Adam Giles  
Chief Minister of the Northern Territory  

**Telstra agreement to deliver better mobile and broadband services to remote communities**  

7 September 2015  

Mobile phone and fixed broadband services will be available in more remote Territory communities as a result of a joint $30 million three year agreement between the Northern Territory Government and Telstra.  

Chief Minister Adam Giles said the Government was partnering with Telstra to expand and improve telecommunications in remote locations throughout the Territory.  

“Having access to mobile phone and internet services is essential not just to keep in touch with family and friends, but also for business and economic development,” he said.  

“This remote telecommunications infrastructure program will bring vital services to the bush and improve the lives of thousands of people living and working in remote communities throughout the Territory.  

“With such an enormous land mass in the Territory, effective communications technology is a social and economic lifeline, and this program will play a significant role in the further development of Northern Australia.  

“It is an example of the Country Liberals’ commitment to connecting communities and providing opportunities to some of the Territory’s most disadvantaged residents.”  

A list of priority communities for the program is being jointly developed taking into account population, location, existing infrastructure, cost, logistics and community needs with Telstra undertaking detailed feasibility analysis of sites.  

The installation of mobile phone towers and equipment will provide a 3G mobile service, while fixed broadband will enable people to get broadband services at their homes and businesses through their land lines.  

Mr Giles said the new infrastructure co-investment program continued the strong relationship between the Northern Territory Government and Telstra.
“Telstra has already proven its commitment to connecting the bush by joining the Territory Government in a $5.76 million phone and internet project for 13 remote communities that was completed last year,” he said.

“This new $30 million joint program takes it to the next level and will ensure more remote communities will have access to vital telecommunications services most of us take for granted.

“It’s all part of the Country Liberals’ plan to create more jobs and opportunities for all Territorians by ensuring we have a strong society with a prosperous economy.”

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