

# Mobile Coverage Programme Discussion Paper

## Submission Cover Sheet

### Submission Information

This cover sheet should be attached to submissions made to the Department of Communications in relation to the Mobile Coverage Programme Discussion Paper.

#### Contact Details

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<b>Date:</b>	18 June 2014

#### Confidentiality and privacy

All submissions and comments, or parts thereof, will be treated as non-confidential information unless specifically requested, and acceptable reasons should accompany each request. Email disclaimers will not be considered sufficient confidentiality requests.

Respondents lodging a submission should be aware that submissions (excluding any information agreed to be treated as confidential information) will be made publicly available, including on the Department of Communications' website. Submissions and comments will be subject to freedom of information provisions. Despite a submission being identified as confidential or sensitive, submissions may be disclosed where authorised or required by law, or for the purpose of parliamentary processes.

Do you want all or parts of the submission to be treated as confidential? No

*If yes, identify below which parts of the submission are to be treated as confidential (and provide a reason):*

If the submission contains personal information of any third party individual, indicate on this Submission Cover Sheet if that third party individual has not consented to the publication of his or her personal information:

#### Submission Instructions

Submissions are to be made by **5:00pm (AEST) Friday 28 February 2014**.

Where possible, submissions should be lodged electronically, preferably in Microsoft Word or other text-based formats via the email address [mobilecoverage@communications.gov.au](mailto:mobilecoverage@communications.gov.au)

Alternatively, submissions can be sent to the postal address below (to arrive by the due date):

The Manager  
Mobile Coverage Programme  
Department of Communications  
GPO Box 2154  
CANBERRA ACT 2615

All submissions lodged will be acknowledged by the Department of Communications by email (or by letter if no email is provided). Respondents lodging a submission who do not receive acknowledgement of their submission should contact the Department. Submissions which are not acknowledged by the Department as being received may not be considered. Respondents should be aware that emails greater than 10Mb may not be successfully delivered.



# District Council of Loxton Waikerie

Principal Office **29 East Terrace, Loxton SA** • Postal Address **Box 409, Loxton SA 5333**  
Branch Office: **Strangman Road, Waikerie SA**

Our Ref: 4.50.1.3 (14-000779)

28 February 2014

The Manager  
Mobile Coverage Programme  
Department of Communications

[mobilecoverage@communications.gov.a](mailto:mobilecoverage@communications.gov.a)



Dear Sir/Madam

## **The District Council of Loxton Waikerie submission to the Australian Government Department of Communications Mobile Coverage Programme**

The District Council of Loxton Waikerie welcomes the Federal Governments review of its planned provision of mobile coverage and the proposed investment in the mobile network expansion and mobile black spot coverage.

The District Council of Loxton Waikerie is located on the River Murray in eastern South Australia and is part of the Riverland region servicing approximately 35,000 people.

The Riverland also attracts in excess of 1.0 million visitor's nights per annum, 416,000 day trippers and covers the intersection of major freight and passenger transport routes.

Whilst the major towns receive reasonable mobile phone coverage, areas particularly in a band to the south of Loxton and Waikerie ranging from Blanchetown in the west to the Victorian border to the east and from Waikerie west to Blanchetown receive no or very sporadic service.

This area generally consists of dry land and approximately 1000 cereal and vegetable business and produces an estimated \$250 million at farm gate.

With the price of grain fluctuating as regularly as it does, the modern farming business is put at a distinct disadvantage if through lack of mobile coverage the business is unable to respond accordingly to take advantage of peaks in price.

With farming enterprises now so highly geared and capital intensive in order to be productive in today's competitive global market reliable mobile coverage is an essential element of daily business.

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Council also brings to your attention the fact that even adjacent our more highly populated towns, the mobile coverage is limited in certain areas.

