

planting program has played an important part in restoring habitats of native wildlife around the world. Koalas are territorial creatures and rely on the protection of their habitats to thrive. By continuing our partnership with Felix, we can help ensure native trees and new growth continue to support Australia's rich and diverse wildlife."

Staff writer

First OneWifi neutral host site ready for service next month

OneWifi & Infrastructure managing director Mevan Jayatilleke said the company has begun works for the first site funded as part of the NSW Active Sharing Partnership. Jayatilleke said he expects it to be ready for service late next month, "only three months after being engaged" by the Department of Regional NSW.

In February, the NSW government announced it had signed the first agreement as part of the partnership, with OneWiFi & Infrastructure to deliver neutral host coverage in Brewarrina and Wilcannia, and Pivotal signing up to provide services using the infrastructure.



Jayatilleke (pictured) told the federal parliamentary inquiry into regional mobile infrastructure that the neutral host model will help "close the digital divide at the lowest marginal cost" while reducing the carbon footprint of telco services, facilitating competition and offering "real choice for the Australian consumer."

"The sharing of power [and] backhaul removes unnecessary duplication and reduces cost by 50%, while also reducing carbon footprint," he said "It also reduces active radio equipment, which saves another 25%. This improves the business case to facilitate multiple operators playing in these markets."

Jayatilleke said that as part of the NSW program the company "has moved towards forming service contracts with MNOs and fixed wireless providers on a RAN-as-a-service basis." He said that the company is in "discussions with multiple MNOs" about the neutral host service.

OneWifi believes that further rounds of the federal Mobile Black Spot Program should "at a minimum" mandate neutral hosting or that bids be led by mobile network infrastructure providers that provide neutral hosting. "Fundamentally because that way you are creating an ecosystem for mobile network operators to connect if they wish, but not [funding] single carrier networks."

Rohan Pearce

Digital platforms detail efforts against misinformation

Major tech companies including Google, Facebook operator Meta, Apple and Microsoft have detailed their efforts to combat misinformation and disinformation in 2022, including during the Australian federal election campaign.

In total, eight tech companies provided annual transparency reports as part of the third year of operation of the Australian Code of Practice on Disinformation and Misinformation, developed by Digital Industry Group Inc.