

STOCK EXCHANGE ANNOUNCEMENT



9 July 2013

Telecom welcomes Telecommunications Service Obligations (TSO) discussion document

Telecom has welcomed the release by Communications and Information Technology Minister, Amy Adams, of a discussion document on possible changes to the Telecommunications Service Obligations (TSO).

We support the proposed review of the TSO framework, and believe that it is timely to assess whether there is a continuing need for a TSO in all parts of the country. We believe the current copper-based TSO should be updated to allow TSO services to be delivered over other available technologies such as mobile and fibre.

The telecommunications landscape has changed enormously in recent years, driven by extended take-up and coverage of fixed and mobile access networks. It makes sense for regulation to better reflect this new technological landscape.

Telecom recognises the critical role that fixed line telecommunications services play in keeping New Zealanders connected and is proud to be the TSO provider of residential access services to New Zealand. We are committed to continuing to provide essential telecommunications services to communities and businesses across New Zealand.

We will respond to the discussion paper and look forward to further development of the Government's TSO policy.

- ENDS -

The Ministerial media release is at:

<http://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/tso-discussion-document-released>

Discussion documents are available at:

<http://www.med.govt.nz/sectors-industries/technology-communication/communications/telecommunications-service-obligations/tso-review/review-of-the-tso-for-local-residential-telephone-service>

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