

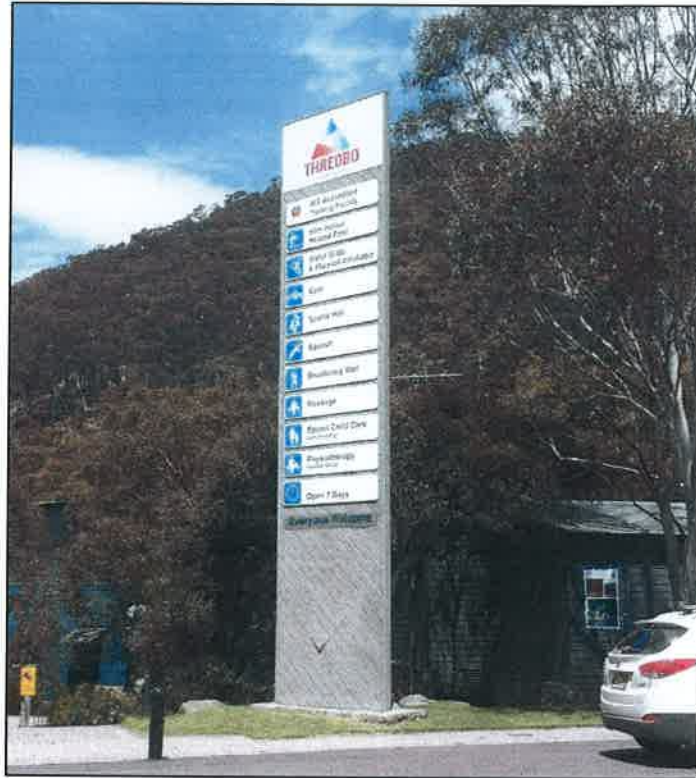
## 4.0 SITE OPTIONS

### 4.1 Alternative Candidates

The table below outlines the alternative site options considered for a new telecommunications facility at Thredbo Village.

Other Site Options	Reasons for Dismissal
<p>a) New telecommunications facility in Thredbo Village.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Visual impact to Village;</li> <li>- Immediate Village coverage only;</li> <li>- Site footprint occupying valuable real estate.</li> </ul>
<p>b) Co-location with Telstra Facility in Thredbo Village.</p> <p>Refer to Site Photo Below.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No capacity within sign structure for co-location;</li> <li>- No capacity for BTS units in Telstra equipment room;</li> <li>- Immediate Village coverage only;</li> </ul>
<p>c) Upgrade of Existing Facility or New Facility located at Eagles Nest (Top of Mountain).</p> <p>Refer to Site Photo Below.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Location at capacity;</li> <li>- Greater visual impact;</li> <li>- Coverage not penetrating into village and surrounding townships;</li> <li>- Maintenance access</li> </ul>
<p>d) Temporary Facility in Thredbo Village.</p> <p>Refer to Site Photo Below.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Visual impact to Village;</li> <li>- Immediate Village coverage only;</li> <li>- Site footprint occupying valuable real estate (car parking spaces);</li> <li>- Security issues;</li> <li>- Costly to run.</li> </ul>

The proposed height, structure, and building footprint allows for other telecommunications carriers to co-locate once the facility is established.



**Photo 2: Telstra telecommunications facility within Sign Structure.**



**Photo 3: Existing telecommunications facility at Eagles Nest.**



**Photo 4: Temporary Cell On Wheels (COW) telecommunications facility at Thredbo Village carpark, deployed by Optus for ski season 2014.**

## **4.2 Preferred Candidate**

**Optus has consulted with the DPE regarding the proposal. Alternative candidates were considered as part of this process; however, Optus is exercising good industry practice by locating nearby to existing infrastructure, with minimal impact to the surrounding environment (both natural and built). A detailed site assessment and feasibility review was undertaken as part of this process with due consideration given to a range of issues, including:**

- **Relevant Commonwealth and NSW State planning policies. The proposal is considered to be consistent with the applicable regulatory instruments (Refer to Section 5 for further information on regulatory compliance);**
- **Co-locating on existing telecommunications facilities is always Optus' preferred option, however there are no feasible options for co-location at**

this location. Optus have taken the opportunity to co-site this facility with existing infrastructure (Cat Shed maintenance workshop and ski lift structure);

- The proposed height, structure, and building footprint allow for other telecommunications carriers to co-locate once the facility is constructed;
- The existing Cat Shed maintenance workshop area has been previously disturbed and cleared of vegetation when the original development occurred;
- The proposal is not expected to have an adverse impact on the environment due to the nature of the facility and relatively small building footprint;
- The proposed facility will enhance the mobile phone coverage objectives of the area, providing network coverage to Thredbo Village and ski slopes;
- The Head Lessor (KT Pty Limited) is agreeable to the proposal and will provide Optus a sub-lease over the site.