



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Central Coast

Mr John Ryan
Executive Officer
Macquarie 2100

Dear Mr Ryan

I write in regards to the Australian Government's initiative to fund \$100 million to the Mobile Coverage Programme to invest in telecommunications network infrastructure to improve mobile phone services in regional and remote communities.

I note your request for support of M2100's submission for funding under the programme.

I can appreciate the concern communities in the lower Macquarie region, including Narromine, Trangie, Warren and the Macquarie Marshes, experience when they are unable to contact emergency services due to inadequate mobile coverage. Investing in telecommunications infrastructure in these areas will benefit both local communities and emergency services agencies.

I have prepared the attached letter to the Australian Minister for Communications, the Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP, offering my in-principle support for submissions that seek to address mobile phone black spots in NSW, particularly in rural areas.

I trust this is of assistance and wish Macquarie 2100 well with their application.

Yours sincerely

Hon. Michael Gallacher MLC

26 FEB 2014



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Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Central Coast

The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP
Federal Minister for Communications
PO Box 6022
House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

I write in regards to the Australian Government's initiative to fund \$100 million to the Mobile Coverage Programme to invest in telecommunications network infrastructure to improve mobile phone services in regional and remote communities.

I understand that a discussion paper has been released with submissions to be lodged by interested stakeholders by 5pm Friday 28 February 2014.

I am advised by Mr John Ryan, Executive Officer of Macquarie 2100 (M2100) that the organisation will be submitting a request for funding under the programme.

Mr Ryan has raised concerns that communities in the lower Macquarie Valley including Narromine, Trangie, Warren and the Macquarie Marshes experience difficulties contacting emergency services due to inadequate mobile coverage.

I can appreciate the concerns of rural and regional communities over mobile phone coverage during emergency situations and offer my support for submissions which address mobile phone black spots in NSW, particularly in rural areas.

Yours sincerely

Hon. Michael Gallacher MLC

26 FEB 2014