

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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TALKING POINT **Spin trumps practicality in Libs' broadband plan**

TONY Abbott's broadband policy demonstrates the fatal weakness in this election campaign: political spin completely overriding practicality ("Abbott battles to defend 'grab bag' broadband plan", 11/8).

The industry and independent experts have agreed that a new broadband infrastructure is essential for Australia's future and the project has started. Some adjustments are necessary, such as a proper utilisation of Telstra's backbone and expertise, but we're finally moving in a viable direction.

The disjointed grab-bag proposed by the Coalition, without even a coherent explanation of how it would work and certainly no understanding of it by its leader, Tony Abbott, would be like developing a national rail network by letting every locality do its own thing. As everyone knows, the trains would then go nowhere.

Darian Hiles, Adelaide, SA