



13 November 2014

## NBN Multi-Technology Deployment Principles

The Australian Government has directed NBN Co to complete the NBN and ensure that all Australians have access to very fast broadband as soon as possible, at affordable prices and at least cost to taxpayers.

The NBN is required to be built in a cost-effective way using available and new technologies best suited to each area of Australia. NBN Co has flexibility and discretion to make operational, technology and network design decisions.

The Government has asked NBN Co to determine which technologies should be utilised on an area-by-area basis so as to minimise peak funding, optimise economic returns and enhance the Company's viability. NBN Co will prioritise areas identified as poorly served<sup>1</sup> to the extent commercially and operationally feasible.

NBN Co is required to inform the public of the business rules it establishes to determine which technology is used in each locality and regularly update this information to reflect technological and commercial developments.

### **For each service area NBN Co will consider whether:**

1. Existing infrastructure can be leveraged to deliver the required bandwidth and reliability to premises;
2. Delivery partners have available construction capacity;
  - o Sequencing needs to be matched to construction capacity in particular areas with a preference for a contiguous work front.
3. Network complexity can be reduced by consistent use of technologies within a particular area.
4. Advances in technology may mean an alternative approach may be preferable.

### **NBN Co will also consider:**

1. Opportunities to prioritise underserved areas;
2. Opportunities to achieve early / high revenue (e.g. from areas with a large number of business customers).

### **The above approach means that for most households and businesses:**

- If already served by the Optus or Telstra Hybrid Fibre Coaxial (HFC) cable networks – these areas will likely receive fast broadband over an upgraded HFC network;

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<sup>1</sup> As identified in "Broadband Availability and Quality Report" published by the Department of Communications in February 2014 including any subsequent refinements arising from additional data.

- If in an areas where NBN fibre to the premises (FTTP) has been deployed or is in advanced stages of being built - these areas will likely remain part of the FTTP rollout;
- If in areas earmarked for NBN fixed wireless or satellite networks - these areas will remain part of the fixed wireless and satellite rollout plan;
- If in other areas - these areas are likely to receive fibre to the node deployment (FTTN) and, in the case of multi-dwelling units such as apartment blocks, fibre to the basement (FTTB).

These principles will be regularly updated by NBN Co.