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From: s.22
Sent: Tuesday, 29 March 2011 9:06 AM
To: s.22
Subject: RE: Draft price control review Terms of Reference for comment [SEC=IN-CONFIDENCE]

Security Classification:
IN-CONFIDENCE

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I've had a brief look at this and there is no mention of low-income measures, LIMAC in the document which I recall from an earlier draft there was. Whilst the Telstra low-income measures are a different beast from price control mechanisms, predominantly an after the fact subsidy - they are obviously an important mechanism for ensuring that low-income customers can have access to a fixed line phone service. As has been raised on a number of occasions these services are utilised by a large proportion of the population, for example 1.2 million pensioners avail themselves of the \$12 monthly discount.

As well as the discount mechanisms there is also the ongoing role of the LIMAC committee more generally as we move to an NBN world. The committee plays a useful role in providing advice on the needs of low-income and other disadvantaged groups in relation to telecommunications services.

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Some discussion of whether in moving to an NBN world this is likely to impose a burden on low-income customers and their ability to meet these increases would be useful. For example is there a role for ongoing subsidies in an NBN world, if so how should these be delivered, who should the obligation fall on, revenue implications etcetera is important information for informed decision making.

Within this draft document reference is made of retail price controls on fixed line services but not on the subsidy program. Additionally, no questions are raised on this issue to allow for feedback.

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From: McIntyre, Duncan
Sent: Monday, 28 March 2011 6:24 PM
To: s.22
Subject: FW: Draft price control review Terms of Reference for comment [SEC=IN-CONFIDENCE]

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Could you please take a look and provide comment for discussion with Joe? By lunchtime Wednesday if possible please.

Thanks
Duncan

From: Sheehan, Joseph
Sent: Monday, 28 March 2011 5:59 PM
To: McIntyre, Duncan
Cc: s.22
Subject: FW: Draft price control review Terms of Reference for comment [SEC=IN-CONFIDENCE]

Duncan,

As discussed, these are our draft terms of reference. Apologies for the oversight.

Can you get me comments back by Wednesday?

Joseph Sheehan

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From: Buettel, Rohan

Sent: Friday, 25 March 2011 11:57 AM

To: Spence, Pip; Besgrove, Keith; Maurer, Andrew; Paterson, Lachlann; Kelleher, Brian; Mason, Philip;

[REDACTED]

Cc: Quinlivan, Daryl; Rizvi, Abul; Sheehan, Joseph; [REDACTED]

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Colleagues

Attached is an initial draft terms of reference for the proposed review into retail price control arrangements to be conducted this year by the Department (with input from the ACCC).

Once cleared internally, consultation will also be needed with the ACCC, Telstra and central agencies.

Any comments would be appreciated by COB Tuesday, 29 March. If you have any questions, please call [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

for clarification.

Regards

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