

BOB KATTER

Katter's Australian Party

Federal Member for Kennedy



MEDIA RELEASE

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Katter pressures Minister to fix black spot on Kuranda range

KAP Leader and Federal Member for Kennedy Bob Katter has penned a letter to the Minister for Communications, Hon Paul Fletcher, requesting the Department prioritise black spot mobile phone funding for areas along the Kennedy Highway between Mareeba and Kuranda.

In his letter, Mr Katter said the Kennedy Highway was a major freight and commuter corridor connecting Cairns with the Atherton Tablelands, Cape York Peninsula and Gulf of Carpentaria which supports a vital farming precinct.

It is also the primary route for tourists travelling inland from Cairns and Kuranda and that reliable mobile communications was imperative to those using the Highway on a regular basis.

We strongly support the Council in their nomination and emphasise the detrimental impact that poor mobile service is having on businesses and farms in the area.

Mr Katter's letter puts pressure on the Department of Communications to award funding in Round 5 of the Mobile Black Spot Program.

"It is vital that we give the next round a very strong run. We are very serious about pursuing the rectification of this black spot and the many other black spots in the area," he said.

"We are both ashamed and embarrassed that these black spots still exist. But we are determined that it will be done."

Mr Katter called on the community to contact his electorate offices to notify of areas eligible for assistance for future rounds.

In addition to the Kuranda range, regions already included are: Mary Farms, Upper Stone, Tichum Creek, the Mission Beach range, Bellview Drive Ravenshoe, Tangorin, Fletcher Creek campsite, Macrossan Park camping area, Einasleigh, The Lynd, Dajarra and Innot Hot Springs.

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