

Poll shows Australians split on scrapping NBN following floods

Opposition leader Tony Abbott's suggestion that the National Broadband Network (NBN) should be scrapped following Queensland's flood crisis has split opinion among Australians, a survey shows. Broadband comparison site Compare Broadband asked visitors 'Tony Abbott believes the government should scrap the National Broadband Network (NBN) and focus on rebuilding following the flood crisis. Do you agree?' 48% of the 460 respondents who made a decision backed the Federal Government's view that the NBN should not be abandoned and 52% agreed with Tony Abbott. Sarah Routledge, spokesperson for Compare Broadband, said: "Politicians are arguing about where the money should come from for rebuilding in the aftermath of the floods and it looks as though neither side has quite convinced the public. It will be interesting to see how the Government comes up with the cash without compromising on its election promises." Mr Abbott has called on the Government to stop unnecessary spending in order to focus on reconstruction in Queensland and in parts of Victoria. At a recent press conference, the Liberals leader said: "The National Broadband Network is a luxury that Australia cannot now afford. The one thing you don't do is re-do your bathroom when the roof has just been blown off and that's the situation that we find ourselves in right now." The Government has insisted there will be no delay to the roll-out of the NBN, which it claims is an important investment in the country's future. Instead, Labor proposes scrapping a number of environment tax rebates, delaying some infrastructure projects, and imposing a one-off flood levy to pay for the damage caused by the flooding. However, the Opposition believes the money should be found by re-prioritising government spending. If you are in support of the NBN, you can sign this petition. ---- ENDS ---- About CompareBroadband.com.au: CompareBroadband.com.au is an Australian company providing a free, impartial comparison service and expert advice to consumers in relation to broadband plans from Australia's leading Internet Service Providers. Notes: 'Tony Abbott believes the government should scrap the National Broadband Network (NBN) and focus on rebuilding following the flood crisis. Do you agree?' 486 respondents, 48.77% (237 votes) said yes, 45.88% (223 votes) said no, (460 respondents made a decision) 3.29% (16 votes) said not sure, 2.06% (10 votes) said other.

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