



# Media Release

## Senator Mathias Cormann *Shadow Minister for Employment Participation, Apprenticeships and Training*

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### **WA Forgotten in Reckless NBN Rollout Plan**

Western Australia is right at the back of the queue and will miss out on the Rudd Labor government's reckless broadband scheme for the foreseeable future, WA Liberal Senator Mathias Cormann said on a visit to Kalgoorlie today.

"This is just another example of the Eastern States centric attitude of a Labor government which is happy to choke our resources sector with additional taxes, but is not giving us our fair share here in WA," Senator Cormann said.

"The reckless nature with which this \$43 billion 'National Broadband Network' has been cobbled together and is being rolled out is typical of the rushed and ill-thought out way the Rudd Government makes its major decisions," Senator Cormann said.

"It is difficult to think of another example of a project with this much taxpayers money involved, which has been embarked upon by a government with so little planning.

"Information recently uncovered in Senate Estimates shows that Kalgoorlie and all of Western Australia has missed out in the 'National' Broadband Network roll out plan so far," Senator Cormann said.

According to answers received to questions in Senate Estimates the Australia-wide rollout of the National Broadband Network is not expected to be completed until 2019.

"While sites have been identified in NSW, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania not one single site has been selected under the 'National' Broadband Network plan for WA so far.

"If the Rudd Labor government had not pulled the plug on plans for improved broadband which were well progressed under the Howard government, people in Kalgoorlie and across regional WA would have access to faster internet services today.

"Western Australians do want to see improved broadband that is quicker, more affordable and more reliable.

"Our commitment if elected to government is to take faster action to address the needs of under-served areas.

"If the people of Kalgoorlie want to see a fair share of resources returned from Canberra I would urge them to support Wilson Tuckey our Liberal Candidate for O'Connor at the next election," Senator Cormann said.

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