



# **ABS initiatives to align the use of small area statistics across Government**

Presentation to the Australian Government  
Statistical Forum  
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Alister Nairn  
Director - Geography Section

# Summary

- Development of Mesh Blocks
- Enabling Technologies
- Review of the Australian Standard Geographic Classification
- Timings / preparation / ABS assistance

# The need for a small spatial unit - the Mesh Block

- Why are Mesh Blocks better?
  - Size
  - Stability
  - Better building block - more accurate alignment possible with larger units.

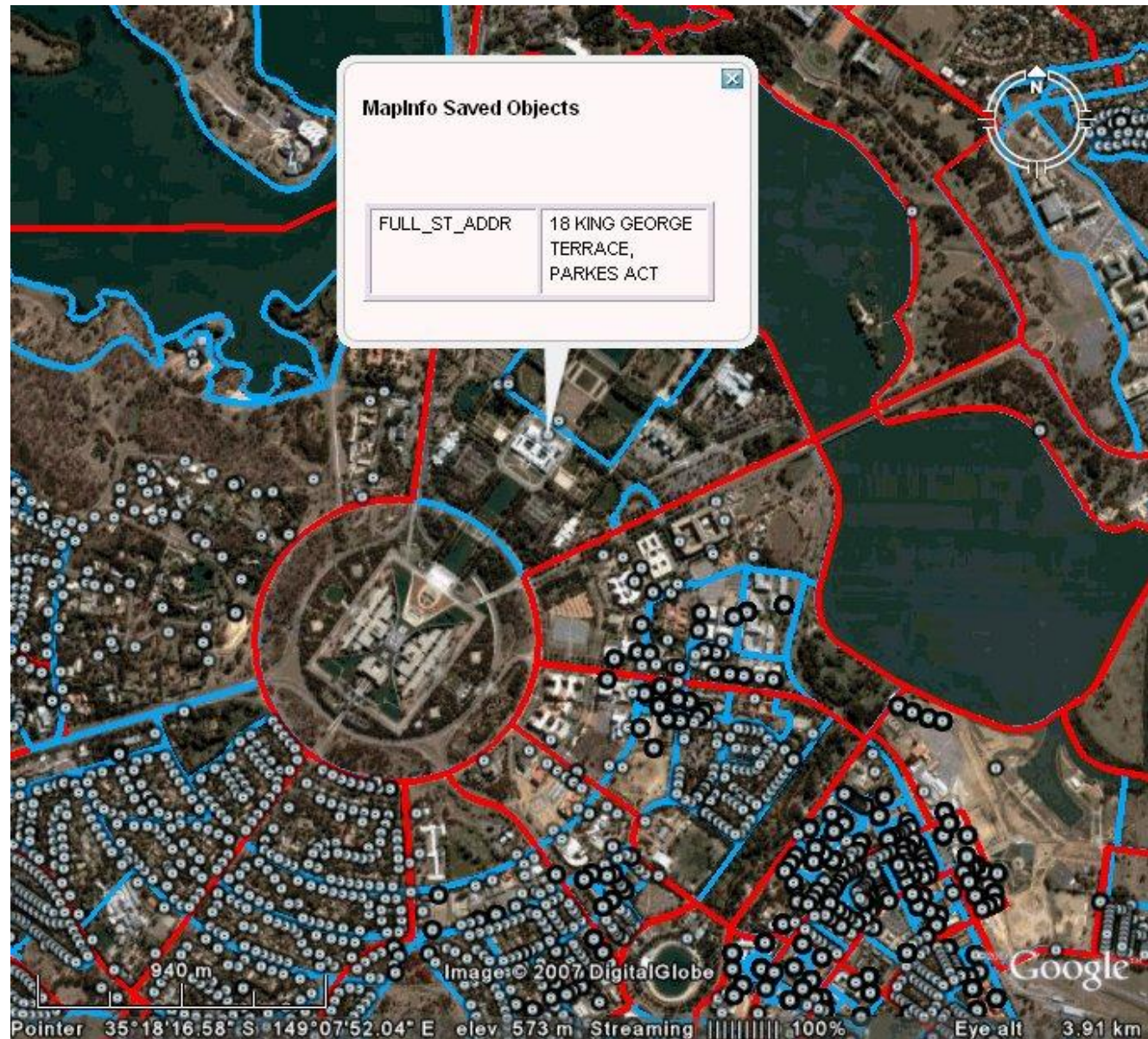
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# Enabling Technology - Coding to Mesh Block

