

Media Release



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First NBN fibre optic cable installed in Penrith

Super-fast broadband for Western Sydney a step closer

NBN Co today installed the first fibre optic cable in Penrith as part of the widespread rollout of the National Broadband Network.

The distribution fibre, which links the Penrith exchange to the local area, was hauled today on the corner of Brown Street and Stafford Road.

"Today's fibre haul here in Penrith marks an important step in the rollout of the NBN in Western Sydney," NBN Co spokesperson Lead Community Account Manager for Northern Australia Darren Rudd said today.

"The construction here today shows that work is underway to build the network, which will provide super-fast broadband to parts of Penrith from 2013.

"Construction work has already commenced on rolling out the NBN right across New South Wales, including around 9,100 premises in the Penrith area.

"In Penrith we're aiming for construction to be completed from mid 2013, which means homes and businesses are expected to be able to connect to services over the NBN shortly after.

"In addition to the work underway to connect Penrith, work is undergoing planning or construction in the following suburbs; Londonderry and Agnes Banks. NBN Co is aiming for construction in these suburbs to be completed during 2013.

"By mid-2015 construction is set to have commenced or be completed for more than 1,000,000 premises across New South Wales.

"We plan to connect every home, school and workplace in Australia to the NBN within the next decade with a combination of fibre, fixed wireless and satellite technologies.

"The NBN is being designed to transform the way Australians communicate and keep in touch with each other, how they access education and health services, leverage e-business opportunities and immerse themselves in culture from around the world," Mr Rudd said.

Once a street has access to the NBN, home and business owners will be informed and are then able to contact their telephone or internet service provider to see how they can get connected to services over the NBN.

Retail prices for NBN fibre plans based on 12/1Mbps or 25/5Mbps wholesale services* are comparable to existing ADSL2+ packages.*

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** NBN Co is designing the NBN to be capable of delivering these speeds to NBN Co's wholesale customers (telephone and internet service providers). Speeds actually achieved by retail customers (end users) will depend on a number of factors including the quality of their equipment and in-premises connection, the broadband plans offered by their service provider and how their service provider designs its network to cater for multiple end users.*

*** Source: NBN Co Corporate Plan dated 6 August 2012, analysis based on RSPs published pricing as at June 2012, reflecting circa ~90% of market share.*