JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

Coalition announces rollout schedule to fix mobile black spots

17 February 2016

The Coalition Government has released the locations of the first 78 mobile base stations scheduled to be constructed by the end of June 2016 under round 1 of the $385 million Mobile Black Spot Programme.

Nineteen mobile base stations have already been completed and the first six-month rollout schedule lists the new or upgraded base stations to be built in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia, South Australia and Tasmania by the first half of this year.

The full rollout of the 499 new or upgraded base stations will be completed over the next three years and the rollout schedule will be updated half-yearly with the most up-to-date information from mobile network operators of the new base stations scheduled to be built.

Consultation with local communities is an important step in the successful rollout of any major infrastructure programme, including the Mobile Black Spot Programme. Timeframes for the rollout of new base stations can vary widely, typically due to local government development approval processes, community consultation periods and other local factors.

Under round 1 of the Programme, the Coalition Government's $100 million investment leveraged an additional $88 million in co-contributions from the Governments of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania, as well as substantial co-contributions from Telstra and Vodafone, local governments and third parties to establish a total funding package of $385 million.

This is the most significant one-time increase in mobile network coverage to regional and remote Australia delivered by a single public funding programme in the history of mobile communications in Australia.

The full rollout of 499 new or upgraded base stations from round 1 of the Programme will provide 68,600 square kilometres of new handheld coverage and more than 150,000 square kilometres of new external antenna coverage, providing mobile coverage to some 3,000 mobile black spot locations nominated by members of the public.

Public nominations for black spots to be considered under round 2 of the Programme closed last month, with an additional $60 million in funding announced for in round 2 in June 2015. The new locations to be funded under round 2 are expected to be announced by the end of 2016, with a competitive selection process for the funding to be announced in the coming weeks.

More information about the Programme and the rollout schedule is available at www.communications.gov.au/mobile_coverage.

Half Yearly—2016 Mobile Black Spot Programme Rollout Schedule*

Base Station Name	Base Station Identifier	State	Estimated completed by / completed
Acacia Hills	MBSP-TAS-016	TAS	March – 2016
Ajana	MBSP-WA-001	WA	Completed – February 2016
Araluen	MBSP-NSW-003	NSW	June – 2016
Austins Hill / Mirboo East	MBSP-VIC-005	VIC	Completed – January 2016
Benambra	MBSP-VIC-008	VIC	Completed – January 2016
Blackheath	MBSP-VIC-110	VIC	June – 2016
Blackwood	MBSP-VIC-010	VIC	Completed – December 2015
Blaxlands Ridge	MBSP-NSW-073	NSW	May – 2016
Bodalla	MBSP-NSW-015	NSW	April – 2016
Bogee	MBSP-NSW-016	NSW	June – 2016
Boonah Rathdowney Road, between Boonah and Rathdowney	MBSP-QLD-008	QLD	Completed – February 2016
Bothwell	MBSP-TAS-003	TAS	June – 2016
Brassi	MBSP-NSW-046	NSW	Completed – December 2015
Buckland	MBSP-TAS-005	TAS	May – 2016
Burnett Highway	MBSP-QLD-012	QLD	Completed – January 2016
Capricorn Highway	MBSP-QLD-014	QLD	June – 2016
Carapook	MBSP-VIC-076	VIC	April – 2016
Cargo	MBSP-NSW-029	NSW	June – 2016
Carlisle River	MBSP-VIC-020	VIC	April – 2016
Clarke Creek	MBSP-QLD-016	QLD	Completed – January 2016
Clunes	MBSP-NSW-033	NSW	June – 2016
Coalstoun Lakes	MBSP-QLD-017	QLD	June – 2016
Cobbitty	MBSP-NSW-014	NSW	Completed – February 2016
Colo Heights	MBSP-NSW-036	NSW	Completed – February 2016
Cooyar	MBSP-QLD-019	QLD	June – 2016
Crows Nest	MBSP-QLD-020	QLD	June – 2016
Curramulka	MBSP-SA-002	SA	June – 2016
Darbys Falls	MBSP-NSW-045	NSW	June – 2016
Drake	MBSP-NSW-048	NSW	February – 2016
East Yuna	MBSP-WA-033	WA	June – 2016
Elsmore	MBSP-NSW-052	NSW	June – 2016
Eukey	MBSP-QLD-028	QLD	Completed – January 2016
Eulo	MBSP-QLD-029	QLD	Completed – January 2016
Ferguson Valley	MBSP-WA-038	WA	June – 2016
Forsayth	MBSP-QLD-031	QLD	Completed – January 2016
Gormandale	MBSP-VIC-044	VIC	June – 2016
Grass Valley	MBSP-WA-045	WA	June – 2016
Greenvale	MBSP-QLD-035	QLD	June – 2016
Hernani	MBSP-NSW-062	NSW	June – 2016
Hillgrove	MBSP-NSW-064	NSW	June – 2016

