Telstra and Industry Associations

This document sets out why Telstra participates in industry and business associations and the key principles that inform our participation and engagement with those organisations.

Why we value membership in industry associations

Telstra maintains memberships with a number of industry and broader business associations that we believe provide value to our business, industry and the wider economy.

The value and scope of the services provided varies across associations, but in general they have an important role to play through activities like sharing of global best practice and contributing to the development of effective policy, regulation and industry standards, all things that ultimately benefit our industry, the economy, and society as a whole.

Association memberships can bring access to the latest industry thinking and insights around issues including health and safety, the environment, indigenous reconciliation, regional communities and community engagement.

They also provide the opportunity to exchange views and experiences with other members, including those who may hold views different to ours. That diversity of thought is something we see as a positive; an opportunity for different attitudes and positions to contribute to open debate, discussion and hopefully consensus on complex issues.

Our principles for engaging with key industry associations

These principles have been developed to guide and inform how we engage with industry associations.

While the scope of different industry associations varies, in general we seek to be part of organisations which:

- Create value for Telstra and our industry
- Create opportunities to better understand issues affecting our industry and contribute to the development of effective and efficient policy, regulation and industry standards
- Create professional development and training opportunities
- Facilitate the sharing of industry best practice and insights
- Assist us to better understand the diverse views held on important issues affecting industry.

In maintaining our membership with industry associations we know that all members will not share the same position on all issues, which means there will be times when other members will have views not aligned with Telstra's position. Where this occurs, we engage with the association leadership and ensure our position is publicly disclosed. We believe industry associations should refrain from advocacy in areas where no broad industry consensus exists – in these areas individual members are best placed to advocate their views independently.

In addition we also regularly review our memberships of industry associations to ensure our participation remains constructive and in line with our broader interests and positions on key issues. We also expect industry associations to have clear and transparent governance and advocacy and lobbying arrangements.