Customer Service Advice from Telstra

Extreme Weather events impact service in Capricornia and parts of the Central Coast Whitsundays and the Wide Bay and Burnett Districts of Queensland.

As previously notified by Telstra on Saturday 28 February 2015, Telstra’s normal operations in the Capricornia and parts of the Central Coast Whitsundays and the Wide Bay and Burnett Districts of Queensland were affected by a series of extreme weather events on or about Thursday 19 February 2015 through to Saturday 21 February 2015. Telstra’s telecommunications network in these areas have experienced high levels of damage that resulted in delays to installation and repair activities on a significant number of Telstra services. Due to the extent of damage to the Telstra network, the impact in the affected region has been greater than initially estimated, and as a consequence of the continued weather effects, the expected recovery date has now been extended to 3 May 2015.

Telstra has identified that the effect of these circumstances applies to an additional 2,100 services bringing the total number of services impacted to approximately 5,500 services. This number may increase as Telstra assesses the full affect of the extreme weather conditions. Based on current information, the resumption date of normal service operations is expected to be 3 May 2015. This date is indicative only; Telstra customers should anticipate that some further delays may occur. 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 is not limited to, the area starting at Seaforth following the coastline south past Mackay, Yeppoon, Gladstone and Bundaberg to Burrum Heads. From Burrum Heads the area then turns southwest to Coalsloun Lakes, northwest to Mount Perry and southwest to Taroom. From here the area heads north to Boolburra and northwest past Bluff and Valkyrie to Hail Creek and then northeast back to Seaforth. All suburbs and towns, 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:

- 07 4126 0000 To 07 4133 9999
- 07 4150 0000 To 07 4167 9999
- 07 4190 6000 To 07 4199 7999
- 07 4331 0000 To 07 4331 1999
- 07 4835 2000 To 07 4842 9999
- 07 4862 2000 To 07 4862 2999
- 07 4898 0000 To 07 4979 9999
- 07 4990 0000 To 07 4999 4999

As these circumstances were outside of Telstra’s control, Telstra is claiming an extension to time frames applying under the Telecommunications (Customer Service Guarantee) Standard 2011. This means that Telstra is notifying customers that normal service time frames may not be met during the period of 23 February 2015 to 3 May 2015 inclusive (based on Telstra’s estimated recovery schedule correct at the time of publication of this notice).

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 20150223-QLD-E-C-P-COASTAL AND CENTRAL QLD.
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 you are still not satisfied with the outcome, you have the option to raise the matter with the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman (TIO). Information on the TIO and contact details are available on the Internet (www.tio.com.au) and in the White Pages® directory.

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