



19 December 2023

Tasmanian Planning Commission  
GPO Box 1691  
Hobart TAS 7001.

Via email: [tpc@planning.tas.gov.au](mailto:tpc@planning.tas.gov.au)

Dear Tasmanian Planning Commission,

### **Macquarie Point Multipurpose Stadium Project of State Significance Draft Guidelines**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Guidelines (the Guidelines) for the Macquarie Point Multipurpose Stadium Project of State Significance.

NBN Co (**nbn**) is the Federal Government-owned broadband network and wholesale service provider, with a purpose of lifting the digital capability of Australia by providing fast, reliable and affordable connectivity. **nbn** works in partnership with property developers and the wider building and construction industry to provide new developments with fast, reliable and secure broadband. This is aimed at providing residents and businesses with the ability to embrace digital connectivity that powers smart buildings, communities and cities, as well as the possibilities created by the Internet of Things (IoT), including critical or high bandwidth applications where fibre connectivity is preferred.

Providing world-class digital connectivity for the Stadium and surrounding precinct is a priority to ensure businesses and visitors have the best experience possible. As an open access wholesaler, NBN Co provides wholesale-only broadband services and related activities to access seekers, including RSPs, on a non-discriminatory basis. It is through RSPs that customers connect to the **nbn** network for access to high-speed internet. This approach seeks to help level the playing field in the Australian telecommunications industry, enhancing competition and innovation and providing greater choice for customers within the precinct. Furthermore, our business grade Enterprise Ethernet service enables business customers to order broadband based on wholesale speed tiers of close to 10 Gbps which is up to 10 times faster than previously available on the nbn network. As the proposed Stadium is located within the Hobart Business Fibre Zone, **nbn** offers Enterprise Ethernet to 19 service providers with no up-front build costs, and at its most competitive wholesale service pricing.

Connecting the stadium to fast broadband internet via services over the **nbn** open access network will be essential to enable back-of-house functions including security, catering, advertising and broadcast media, as well as support Wi-Fi functionality which can provide spectators access to event information such as estimated wait time at on-site food and beverage venues or live car parking or public transport updates outside the stadium.

When it comes to newly developed properties, it is critically important that broadband network infrastructure and services are arranged by the property developer as part of the property development process. **nbn** welcomes the Guidelines' recognition of utility services, however to provide sufficient clarity that internet connectivity is considered a utility service, we recommend specifically referring to open access broadband network and services alongside the other listed utilities in Section 9.3 of the Guidelines. It is important that any reports submitted to the Commission by the proponent demonstrate that the development will adhere to the fibre-ready facilities requirements under the part 20A of the *Telecommunications Act 1997* and those in Telecommunications in New Developments policy.



Noting that Part I, Section 1.0 (c) of the Guidelines states that the Project includes “a public concourse adjacent to the stadium”, the Commission may also consider including a reference in Part II, Section 1.1.1 of the Guideline to the public concourse as well as the stadium.

As the planning and development of smart cities, suburbs, precincts, and buildings rapidly increases, we know businesses and communities are looking to experience the benefits of smart devices, applications and solutions across various outdoor locations. One of the ways the **nbn** is enabling this is through a new wholesale product called nbn Smart Places, which is designed to allow customers to connect to smart infrastructure and the Internet of Things (IoT) outside of buildings.

**nbn** is using innovative new equipment including smaller, more robust, more energy efficient network connection devices, which enable the power of the **nbn** network to be delivered across outdoor locations that are not serviceable using standard equipment. This allows the **nbn** network to be connected to eligible locations outside of buildings including digital billboards, public Wi-Fi, traffic lights, and CCTV.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment. We look forward to providing comment on the draft integrated assessment report. Should you have any questions or require any further information, please contact Angus McKenzie-Wills, State Government Relations at [angusmckenziewills@nbnco.com.au](mailto:angusmckenziewills@nbnco.com.au) or 0474 748 841

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AW', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Andrew Walsh  
Executive General Manager  
New Developments  
NBN Co Limited