# Cover for: Telecommunications Universal Service Obligation, Productivity Commission Draft Report, Overview, November 2016. This is a draft report prepared for further public consultation and input. The Commission will finalise its report after these processes have taken place.Telecommunications Universal Service Obligation

Draft Report Overview

Productivity Commission Draft Report

Commonwealth of Australia 2016



Except for the Commonwealth Coat of Arms and content supplied by third parties, this copyright work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia licence. To view a copy of this licence, visit [<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au>](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au). In essence, you are free to copy, communicate and adapt the work, as long as you attribute the work to the Productivity Commission (but not in any way that suggests the Commission endorses you or your use) and abide by the other licence terms.

Use of the Commonwealth Coat of Arms

For terms of use of the Coat of Arms visit the ‘[It’s an Honour](http://www.itsanhonour.gov.au/coat-arms/index.cfm)’ website: <http://www.itsanhonour.gov.au>

Third party copyright

Wherever a third party holds copyright in this material, the copyright remains with that party. Their permission may be required to use the material, please contact them directly.

Attribution

This work should be attributed as follows, *Source: Productivity Commission, Telecommunications Universal Service Obligation, Draft Report*

If you have adapted, modified or transformed this work in anyway, please use the following, *Source: based on Productivity Commission data, Telecommunications Universal Service Obligation, Draft Report.*

An appropriate reference for this publication is:

Productivity Commission 2016, *Telecommunications Universal Service Obligation,* Draft Report, Canberra.

Publications enquiries

Media and Publications, phone: (03) 9653 2244 or email: maps@pc.gov.au

|  |
| --- |
| The Productivity Commission |
| The Productivity Commission is the Australian Government’s independent research and advisory body on a range of economic, social and environmental issues affecting the welfare of Australians. Its role, expressed most simply, is to help governments make better policies, in the long term interest of the Australian community.  The Commission’s independence is underpinned by an Act of Parliament. Its processes and outputs are open to public scrutiny and are driven by concern for the wellbeing of the community as a whole.  Further information on the Productivity Commission can be obtained from the Commission’s website ([www.pc.gov.au](http://www.pc.gov.au/)). |
|  |

# Opportunity for further comment

You are invited to examine this draft inquiry report and comment on it by written submission to the Productivity Commission, preferably in electronic format, by **20 January 2017** and/or by attending a public hearing

The final report will be prepared after further submissions have been received and public hearings have been held and will be forwarded to the Australian Government by 28 April 2017.

### Public hearings

The Commission will be holding public hearings in Cairns, Sydney, Dubbo, Port Augusta, Launceston and Melbourne in late January and early February 2017. Details regarding dates and venues will be made available on the Commission’s website in due course.

### Commissioner

For the purposes of this inquiry the Commissioner is:

|  |
| --- |
| Paul Lindwall |

Contents

Opportunity for further comment iii

Key points 2

Overview 3

The Commission’s approach 5

The TUSO is past its use‑by date 6

A new universal service framework is needed 9

The NBN (and markets) have an important role to play 10

How much funding and who should pay? 15

Transitional matters 16

Draft recommendations, findings and information requests 19

The full report is available from [www.pc.gov.au](http://www.pc.gov.au)