

Customer Service Advice from Telstra

Severe Weather events impact service in Hunter and Central Tablelands Districts of New South Wales.

As previously notified by Telstra on Thursday 14 January 2016, Telstra's normal operations in the Hunter and Central Tablelands Districts of New South Wales were affected by a series of severe weather events on or about Monday 4 January 2016 through to Wednesday 6 January 2016. 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 27 March 2016.

Telstra has identified that the effect of these circumstances applies to an additional 6,600 services bringing the total number of services impacted to approximately 14,000 services. This number may increase as Telstra assesses the full affect of the severe weather conditions. Based on current information, the resumption date of normal service operations is expected to be 27 March 2016. 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 Crowdy Head then following the NSW coast southwest past Forster, Nelson Bay, Newcastle, The Entrance to Patonga. From Patonga the area heads southwest to Galston, west to Londonderry, northwest past Mt Wilson to Glen Davis then north to Coulsons Creek. From Coulsons Creek the area heads northeast past Ellerston to Elands then southeast back to Crowdy Head. 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:

02 4014 0500	To	02 4015 9999	02 6537 0000	To	02 6559 3999
02 4028 1000	To	02 4042 1999	02 6570 2100	To	02 6579 7999
02 4320 0000	To	02 4399 8199	02 6591 3900	To	02 6591 7999
02 4560 0000	To	02 4588 9999	02 9456 0000	To	02 9457 9999
02 4902 0000	To	02 4999 9999	02 9472 8000	To	02 9480 0999
02 5556 0000	To	02 5556 4999	02 9652 0000	To	02 9658 8999
02 5594 5000	To	02 5594 5999	02 9847 1000	To	02 9847 1999
02 6520 1000	To	02 6526 9999			

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 **7 January 2016 to 27 March 2016** 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 **20160107-NSW-E-C-P-HUNTER AND CENTRAL TABLELANDS**.

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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