

Western Australian Telecommunications Resilience Pilot Program

FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT – INFRASTRUCTURE

Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule

| Parties | Commonwealth Western Australia | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---------|--|--|--------------|---------|-------|------------------------|-----|-----|--|-----|-----|-------------------|-----|-----|--|---------|-------|-------------------|-----|-----|
| Duration | This Schedule is expected to expire on 30 June 2025 or when all project deliverables outlined in this Schedule have been completed and acquitted. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purpose | This Schedule will support the delivery of the Western Australian Telecommunications Resilience Pilot Program (publicly announced as the Western Australian Telstra Automatic Transfer Unit Pilot Deployment Program) which will deliver urgent upgrades to telecommunications infrastructure during the bushfire season in priority locations in the Wheatbelt and Western Goldfields. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Estimated financial contributions | <p>The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the States of \$2.0 million in respect of this Schedule.</p> <table><tr><th colspan="3">Table 1</th></tr><tr><th>(\$ million)</th><th>2024-25</th><th>Total</th></tr><tr><td>Estimated total budget</td><td>5.0</td><td>5.0</td></tr><tr><td>Less estimated National Partnership Payments</td><td>2.0</td><td>2.0</td></tr><tr><td>Western Australia</td><td>2.0</td><td>2.0</td></tr></table> <table><tr><th>Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions (\$ million)</th><th>2024-25</th><th>Total</th></tr><tr><td>Western Australia</td><td>3.0</td><td>3.0</td></tr></table> <p>Note: Total proposed investment is approximately \$4.87 million for 120 Automatic Transfer Units (ATU) and 76 generators. The actual cost will be determined by an approach to market. WA Government proposes to purchase and install 40 ATUs at an estimated cost of \$1.01 million and purchase 38 generators at an estimated cost of \$0.92 million. The Commonwealth is contributing match funding and the Commonwealth’s contribution is capped at \$2 million. Telstra will also purchase 40 ATUs at an estimated cost of \$1.01 million.</p> | Table 1 | | | (\$ million) | 2024-25 | Total | Estimated total budget | 5.0 | 5.0 | Less estimated National Partnership Payments | 2.0 | 2.0 | Western Australia | 2.0 | 2.0 | Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions (\$ million) | 2024-25 | Total | Western Australia | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| Table 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (\$ million) | 2024-25 | Total | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Estimated total budget | 5.0 | 5.0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Less estimated National Partnership Payments | 2.0 | 2.0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Western Australia | 2.0 | 2.0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions (\$ million) | 2024-25 | Total | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Western Australia | 3.0 | 3.0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Additional terms | Support for improved telecommunications resilience aligns with the policy intent of the Better Connectivity Plan for Regional and Rural Australia, which includes funding for two initiatives targeted at improving the resilience of infrastructure in regional and remote | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Australia - the Telecommunications Disaster Resilience Innovation (TDRI) Program and Mobile Network Hardening Program. In addition, funding will be provided to the WA Government for a resilience upgrade initiative via a single one-off payment. This funding recognises the importance of upgrading the resilience of local mobile communications infrastructure, with a focus on delivering upgrades prior to the 2025 bushfire and emergency season, which WA advises commences in October 2025.

The WA Telecommunications Resilience Program will provide grant funding to Telstra to install 120 Automatic Transfer Units (ATUs) and 76 transportable generators at priority locations in the Remote and Regional WA. Funding for the ATUs has already been contracted by the WA Government, and funding for the generators will be provided through a competitive grants program, with Councils in priority areas encouraged to apply for funding to deliver the infrastructure.

Automatic Transfer Units allow rapid transfer between primary and alternative power sources, such as a generator, to ensure the availability of electrical power from the most reliable power supply available and increased resilience in the event of a natural disaster. Establishing a reliable power supply can be critical for telecommunications infrastructure after an outage.

Noting the benefits derived from ATU technology rely on the ready deployment of generators to sites, the single one-off payment will ensure funding delivers a practical resilience upgrade prior to the 2025 bushfire and emergency season.

The WA Government is a trusted partner and is working with local governments and established telecommunications provider to deliver the initiative. The WA Government has committed to reporting outcomes and sharing learnings with both the Commonwealth and other states and territories through established quarterly officials' meetings.

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| Table 2: Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary | | |
|--|------------|-------------|
| Performance milestones | Report due | Payment |
| ATU deployment program commenced with industry partner. Commonwealth acceptance of a report containing: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• grant program guidelines;• identification of selected regions;• identification of selected councils;• project resources; and,• detailed schedule/timeline of work | 15/5/2025 | \$2,000,000 |

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

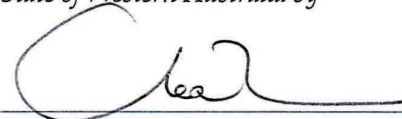
Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth
of Australia by



The Honourable Michelle Rowland MP
Minister for Communications

28 March 2025

Signed for and on behalf of the
State of Western Australia by



The Honourable Stephen Dawson MLC
Minister for Regional Development

5 ~~March~~ April 2025

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