To Commissioners David Robertson and Neil Byron:

Please allow me to comment on the Submission number 299 from Michael Meyer, regarding Encryption. WinLink 2000 uses several protocols: ASCII, ASCII with Huffman compression and the binary protocol used by the F6FBB BBS and others.

These protocol have been and are being used by virtually every BBS in the International Amateur Radio community. The binary protocol, of course, is in the public domain, and as has been commented by the USA Federal Communication Commission, a technique that saves both time and enhances the efficient use of the radio spectrum.

Like the FBB VHF/UHF BBS's, WinLink offers their users a choice of which specific protocol they use. All work perfectly, however, the overwhelming choice is to use the compressed binary format offered since it saves at least 45 percent time, and more importantly, will allow many critical (some being graphic) Weather bulletins to be sent as attachments. Details regarding these protocols, including source code, may be found on http://www.f6fbb.org. Additional information may be found also on http://www.scs-ptc.com/. Being in the Public Domain, these protocols can hardly be termed as "encrypted" and may be read by anyone with the proper equipment and software.

Incidentally, as a member of the WinLink Development Team and as the WinLink Network Administrator, I, also, signed the pre-written Submission on the http://www.aussiewinlink.org/. It was expertly written and described my sentiments exactly. Those responsible for WinLink are deeply grateful to the amateur user communities for their show of support toward the "WinLink in Australia" effort, including the posting of the aussiewinlink WEB site.

Should any further information be required in the context of any discussions regarding this service by the Productivity Commission, please feel free to contact any of the following directly:

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Thank You,

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