

Letter to the Editor from Telstra Wholesale's Kate McKenzie

Telstra updates on TEBA Access

On Friday I wrote to Telstra Wholesale's TEBA registered customers to update them on a recent audit of the Telstra exchanges on the TEBA capped sites list. Over the past two years the size of this list has increased and, as such, some access seekers have expressed concern about the number of exchanges to which they can not get access to install their equipment.

Telstra is committed to ensuring that the TEBA process works smoothly and fairly, recognising that there is sometimes limited available space in its exchange buildings and that this needs to be managed well.

In response to those concerns Telstra has conducted a detailed audit of all the exchanges on the list. As part of this audit we have also updated and standardised the rules and processes used to classify exchanges on the TEBA capped list. Telstra has also recently completed some capital works at some exchanges, which has made space available. Some sites have therefore been removed from the list as they are no longer capped.

The updated list can be viewed at the Telstra Wholesale website.

Some capped exchanges on the list have been put in a new category called "potential access", giving access seekers the opportunity to make a decision about whether they choose to invest their own capital to access a particular Telstra exchange. For example, where major work is required – such as installing air-conditioning, or internal modifications to the building –the access seeker will be required to undertake consultancy works to determine the feasibility, extent and cost of the works required. This will give them the information to decide if they want to make the necessary capital investment to get access to the exchange.

The TEBA list is not static. It will continue to change as access seekers apply for access and as network plans are made and reviewed.

Exchanges are capped because Telstra and access seekers have used all available space. For example, some of the exchanges on the capped list are small exchanges built decades ago in areas that are now population growth areas.

If after reviewing the updated list access seekers want to apply for access to one of the exchanges marked as "potential" access, or any of the exchanges that are now uncapped, the normal TEBA provisioning process will apply.

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