

In reference to the Universal Service Obligation being wound back by the Federal Govt I would like to voice my strong disapproval to this action. Whilst mobiles are being used more and more many people in the remote areas still depend on very heavily on the landline service. Just two weeks ago there was an incident with my neighbour and I where we were the recipients of a large storm and we kept in contact with the landline as the mobile service was unavailable. The situation was quite alarming but at least we knew how the other was faring etc. I personally do not and never have used my mobile in preference to the landline. I get headaches from the mobile and the voice quality leaves a lot to be desired. I use message bank on the landline and is my main way of communicating and collecting messages. Whilst bushfires are around landlines are invaluable, there are many places the mobiles don't work in remote areas. We cannot depend on the mobile system in the bush as it is too unreliable. We need to keep our landlines in good working order. Yours Sincerely Anny O'Connor