

NAUIYU NAMBIYU COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT COUNCIL

“BACKING INDIGENOUS ABILITY” - Discussion Paper

Response from Nauiyu Nambiyu Community Government Council

General

Most remote communities operate businesses, government, CDEP and enterprises. In order to manager business in a professional and timely manner an efficient, effective and reliable communications system is paramount.

In the Top End too often satellite systems go down when thick cloud cover, usually storms, are overhead, and when aren't they in the Wert season?

In such instances there is one only dedicated microwave link for emergency uses.

Our Council's CDEP now spends approximately \$500/month on Broadband, mainly just to keep CDEPManager operating. All CDEPs rely totally on their ability to communicate on a daily basis with the CDEP main data base, which relies either on dedicated land lines, or in many cases, on their satellite links.

If CDEP was a business it could not tolerate the inefficiencies in this system. This is one area that needs a far greater commitment from government and maybe, TELSTRA.

With Banking, the same issues apply. The bulk of our Council business is done via EFT through its link to our bank. The same issues apply here as with CDEP.

Telephone Boxes

We have issues with the technology currently in use with pay phone in out Community. It would far better suit out Community to do away with cash phones (in the telephone boxes – there may be justification with one pay phone as we currently have at the Store) and replace with phone cards.

The majority of our Community houses use Electricity Cards and people would easily adapt to Phone cards which would be sold through our Store as per Power Cards.

Video/Teleconferencing

This facility is lacking in our Community which is to our detriment in attempting to operate businesses in today's modern technological environment. This is especially true with Job Interviews.

Public Internet Access

This is a highly desirable, and lacking, facility in our Community. Council sees that the local School may be best established to handle such a facility.

C. W. Wicks

Chief Executive Officer

4/5/06