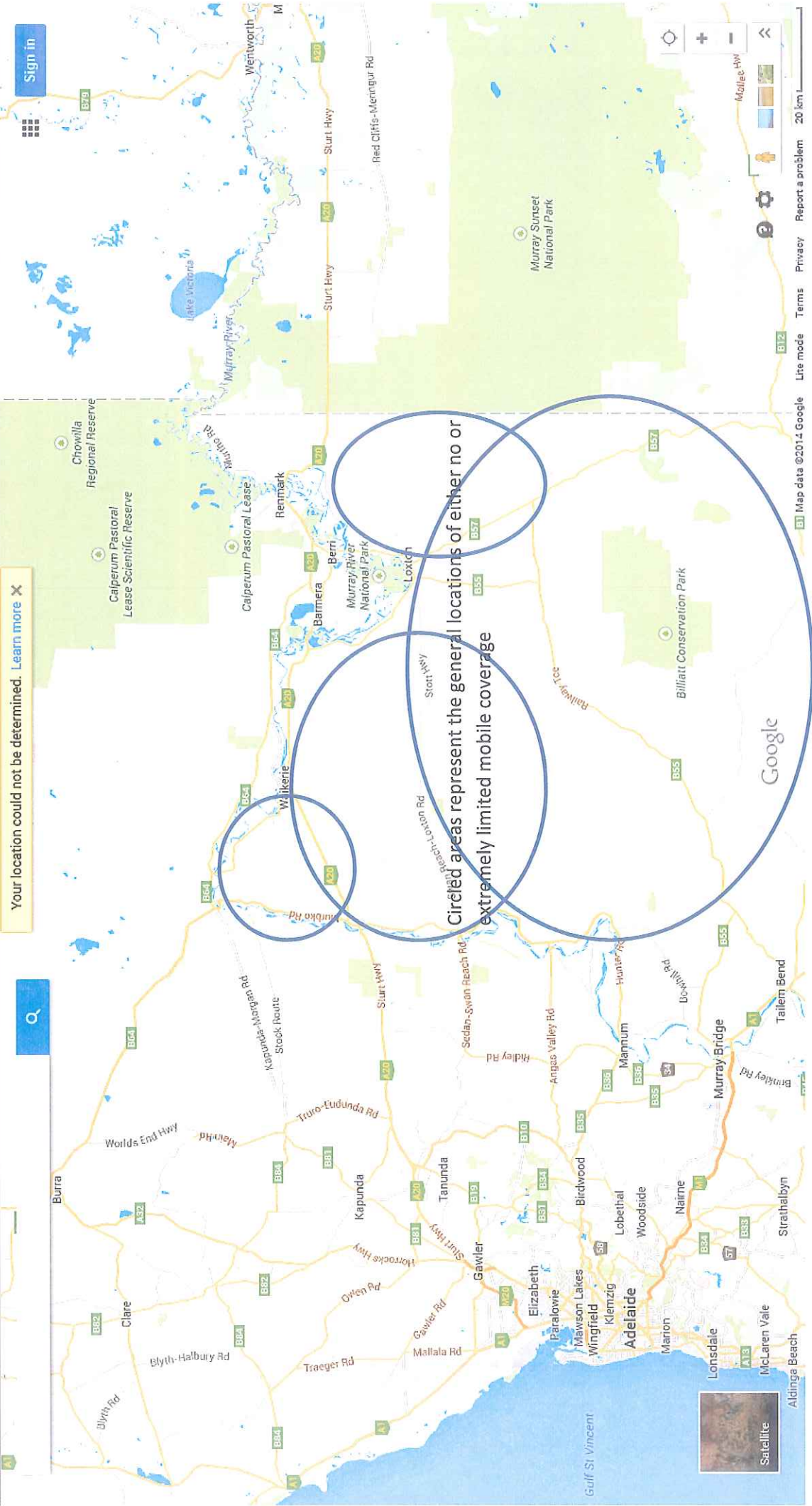
On behalf of our businesses, visitors and residents we seek your commitment to include the Riverland and the areas noted on the attachment in the review of mobile network expansion and black spot coverage.

Yours sincerely



**Peter Ackland**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

cc. Member for Barker, Tony Pasin  
M&MLGA



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Circled areas represent the general locations of either no or extremely limited mobile coverage

Google