



STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES
MS TARA CHEYNE MLA (CHAIR), CANDICE BURCH MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), JAMES MILLIGAN MLA

Inquiry into referred 2018–19 Annual and Financial Reports
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
15 November 2019

Asked by Ms Nicole Lawder MLA:

In relation to: How any streetlight outages are there currently and how long have they been out for?
(telecommunications towers with lights)

Mr Marshall: Some of those telecommunication columns are problematic from our point of view. Typically the arrangement is that those columns will belong to the relevant telecommunications provider and on some occasions they will host a streetlight which belongs to TCCS.

Now that obviously complicates questions of access and also questions of maintenance responsibility. So where issues are related to the column or exacerbated by maintenance issues related with the column that obviously requires liaison between TCCS and the column owner and that can complicate the repairs. Our preference is to avoid that arrangement where possible.

MS LAWDER: I mean, I am aware there is a number in Tuggeranong where the lights are out and I have been told that, for example, there is equipment that has to come from interstate to assist with changing those lights. Was this not thought of when you entered into the agreement to have those telecommunications/light towers?

Mr Marshall: Look, it would have been clearly taken into account, the degree to which maintenance is complicated by the arrangements and that would have been weighed up against, for example, the objective of reducing the number of roadside habits, so reducing the number of columns. So there is a balance that has to be made there. So in some circumstances—

MS LAWDER: Are they part of your system where you know if the lights are out on those towers?

Mr Marshall: If they have been upgraded and are connected to the communications network, potentially yes, but not necessarily in all cases.

MS LAWDER: What percentage of them would be connected to your new system now?

Mr Steel: Thirty per cent of all streetlights, but we might be able to get a breakdown in terms of the telecommunications towers.

MS LAWDER: Just, you know, in some cases it has been quite some time and the lights in roundabouts, for example, I think there is traffic safety issues but the light is important in those areas as well. It has been quite some time according to some of my constituents and it seems a bit bizarre that you have to wait for the telecommunications provider to fix your own streetlight asset.

Mr Marshall: Look, in some of those circumstances, again, without the specifics of the case it is difficult to say that in some of those circumstances clearly there can be complicating factors that make a repair more difficult than other more standard repairs.

MS LAWDER: I will just finish off with, if you could take on notice how many you are aware of that the lights are out of, and how long were each of those and/or an average, because I am aware of quite a few in Tuggeranong that are out and have been out for some time and if it is happening there, it may well be happening in other parts of Canberra as well.

Mr Marshall: Thank you.

Mr Chris Steel MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

There are currently six lights on telecommunication towers that are out. The following table provides a summary of when the faults were logged to the Streetlight Energy Performance Contractor.

Tower (asset number)	Location	Defect Date Received	Current Schedule Completion Date
Site ID: 9013220	Name: Telstra Site 89 Chewings St Location: SCULLIN ACT 2614	21/08/2018	Repair in progress
Site ID: 9002155	Name: Roadside Light Pole Barry Dr Location: TURNER ACT 2600	16/12/2018	Repair in progress
Site ID: 205466	Name: Lightpole on Roundabout Cnr Clarrie Hermes Dr and Playing Fields	13/03/2019	Scheduled for 27/11/2019
Site ID: 9001793	Name: Light Pole on the Roundabout Cnr. Isabella Dr. & Clive Steel Ave Location: ISABELLA PLAINS ACT 2904	12/03/2019	Scheduled for 26/11/2019
Site ID: 9027154	Name: Lightpole 13 BINNEY CL Location: DUNLOP ACT 2615 ACT 2617	15/08/2018	Repair in progress
Site ID: 205466	Name: Lightpole on Roundabout Cnr Clarrie Hermes Drive and Playing Fields	13/03/2019	Scheduled for 27/11/2019

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment and Transport and City Services

Signature:



Date:

26/11/19

By the Minister for City Services, Chris Steel MLA

