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Mr Gerard Martin
Member for Bathurst
140 William Street
BATHURST NSW 2795

Dear Mr Martin

Re: Mobile Telephones and Volunteer Safety

I write to you at the behest of the Canobolas Zone NSW Rural Fire Service in support of concerns raised with regard the current state of the mobile telephone network and the increased risk this is placing on the safety and welfare of volunteer fire fighters.

Serious concerns are expressed at the loss of mobile telephone coverage in the area as the Next G coverage and handsets are unsuitable compared to the previously supplied service from the CDMA network. With the current situation neither network is providing acceptable coverage and this loss of communications capability is providing a safety and OH&S risk for volunteer fire fighters.

The message from the volunteer fire fighters to the decision makers is very clear; the current mobile telephone network does not work.

Yours faithfully

James Roncon
General Manager