



Macarthur Regional Organisation of Councils
Camden, Campbelltown, Wollondilly

14 November 2007

Standing Committee on Broadband
in Rural and Regional Communities
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Committee Members

RE: Letter of Support for the Submission by Wollondilly Shire Council to the Parliamentary Committee of Inquiry into Broadband in Rural and Regional Communities.

The Macarthur Regional Organisation of Councils (MACROC) submits this letter of support for the Submission by Wollondilly Shire Council to the Parliamentary Committee of Inquiry into Broadband in Rural and Regional Communities.

While the timeframe given for MACROC to make a submission on behalf of the Macarthur Region precluded a formal response, MACROC would like to strongly endorse the points made by Wollondilly Shire Council to the Committee.

Access to the most up to date telecommunications available including broadband and other technology services is extremely important to the future of the Wollondilly community. Efficient broadband services will enable business to be conducted more efficiently and will also generate future employment options where people are able to work from home.

Technology is an inescapable feature of our day-to-day life and the issue of access to information technology including broadband in rural and regional areas is one of equity.

As more and more business is being conducted online and more government services can be accessed via the Internet, communities that do not have affordable broadband are disadvantaged. Broadband also assists education, from accessing information for secondary school students to those undertaking a tertiary qualification by remote learning.

On behalf of the MACROC Board I would like to endorse the Submission by Wollondilly Shire Council and encourage the Committee to work towards providing fair, equitable and affordable access to Broadband for the residents of Macarthur.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Elliott', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cr Rob Elliott
President