

# Customer Service Advice from Telstra

## **Staff Redeployment impact service in the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Districts of South Australia.**

Due to the effect of a series of severe thunderstorms, which have caused damage to the Telstra telecommunications network throughout widespread areas of New South Wales, there has been a significant increase in the number of Telstra services being reported as faulty in those regions.

Due to the extent and severity of these ongoing extreme weather events, Telstra are redeploying a large number of staff from across Australia to the affected regions. As a result, there will be delays to normal installation and repair activities in the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Districts, as staff from this region have been redeployed.

Telstra apologises to any affected customers.

Information as to the nature of the severe weather events, which included destructive winds, heavy rainfall and flash flooding which occurred in the affected regions can be sourced from the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM). The BOM issued Severe Weather Warnings regarding these events commencing on or about 3 December 2014 and continuing until 31 December 2014. Additionally these unusually severe weather events have been widely reported by most of the news media.

Telstra has identified that the effect of these circumstances may apply to approximately 3,600 services in South Australia. Some of these services may not be installed or repaired within Telstra's standard time frames. The number of possibly affected services may increase or decrease as Telstra assesses the full effect of the extreme weather conditions. Based on current information, the resumption date of Telstra's normal service operations is expected to be 1 February 2015. This date is indicative only, however, and may be subject to change once the full impact of the extreme weather conditions has been assessed. Telstra regrets any inconvenience caused to customers and thanks them for their patience while this work is being undertaken.

Telstra services encompassed in this exemption are in the area bounded by and including, but not limited to, the area starting at St Kilda heading southeast to Holden Hill, then south to Paradise. The area then heads southwest past Kensington Park through to Blackwood, then south to Clarendon and southeast to Macclesfield. The area then turns south to Goolwa and following the coastline clockwise past Victor Harbor, Cape Jervis and Port Adelaide back to St Kilda. All suburbs and towns including off shore islands and coastal areas serviced by Telstra within these boundaries are encompassed in this exemption.

Services in the area mentioned above with phone numbers in the following number ranges may have been affected:

08 7522 4000	<b>To</b>	08 7522 4999	08 8290 0000	<b>To</b>	08 8449 9999
08 8100 0700	<b>To</b>	08 8116 6499	08 8536 6000	<b>To</b>	08 8536 7999
08 8130 0000	<b>To</b>	08 8139 7999	08 8550 0000	<b>To</b>	08 8559 9999
08 8150 0000	<b>To</b>	08 8249 9999	08 8598 0000	<b>To</b>	08 8598 9999
08 8260 0000	<b>To</b>	08 8279 9999			

As these circumstances were outside of Telstra's control, Telstra is claiming an exemption from compliance with time frames and performance standards required under the *Telecommunications (Customer Service Guarantee) Standard 2011*. Therefore

Telstra is notifying customers that normal installation and repair time frames may not be met during the period from **12 January 2015** to **1 February 2015** inclusive (based on Telstra's estimated recovery schedule correct at the time of publication of this notice) and, under section 21 of the *Telecommunications (Customer Service Guarantee) Standard 2011*, Telstra will be exempt from complying with performance standards during this period.

If you have any questions regarding your eligibility for a CSG payment under this notice, or would like us to reconsider whether the circumstances were a proper basis for claiming an exemption, you may contact us on the number displayed on your telephone account or alternatively on 132203 for service difficulties and faults or 132200 for sales, installations and billing- quoting CSG Exemption reference number **20150112-SA-S-C-P-ADELAIDE AND MOUNT LOFTY RANGES**.

Copies of this notice are available on our Internet site at <http://telstra.com.au/abouttelstra/commitments/mass-service-disruption/> or you may request a copy by calling one of the Telstra numbers mentioned above.

If, after calling Telstra on one of the above numbers, you remain unsatisfied with our response to your query, you have the option of raising the matter with the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman (TIO). Information on the TIO and contact details are available on the Internet ([www.tio.com.au](http://www.tio.com.au)) and in the White Pages® telephone directory.

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