



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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MEDIA RELEASE

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WINDSOR SEEKS “PLEASE EXPLAIN” FROM COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER OVER TELSTRA CALL CENTRE JOBS

Independent Federal Member for New England, Tony Windsor, has asked for a “please explain” from the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, the Hon Daryl Williams, MP, and Telstra’s hierarchy, as to why there was a need to sack Telstra employees in Tamworth and other country call centres in NSW and Victoria when 220 new jobs have been created in a new call centre in Perth.

Mr Windsor was commenting on the recent sacking of 22 Telstra Call Centre employees in Tamworth.

Mr Windsor said the fact that Telstra seemed quite happy to move out of country Australia indicated that the real agenda, if fully privatised, would be to essentially abandon country New South Wales.

“It has been stated loud and clear that Telstra did not require the New South Wales and Victorian country call centre workers because of changed circumstances,” Mr Windsor said.

Telstra’s recent relocation of jobs to India and Perth, proves there are no geographic issues that impact on the location of Telstra jobs. Telstra’s claim that jobs have been lost to Tamworth and Armidale due to changed market conditions can be described as limp and misleading.”

“Now we see an announcement that more people are required for call centres but apparently not if you reside in the country,” Mr Windsor concluded.

For further information contact Tony Windsor, Ph (02) 6761 3080