

I express extreme disapproval at abolishing the USO as service is already questionable. A landline fault at our property took 6 weeks to solve in September 2016 and notice from Telstra regarding repair time was unreliable. Action was only received once I became very stressed and angry requesting an Australian call operator and compensation. It seems that there is no contact for an Australia based Telstra service. Another issue that is common in my district is that Wireless internet seems to use Gigs without reason - all other devices are turned off so usage is limited to 1 computer. Another life threatening situation occurred with 2 power outages when the landlines and mobiles also went down. With medical services up to 200 kms away, the Royal Flying Doctor service is the lifeblood of the bush but is no help if contact cant be made. If these faults are occurring while a USO is still in place then what hope do we have once the USO is gone. I strongly appose the USO abolishment as the bush is already struggling to survive and needs all the support of communication services.