Base Station Name	Base Station Identifier	State	Estimated completed by / completed
Invergowrie	MBSP-NSW-065	NSW	June – 2016
Kadnook	MBSP-VIC-053	VIC	June – 2016
Kin Kin	MBSP-QLD-041	QLD	June – 2016
Kununoppin	MBSP-WA-058	WA	June – 2016
Lalbert	MBSP-VIC-062	VIC	June – 2016
Lue	MBSP-NSW-078	NSW	June – 2016
Manildra	MBSP-NSW-079	NSW	June – 2016
Manna Mountain	MBSP-NSW-081	NSW	June – 2016
Marlborough	MBSP-QLD-047	QLD	Completed – December 2015
Minilya	MBSP-WA-071	WA	June – 2016
Molong	MBSP-NSW-088	NSW	June – 2016
Mount Mee	MBSP-QLD-053	QLD	June – 2016
Mulgildie	MBSP-QLD-055	QLD	June – 2016
Nabawa	MBSP-WA-080	WA	June – 2016
Naraling	MBSP-WA-083	WA	June – 2016
Nethercote	MBSP-NSW-098	NSW	June – 2016
Palinyewah	MBSP-NSW-136	NSW	Completed – December 2015
Patchewollock	MBSP-VIC-081	VIC	June – 2016
Pigeon Ponds	MBSP-VIC-082	VIC	Completed – January 2016
Powers Creek	MBSP-VIC-023	VIC	June – 2016
Quilpie	MBSP-QLD-056	QLD	Completed – December 2015
Saint Andrews	MBSP-VIC-085	VIC	February – 2016
Sandy Point	MBSP-VIC-087	VIC	May – 2016
Sheep Hills	MBSP-VIC-090	VIC	May – 2016
Sherwood	MBSP-NSW-117	NSW	June – 2016
South Yuna	MBSP-WA-107	WA	June – 2016
Speewah	MBSP-QLD-059	QLD	June – 2016
Spring Mountain Road	MBSP-NSW-118	NSW	Completed – December 2015
Swansea	MBSP-TAS-025	TAS	June – 2016
Tatong	MBSP-VIC-094	VIC	May – 2016
Toobeah	MBSP-QLD-060	QLD	June – 2016
Warroo	MBSP-NSW-133	NSW	June – 2016
Werrimull	MBSP-VIC-104	VIC	Completed – December 2015
West River	MBSP-WA-121	WA	June – 2016
Wherrol Flat	MBSP-NSW-138	NSW	June – 2016
Wombelano	MBSP-VIC-105	VIC	June – 2016
Woolomin	MBSP-NSW-142	NSW	June – 2016
Woolooga	MBSP-QLD-067	QLD	June – 2016

* **Note**: the locations on the rollout schedule may be subject to change. Timeframes for the rollout of new base stations may vary due to a range of factors, including local government development approval processes and community consultation periods.

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