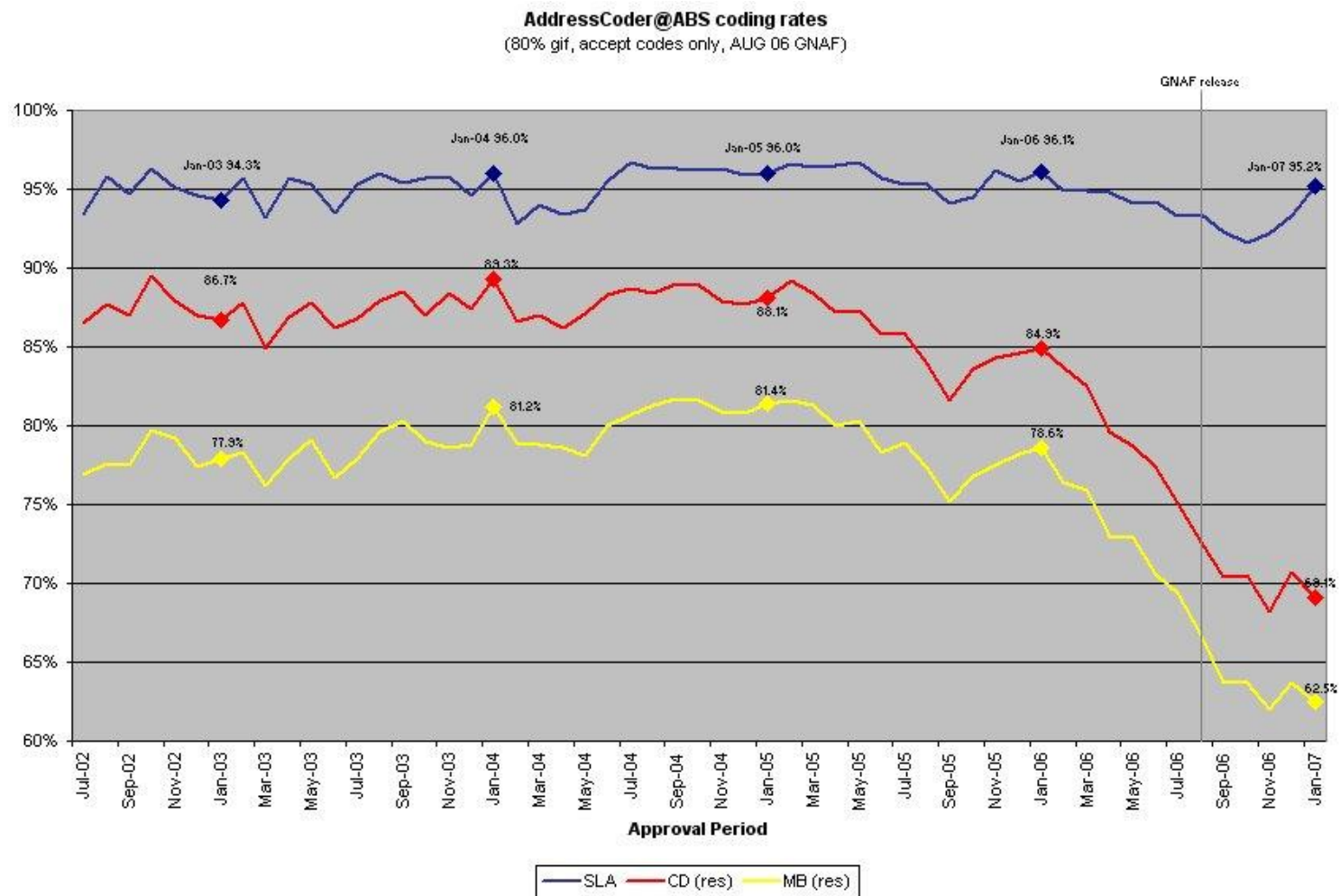


# Issues to consider for address coding

- Address quality - Validation
- Improve the quality of the reference file - G-NAF - Feedback errors to PSMA.
- Develop methods for optimising coding rates. - (logic in the software)

# Coding Rates using G-NAF

- Temporal lag in G-NAF





# Improving Address Coding

## ➤ ABS Assistance

- Working with PSMA to implement improvements in G-NAF
- Adding Mesh Blocks to G-NAF
- Address coder on NDN
- Phasing out NLI

