

The disablement of Australia's 3G network, and the upcoming changes to Australia's emergency calling rules, are anti-consumer, anti-competition, anti-safety, anti-business and anti common sense. These changes will require network providers to block devices they believe cannot call triple zero (000/112). The carriers must completely cease providing service to that device, even if the device has working calling, SMS and Data!

As a result, providers are effectively artificially blocking people from connecting starting in November, even if they have working calling, emergency calling, data and SMS.

I strongly encourage the ACMA to modify the implementation of this change so that devices which are capable of accessing calls, data, SMS, and emergency calling (including many internationally purchased devices) are NOT artificially blocked. Furthermore, to avoid potential catastrophe, considerations must be made before disabling the 3G network, to ensure all 4G & 5G Voice Over LTE devices are capable of making emergency calls, especially in regional and rural areas. There must also be assurance that small businesses and farmers across the country have had adequate time to replace 3G enabled 'Internet of Things' devices, many of which will be rendered non-functional by switching off the 3G network.

In summary, the ACMA must modify the implementation and lobby the Minister to the full extent of its powers to alter the above-mentioned changes and their consequences. Thank you.