



## **Amanda Rishworth MP MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **OPPOSITION WILL RISK AUSTRALIA'S ECONOMIC FUTURE IF NATIONAL BROADBAND NETWORK IS AXED**

Amanda Rishworth MP, Member for Kingston said Tony Abbott's plans to stop building the National Broadband Network would risk Australia's economic future.

Ms Rishworth said "The National Broadband Network is crucial economic infrastructure. Without it, local companies in the South will suffer.

"The Rudd Government is committed to bringing the world to the South's doorstep by equipping local businesses with the tools they need to be competitive.

"Mr Abbott wants Australia to fall behind our competitors in Asia and around the world.

"Tony Abbott is also threatening the 25,000 jobs nationally that will be supported every year of the National Broadband Network rollout."

Ms Rishworth said "As well as creating jobs, the National Broadband Network will provide a solution for businesses and householders in suburbs like Hallett Cove, Woodcroft, Aldinga and Sheidow Park who are frustrated by slow broadband speeds or have faced limited or no access to higher speed broadband plans."

"I am delighted that Willunga was selected for the first live test of the network's design to provide crucial information to assist in the roll out of the network in our community and across Australia" said Ms Rishworth.

The Howard Government had 18 failed broadband plans in 11 ½ years which left Australia falling behind most developed countries.

After 2 ½ years in opposition, the opposition still does not have an alternative broadband plan.

"While the opposition practices opposition for opposition's sake, the Rudd Government is getting on with building the National Broadband Network for all Australians – including people in the Southern Suburbs of Adelaide," said Ms Rishworth.