010 which facilitates the separation of Telstra's wholesale and retail operations. Telstra, NBN Co and the Government reached a non-binding Heads of Agreement in relation to Telstra's structural separation in June 2010. It is anticipated that, among other things, this agreement will provide NBN Co with access to a range of Telstra's infrastructure, reducing the build cost for NBN Co.

On 25 November 2010, the Minister for Broadband, Communications and

the Digital Economy, Senator the Hon Stephen Conroy, introduced two bills into the Parliament to establish the regulatory framework for the ownership and operations of NBN Co, and the arrangements for the eventual sale of the Commonwealth's stake and to create new access, transparency and non-discrimination obligations relating to the supply of wholesale services by NBN Co.

National Broadband Network Companies Bill 2010 (NBN Companies Bill)

The key elements of the NBN Companies Bill presently being considered by the Parliament are those relating to:

- The operations of NBN Co, including NBN Co's wholesale nature, functional separation of NBN Co and divestiture of assets by NBN Co;
- NBN Co's ownership and control and arrangements for terminating Commonwealth ownership provisions and introducing an NBN Co sale scheme;
- NBN Co's reporting obligations if the Commonwealth sells down its stake in the company; and
- Anti-avoidance obligations that ensure that NBN Co continues to meet its obligations.

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Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (National Broadband Network—Access Arrangements) Bill 2010 (NBN Access Bill).

The key elements of the NBN Access Bill being considered by Parliament are those relating to:

- Amending the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (CCA) and the Telecommunications Act 1997 to:
 - Introduce new access, transparency and non-discrimination obligations relating to the supply of NBN Co's wholesale services;
 - Extend technical and open access obligations to owners of other fast broadband networks;
- Applying additional rules for the supply of services by NBN Co and transparency and non-discrimination requirements; and
- Amending the access regime in Part XIC of the CCA to reflect NBN Co's wholesale nature.

Contact

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