

Environment and Public Affairs Committee

From: Jordan S
Sent: Sunday, 7 September 2014 9:39 PM
To: Environment and Public Affairs Committee
Subject: Petition No.52 Telecommunication Service Barrow Island

To Ms Amanda Gillingham

I am writing to provide a written submission in regards to my Telecoms Petition No.52 about the poor communications on Barrow Island.

There are over 6000 people currently working on Barrow Island and the numbers are increasing.

We work an average of 70hrs per week and are away for 26 days in a row at a time, in a very isolated part of Australia.

Communications are very important to keep up morale within the working men and women on the Project by keeping in contact with Loved Ones and Friends and Family.

With recent increases in depression in the FIFO industry, not too mention the 10 Suicides in the WA construction industry in the past 12 months and the 2 Suicides in the last month by workers on Barrow Island! It is hard to believe the third rate telecommunication services that exist on the project are continuing.

Obviously poor communications can add a lot of stress to a construction person, especially one who works away months at a time, in remote locations.

Calls are continuing to drop out, or simply can not be made from mobile phones. The internet is virtually non existent between peak times and there are not many other options to make a call or contact people up here.

The Gorgon Project is no ordinary project, this is a Multi Billion Dollar Gas Project (70 Billion so Far) that both Chevron and the Government have put a lot of money into, surely we deserve a first rate Telecoms service!

Myself and the majority of people on the Project can not believe this issue has not been addressed by Chevron / Telstra, so we ask for some help from our members of parliament.

If you require any other information let me know via email.

Regards

Jordan Sanger