

File Ref: 1274828

5 December 2017

Mr Michael Riches
Group Executive Network
Aurizon Network Pty Ltd
GPO Box 456
Brisbane Qld 4001

Dear Mr Riches

Notice of Investigation—Aurizon Network's 2017 Electric Traction DAAU

On 1 December 2017, Aurizon Network Pty Ltd (Aurizon Network) submitted to the Queensland Competition Authority (QCA) a draft amending access undertaking (DAAU) seeking pricing policy reform for the electric traction component of Reference Tariffs under Aurizon Network's 2016 access undertaking.

The application was lodged with us in accordance with section 142(1) of the *Queensland Competition Authority Act 1997* (QCA Act).

Notice of Investigation

Section 145 of the QCA Act enables the QCA to conduct an investigation for approving a DAAU.

In accordance with section 146 of the QCA Act, we hereby notify Aurizon Network that we intend to conduct an investigation to decide whether to approve, or refuse to approve, the DAAU.

Submissions

Section 143(3) of the QCA Act provides that the QCA may only approve a DAAU if (among other things) it has published the DAAU, invited persons to make submissions on it within the time stated by the QCA, and considered any submissions received within that time.

To this end, we invite Aurizon Network to make written submissions to the QCA on the DAAU by **31 January 2018**. Submissions should be directed per the submissions page attached to the stakeholder notice (as enclosed and also published on our website—www.qca.org.au).

The QCA will also publish this letter for stakeholders' information.

Yours sincerely



Charles Millsteed
Chief Executive Officer

STAKEHOLDER NOTICE

5 December 2017

Notice of time periods—Aurizon Network's 2017 Electric Traction DAAU

On 1 December 2017, the Queensland Competition Authority (the QCA) received from Aurizon Network Pty Ltd (Aurizon Network) a draft amending access undertaking (DAAU) seeking pricing policy reform for the electric traction pricing component of Reference Tariffs under Aurizon Network's 2016 access undertaking. The application was lodged with us in accordance with section 142(1) of the *Queensland Competition Authority Act 1997* (QCA Act)

Statutory requirements

Section 143(3) of the QCA Act provides that the QCA may only approve a DAAU if (among other things) it has published the DAAU, invited submissions on it and considered any submissions received within the time provided.

In accordance with section 146 of the QCA Act, we hereby notify stakeholders that we intend to conduct an investigation to decide whether to approve, or refuse to approve, the 2017 Electric Traction DAAU.

We have published Aurizon Network's 2017 Electric Traction DAAU on our website (www.qca.org.au) and invite stakeholder submissions by 31 January 2018.

Time periods

In accordance with section 147A(2) of the QCA Act, the QCA must use its best endeavours to decide whether to approve, or refuse to approve, a DAAU within six months from the last day of the time for making submissions stated in the investigation notice.

The six-month period does not include any of the following periods:

- a day in the period given by the QCA for making submissions in relation to a DAAU or a related document
- a day in the period where a person has been required to give information or produce a document in response to a notice given by the QCA under section 185 of the QCA Act
- day(s) agreed to, by the owner or operator of the service or the responsible person, as not being included in the six-month period.

Six-month period for Aurizon Network's 2017 Electric Traction DAAU

In accordance with section 147A(4) of the QCA Act, and subject to section 147A(3), the six-month period:

- commences on 1 February 2018
- ends on 1 July 2018.

Submissions

Closing date for submissions: 31 January 2018

Public involvement is an important element of the decision-making processes of the Queensland Competition Authority (QCA). Therefore submissions are invited from interested parties concerning its assessment of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd's 2017 Electric traction draft amending access undertaking. The QCA will take account of all submissions received on 31 January 2018.

Submissions, comments or inquiries regarding this paper should be directed to:

Queensland Competition Authority

GPO Box 2257

Brisbane Q 4001

Tel (07) 3222 0511

www.qca.org.au/submissions

Confidentiality

In the interests of transparency and to promote informed discussion and consultation, the QCA intends to make all submissions publicly available. However, if a person making a submission believes that information in the submission is confidential, that person should claim confidentiality in respect of the document (or the relevant part of the document) at the time the submission is given to the QCA and state the basis for the confidentiality claim.

The assessment of confidentiality claims will be made by the QCA in accordance with the *Queensland Competition Authority Act 1997*, including an assessment of whether disclosure of the information would damage the person's commercial activities and considerations of the public interest.

Claims for confidentiality should be clearly noted on the front page of the submission. The relevant sections of the submission should also be marked as confidential, so that the remainder of the document can be made publicly available. It would also be appreciated if two versions of the submission (i.e. a complete version and another excising confidential information) could be provided.

A confidentiality claim template is available on request. We encourage stakeholders to use this template when making confidentiality claims. The confidentiality claim template provides guidance on the type of information that would assist our assessment of claims for confidentiality.

Public access to submissions

Subject to any confidentiality constraints, submissions will be available for public inspection at the Brisbane office, or on the website at www.qca.org.au. If you experience any difficulty gaining access to documents, please contact us on (07) 3222 0555.