



**Peter Dutton MP**

Federal Member for Dickson

**Seath Holswich MP**

State Member for Pine Rivers

# JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 20 April 2012

Page 1 of 2

## **Local rage over repeated broadband delay**

The Labor Government is 'pork barrelling' seats of Ministers to save them at the next election. As a result Coalition seats, including Dickson, are again facing a very long wait for broadband.

Dickson first faced delay when the Labor Government cancelled the Howard Government's contract with the OPEL consortium to deliver a broadband network in outer suburban and rural and remote Australia by 2009. Had this contract proceeded, hundreds of thousands of homes would now be receiving broadband services – instead many now face a long wait before services are available under Labor's NBN.

The Federal Member for Dickson, the Hon Peter Dutton MP, has stated that the electorate is again facing delay because of the politicised rollout, despite being one of the fastest growing metropolitan areas.

"There can't be any question about that the fact that seats like Dickson and Brisbane have missed out almost entirely, and given the significance of Brisbane and the central business district and Dickson, which is one of the fastest-growing metropolitan areas, there can only be political motives behind it," Mr Dutton said.

Against the backdrop of Labor's 'Pink Batts' delivery record and broken carbon tax promise, local residents and business people are facing yet another Labor failure. They are angry about the neglect of Dickson in the latest NBN rollout plans.

"I was at a shopping centre talking to some small businesses recently and they are white hot with rage because they know that political games are being played and they are missing out," Mr Dutton said.

The new State Member for Pine Rivers, Seath Holswich MP, is also standing up for local residents unhappy about the long wait for broadband.

“Warner and Cashmere residents are appalled at the ever increasing delay for broadband. They rightly think it is ridiculous to wait years for broadband living in a growing metropolitan area,” Mr Holswich said.

The Coalition’s plan will deliver a better result for Dickson as part of a uniform national broadband network, under which 97 percent of premises are able to be served by high speed networks capable of delivering speeds up to 100Mbps.

**ENDS**

**Media contacts:**

**Kenneth King – 0437 436 780 or (07) 3205 9977 [kenneth.king@aph.gov.au](mailto:kenneth.king@aph.gov.au)**

**Seath Holswich MP (07) 3205 6779 [Seath.Holswich@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:Seath.Holswich@parliament.qld.gov.au)**