

STAKEHOLDER NOTICE

20 April 2023

Aurizon Network's GAPE and Newlands pricing DAAU — Stakeholder notice

On 6 April 2023, the Queensland Competition Authority (QCA) received a draft amending access undertaking (DAAU) from Aurizon Network that seeks to amend the 2017 Access Undertaking to establish a new approach for the regulatory pricing of shared Newlands infrastructure between Newlands and GAPE users, including the application of private incremental costs discounts to reference tariffs.

Statutory requirements

Under Section 143(3) of the Queensland Competition Authority Act 1997 (QCA Act), 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.

The QCA published Aurizon Network's GAPE and Newlands pricing DAAU on its website and invite submissions from interested parties by **25 May 2023**.

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 day that is two weeks from the day the undertaking was given to the authority.

The six-month period does not include:

- a day in the period given by the QCA for making submissions in relation to a DAAU or a related document
- 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.

The six-month period commenced on 20 April 2023 and is scheduled to end on 22 November 2023. Stakeholders will be notified if the end date is extended, to account for any future periods of time that are excluded from the statutory timeframe¹, including any further consultation periods.

¹ In accordance with section 147A(2) of the QCA Act.

Submissions

Closing date for submissions: 25 May 2023

Public involvement is an important element of the decision-making processes of the QCA. Therefore, submissions are invited from interested parties concerning its assessment of Aurizon Network's GAPE and Newlands pricing DAAU. The QCA will take account of all submissions received within the stated timeframe.

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

Queensland Competition Authority
GPO Box 2257
Brisbane Q 4001

Tel (07) 3222 0555

Fax (07) 3222 0599

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 our Brisbane office, or on our website at www.qca.org.au. If you experience any difficulty gaining access to documents, please contact us on (07) 3222 0555.