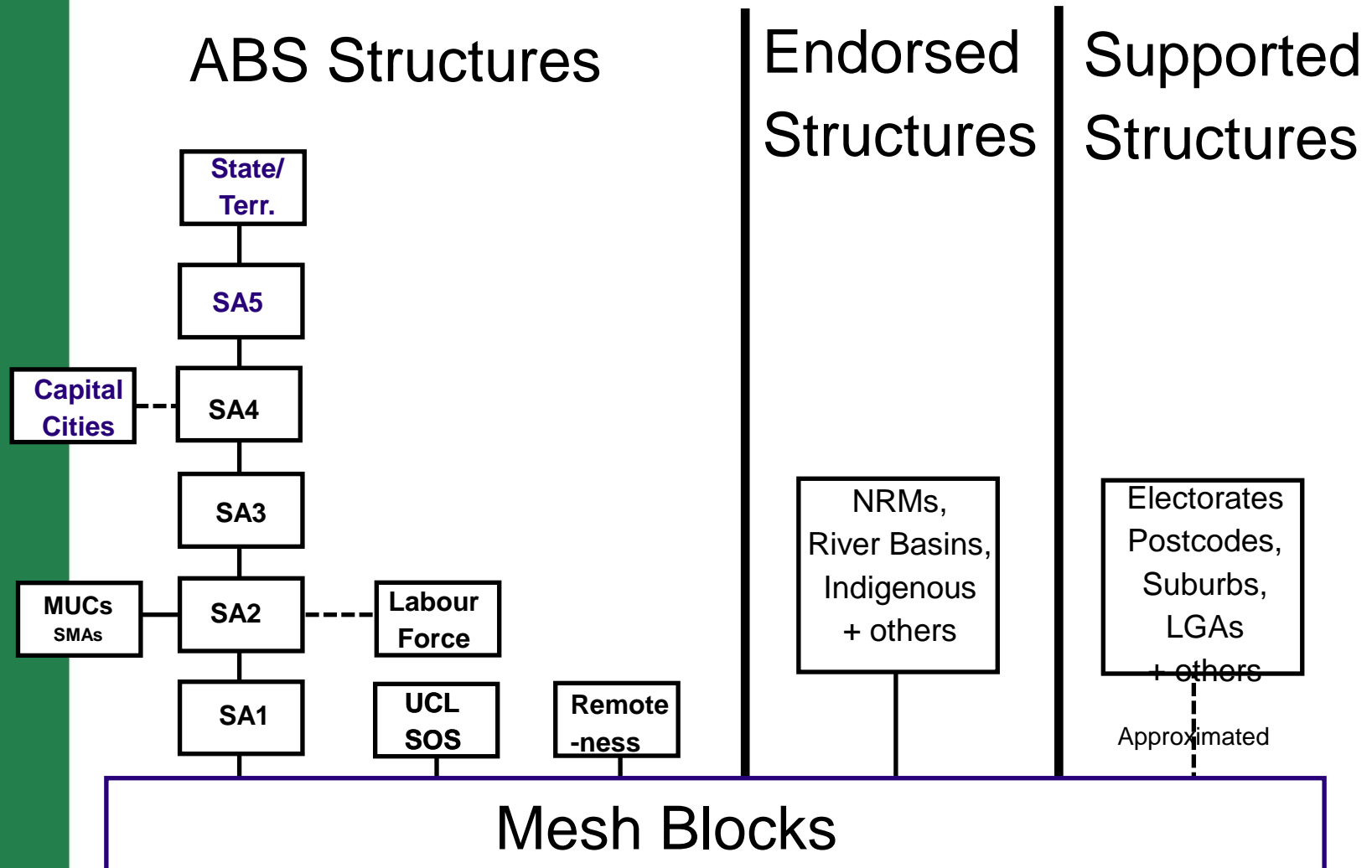
## Also

- National Address Management Framework - AGIMO, CIOs Committee

# Review of the ASGC

- Necessary to incorporate Mesh Blocks
- Stability over time - delinking from local government boundaries.
- Better reflection of human activities
- Optimised for statistical output (pop size)

# Proposed ASGC - New Structure



# Consultation

- Current consultation underway - ACT meeting 8th May 2007
- ASGC review information paper due for release July 2007
- ABS will be proactive next year alerting agencies to changes / implications.

# Progressive Data Release

- MB boundaries available end of 2007
- 2006 Census population & dwelling counts - available at MB level 2008
- 2006 Agricultural Census & Survey based on MBs
- ~2010 Census Output System
- 2011 onwards - all data on new ASGC

# Take home messages

- Plan to align to Mesh Blocks
- Consider coding strategy
- Consider new ASGC proposals and provide feedback