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FEDERAL MEMBER FOR LYNE

OAKESHOTT
INDEPENDENT

MEDIA RELEASE

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MID-NORTH COAST LOOKS TO LEAD IN RACE FOR HIGH SPEED BROADBAND

THE Mid-North Coast would be among the first communities in mainland Australia to enjoy the benefits of high-speed broadband under a proposal being put to the Federal Government.

Independent MP for Lyne Robert Oakeshott has teamed up with Federal MP for Page Janelle Saffin and Southern Cross University to lobby the Federal Government to begin its mainland rollout of the National Broadband Network (NBN) on the eastern coastal corridor of NSW.

A detailed submission, compiled by Southern Cross University's Professor of Information Technology and Information Systems, Professor Peter Croll, has already been handed to Broadband, Communications and Digital Economy Minister Stephen Conroy.

Mr Oakeshott said the proposal, which advocates for communities between the Great Lakes and the Tweed Shire to be among the first to benefit from the \$43 billion project, was a collaborative effort involving 14 local councils and businesses.

"The delivery of high-speed broadband to our region is arguably the most significant contribution government could make to supporting the future of our region and the sooner this happens, the better," he said.

"I have met with the Member for Page, Janelle Saffin, in Canberra this week and we are now directly lobbying the minister on the significance of this proposal for our region.

"Our three local councils and State MPs are also being encouraged to get behind this proposal.

The North Coast and Mid-North Coast could benefit from an early roll-out that would try to connect Sydney and South-East Queensland via an east coast corridor. This forms the basis of our argument, and we will continue to push for the preferred outcome.

Mr Oakeshott said the submission could be viewed at www.gobroadband.org.au.

"Anyone wanting to join the campaign is encouraged to write to Senator Conroy directly or contact my office on 1300 301 836," he said.

ENDS.

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