

To the Committee,

I bought a digital set top box to take up digital television content.

I

live in Katoomba, set in the Blue Mountains in NSW. For the most part

I am

very pleased with the quality of the images that I receive and that I

am

able to also pick up stations from outside the Sydney Metropolitan area

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That is WHEN I CAN GET A SIGNAL. My biggest complaint is that the

digital

signal is neither strong enough nor consistent enough for me to watch

digital television all of the time and so I have to revert back to my

analog signal in order to watch television. With digital television

you

either receive a signal or you don't, there are no shades of grey.

This

leaves me with a choice of a poor analog signal complete with

'ghosting

and FM interference' or a blank screen.

I also find that the signal can be affected by the weather and physical

interference. When the weather is windy or misty the signal is

affected

usually freezing the images and pixelating the image or leaving the

screen

blank. Also when the signal is weaker than that of a perfectly clear

summers day I can experience the same breaks in the submission of

signal

when heavy trucks move through our area, this is not a vague theory I

have

made a particular point of monitoring the problem. This means that

after

spending \$300 on a set top box I can only use it when the weather is

near

perfect or the stars are aligned, otherwise I have to revert back to a

patchy analog reception.

At least the ABC analog reception is good 98% of the time.