



Australian Smart Communities Association (Broadband Alliance Inc.)
PO BOX 288
NAMBOUR QLD 4560

The Project Manager
Spectrum Review
Department of Communications
GPO BOX 2154
CANBERRA ACT 2601

spectrumreview@communications.gov.au

Dear Sir / Madam,

Re: Spectrum Review Potential Reform Directions Consultation Paper

The Australian Smart Communities Association (ASCA) welcomes the opportunity to make a submission to the Department of Communications in response to the Spectrum Review Potential Reform Directions Consultation Paper.

The adoption of smart technology in city / town management, energy, water, health and transport, along with high speed ubiquitous broadband, could bring 1.5% growth to Australia Gross Domestic Product within five years. ASCA wants all Australian communities to have the infrastructure and capacity, and to demonstrate the innovation, to forge thriving digital economies.

Smart Infrastructure can be described as anything 'material' that aids faster, more reliable connectivity to a Smart Community. It includes fixed line telecommunications, wireless / WiFi and data centre services, as well as the tools required to plan and implement enhanced digital infrastructure.

Spectrum is an essential resource that will underpin the continued evolution of new connectivity infrastructure technologies. The ASCA strongly supports all proposals outlined in the Consultation Paper and urges the Australian Government to ensure any spectrum reforms caters for optimal security of service, interference protection, deployment flexibility and reduction of red tape and fees for spectrum licencing to enable the delivery of essential services and innovative initiatives. **The ability to rapidly redeploy spectrum to meet rising consumer demands, deliver new mobile services and realise optimal levels of economic growth will be essential to any new Spectrum Framework developed by the Australian Government.**

The ASCA particularly supports the proposal to introduce open data transparency for spectrum information including location data to encourage increased innovation and creation of new products by external parties.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this submission. If the Department of Communications wishes to discuss any of these matters further please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Whereat", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Michael Whereat
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About the Australian Smart Communities Association:

Australian Smart Communities Association, (ASCA) formerly Broadband Today Alliance (BTA) started as a collaborative coalition of local government, RDA and Regional Organisations of Councils' (ROCs) built on the premise of sharing information and advocating for the resources to assist the localised transition to a digital economy.

ASCA has a vision for Australia to significantly advance its digital economy. As a member-based organisation with representatives from Government, business / industry and communities across Australia, we reflect the three sectors that need to take action.

The ASCA is rapidly becoming the Peak Industry Association in Australia for Smart Digital Community, Broadband and Digital Economic development.