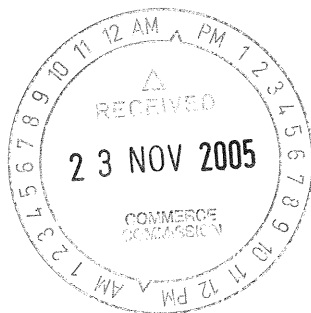


# CLUTHA DISTRICT COUNCIL

Address all correspondence to:  
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11 November 2005

Our Reference  
SA 10/0004

Telstra Clear Bitstream Application Statement for Consultation  
Commerce Commission  
P O Box 2351  
WELLINGTON

**Attention: Chris Abbott**

Dear Sir

## **Telstra Clear Bitstream Application**

Attached is a copy of the Community Outcomes developed by the Clutha District community through a series of workshops, surveys and meetings.

Of note is Outcome 7(c) "Ensuring effective communication technology is available throughout the district".

Therefore, the Clutha District Council is supportive of moves to increase access to high speed broadband services particularly to our predominantly rural communities and families.

It is of some concern that we hear that the extent of broadband into our rural areas will be restricted and even reduced because increased access to high-speed internet services could have detrimental effects on current and potential users located further away from the equipment delivering those services.

The Commission has identified that it considers the additional risks would be unlikely to outweigh the benefits to competition that an unconstrained service would provide.

It would appear that again rural people suffer additional risk and reduction of services so that others receive better and cheaper services.

We therefore ask that the Commission take into account our concerns about the impacts of the proposed unbundled bitstream service on the ability of communities and families in rural areas such as the Clutha District to receive a modern telecommunication service.

We need a framework that gives equal services to all communities, urban and rural.

I recognise that the deadline for submissions has closed, but I wish nonetheless to forward our concerns regarding this issue. Thank you for the opportunity to make comment.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hakkaart', with a small horizontal line at the end.

Charles Hakkaart  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**