



Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck

Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources

Liberal Senator for Tasmania

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Download Cap Scrapped on NBN Sky Muster Satellite Service

Tasmanian families and businesses are set to be major beneficiaries of a new initiative to upgrade the capacity and capability of the NBN Sky Muster satellite service.

Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, Senator Richard Colbeck, welcomed the upgrade as a major boost to internet access in remote areas.

Senator Colbeck: “Sky Muster provides NBN access to some of our most remote areas, such as King Island and the West Coast, where access to high quality internet is essential to overcome the tyranny of distance.

“On the North West, West Coast and King Island we have 1,000 premises registered on the NBN Sky Muster satellite service and scrapping the download cap will encourage a further 2,638 premises to take up the service.

“Businesses in remote areas, particularly those in primary industries, will also be able to further modernise and digitise their operations, which will drive productivity gains for our exporters.

“Farmers are increasingly embracing precision agriculture, with harvesting data becoming almost as important as harvesting crops.

“Boosting “burst” downloads speeds above 25 Megabits per second will make data transfers between farmers and agronomists far less excruciating than previously.

“With mountainous terrain, isolated communities and a primary industries sector punching above its weight, the North West, West Coast and King Island will be major beneficiaries of the \$2 billion NBN Sky Muster program.”

The new product is to be known as Sky Muster Plus and it will provide unmetered monthly data for web-browsing, email and software updates, and is expected to be available in 2019.

For more information about the Sky Muster satellite service visit: www.nbnco.com.au

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Media Contact: Felix Ellis 0457 517 734

Authorised by Senator Richard Colbeck, 5-7 Best St, Devonport TAS 7310