

10 November 2016

The Chair
Commerce Committee
New Zealand Parliament



**TCF Submission on Telecommunications (Property Access and Other Matters) Amendment
Bill Interim Report of the Commerce Committee**

The New Zealand Telecommunications Forum (TCF) is submitting on the Commerce Committee's Interim Report regarding the Telecommunications (Property Access and Other Matters) Amendment Bill.

The TCF supports the inclusion of the new subpart 4 of Part 4 of the Bill to grant statutory rights of access to use existing electricity works to deploy fibre optic cable for the purposes of delivering telecommunication services.

Whilst the TCF provides general support to the proposed subpart 4 it notes to the Commerce Committee that individual TCF Members may provide their own submission on the drafting of the proposed subpart and on the Committee's request to receive comment on the economics of the assumptions made in the drafting of potential maximum distance from breakout point to end-user premises of 200 metres and 500 metres. It was not possible to conclude a TCF position on this point within the consultation timeframe.

The TCF lends its support to the inclusion of the new subpart 4 of Part 4 of the Bill and its purpose to encourage the deployment of fibre as widely as possible to bring benefits of telecommunications connectivity to rural New Zealand by extending the reach of UFB services.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Thorn', followed by a horizontal line.

Geoff Thorn
Chief Executive Officer
New Zealand Telecommunications Forum (TCF)