

# Rebate General Information for Communication Facilities Located on Crown Land

July 2015

## Introduction / Overview

The three NSW government agencies primarily responsible for the management of public land are:

- NSW Department of Primary Industries – Lands (the Department)
- NSW Office of Environment & Heritage - National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)
- Forestry Corporation of NSW (Forests NSW)

In July 2014 the NSW government adopted all 23 recommendations within the 2013 Independent Pricing & Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) Final Report - *Review of rental arrangements for communication towers on Crown land* (IPART report). A copy of the report is available at [www.ipart.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au).

A standard rental fee has been set for each density category, which may be offset by rebates for users that meet specified criteria. This document outlines the new rent and rebate arrangements, including the eligibility criteria and the application process for rebates. These arrangements apply to organisations occupying Crown land for communications purposes, administered under the *Crown Lands Act 1989* (CLA) and *Western Lands Act 1901* (WLA), managed by the Department.

## Eligibility

The Department has specified criteria for communication providers located on Crown land to determine eligibility for rebates.

Unless otherwise advised, communication providers are required to self identify which category best matches their operations. Please note that rebates will only be approved to communication providers who meet the definitions below and the rebate Assessment Criteria stated in the fact sheets:

Category	Definition
Community Groups	Special community interest groups that are run on a not-for-profit basis.
Budget Funded Sector	Government emergency services bodies (agencies or authorities) that deliver essential services to the public and typically cannot fully recover the value they create through user fees.  The Budget Funded Sector includes both Commonwealth and State Government Agencies/Authorities.
Local Service Providers	Commercial entities which solely or predominately service

communities in a limited number of low and /or medium locations (refer to [Density Classifications for Communication Sites on Crown Land](#)). Their business operations must be predominantly in these areas. The rebate is available only for sites in low and medium locations.'

Telephony Service Providers - Small Country Automatic Exchange Sites (SCAX)

Telephony service providers required to provide telephony services under government direction or legislative requirements in low density locations (refer to [IPART Location Categories](#)), specifically for small country automatic exchange sites (SCAX).

SCAX sites are unmanned facilities located in small huts which deliver fixed wire telephony services to remote customers.

## Rental Fees and Rebates Schedule

A [Standard Rent Fee and Rebates Schedule](#) will be applied by the Department for communication site rentals. To be eligible for a rental rebate, communication providers must meet the criteria for applicant assessment as provided in the relevant factsheet(s).

Communication providers must complete and submit a rebate application on the prescribed form by the due date. Where evidence is required to support the application, it must be provided at the time of submission.

Rebates are valid for a five (5) year period calculated on financial years. Applicants must re-apply at the end of the five (5) year period for eligibility to be reassessed. Successful rebate applicants are required to notify the Department if their circumstances change, as this may affect their rebate eligibility.

## Rebate Application Process

Communication providers who have facilities located on Crown land administered under the *Crown Lands Act 1989*, must use the steps below when applying to the Department for a rebate.

In making an application, communication providers are required to follow the following three (3) step process:

### 1. Select a Category - self identify from the list below, the category that best suits their organisation:

- Community Groups
- Budget funded sector
- Local Service Providers (LSPs)
- Telephony Service Providers - Small Country Automatic Exchange Sites (SCAX)

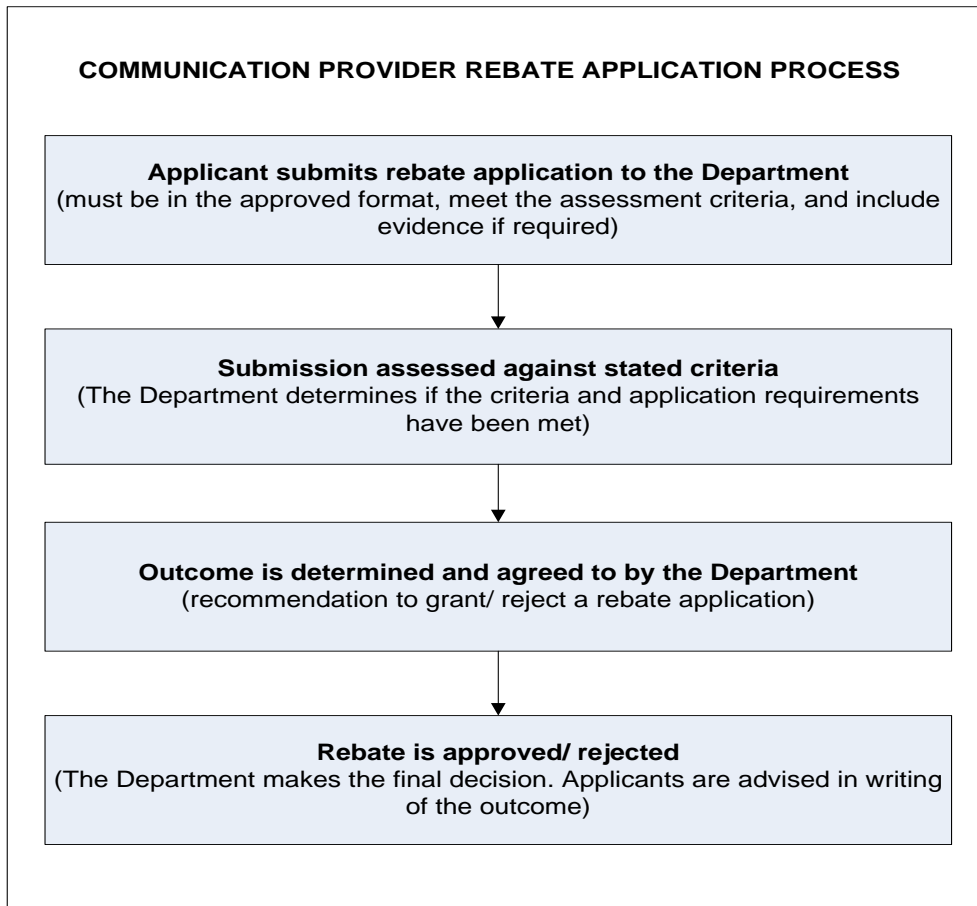
### 2. Address the Assessment Criteria

A factsheet has been developed for each of the categories above and contains the relevant Assessment Criteria for each category which must be addressed as part of the application.

### 3. Make the Application

The application must be:

- Made using the [Rebate Application](#) form
- Address the stated Assessment Criteria (refer factsheets)
- Include supporting documentation evidence required to support the application
- Be received by the Department by the specified closing date.



## More information

For more information, please contact:

Telecommunications Team  
NSW Department of Primary Industry – Lands  
PO Box 2215  
DANGAR NSW 2309

T: 02 4920 5057

E: [cl.telecommunications@crowmland.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cl.telecommunications@crowmland.nsw.gov.au)

W: [www.crowmland.nsw.gov.au](http://www.crowmland.nsw.gov.au)

© State of New South Wales through the NSW Department of Primary Industries - Lands 2015. You may copy, distribute and otherwise freely deal with this publication for any purpose, provided that you attribute the NSW Department of Primary Industry – Lands as the owner.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (July 2015). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the NSW Department of Primary Industries - Lands or the user's independent advisor.

Published by NSW Department of Primary Industries - Lands

*Rebate General Information for Communication Facilities Located on Crown Land*

*{DOC15/052933}, {FAC020} {V2}, {July 2015}*