



*Annual Report 1999/2000*



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## Chairperson's Introduction

The Authority is pleased to present its report for the year ended 30 June 2000.

During the year, the Queensland Government extended the tasks of the Authority to include oversight of certain water supply activities while the commencement date for the regulatory role in relation to gas distribution was settled. Significant work has already been undertaken in each of these areas to prepare for these new duties.

In its continuing roles, one of the major areas of activity has been Local Government, where the prime task is the assessment of progress towards the implementation of national competition policy in the many and varied business activities which are undertaken by Councils across the State. Further progress has clearly been made. On the Authority's recommendation, grants totalling over \$60 million have already been made to Councils in recognition of such progress. However, progress is uneven, with the larger Councils generally making real advances while many smaller Councils have as yet made little progress.

The largest task of the past year was the ongoing examination of the third party access undertaking submitted for the Authority's approval by Queensland Rail. Substantial progress has been made in a very complex and financially significant review, in which the Authority's necessary process of detailed consultation across all issues with all major stakeholders has been a very time consuming feature. The matter is now well advanced and a draft determination should be issued later this year.

Relatively few complaints have been received on competitive neutrality matters. The definition in our governing legislation of those competitive neutrality issues which fall under the Authority's jurisdiction was narrowed during the year so that there is likely to be some reduction in this area of activity in future years in so far as the Authority is concerned.

In its deliberations, the Authority is required to take into account the public interest. The implication of this can vary widely from issue to issue and, consequently, careful thought has been given to this subject so that the Authority is able to identify and take into account the public interest aspects which are relevant to the matters before it.

Looking back over the past year, I must acknowledge the professional competence of the Authority's management and staff, who have combined to deal ably with all the tasks and responsibilities of the year. Similarly, I acknowledge the ready assistance of my fellow members of the Authority, who have accepted some onerous workloads, including a number of extra meetings to enable the Authority to meet its obligations over the year, which it has done.



R. M. Wylie  
Chairperson  
12 October 2000

## The Authority

### Goals and Functions

The Queensland Competition Authority (the Authority) was established in 1997 and arose out of a series of Council of Australian Governments agreements, which aimed to forge a national approach to the implementation of competition policy.

The Authority is an independent agency that is, under the *Queensland Competition Authority Act (1997)* (QCA Act), responsible for:

- ◆ ensuring that users of essential economic infrastructure pay fair and reasonable prices;
- ◆ promoting competitive markets; and
- ◆ ensuring that, where government competes with the private sector, it does so on fair and reasonable terms.

In carrying out its responsibilities, the aim of the Authority is to produce commercially focused, sensible, forward looking solutions and recommendations that will improve the economic wellbeing of Queenslanders while taking full account of the public interest.

### Responsibilities

The Authority's main responsibilities are:

#### Monopoly Prices Oversight

*"Government owned monopolies should not abuse their market power"*

Monopoly prices oversight is a mechanism that seeks to ensure that government monopolies or near monopolies do not charge excessive prices for their products or services. Such monopolies may have the ability to charge excessively because they are not constrained by competitors, either because none exist or those that do are not effective competitors.

Through the prices oversight process, the Authority is required either to investigate the pricing practices of government monopolies or to simply monitor the prices charged by them. Which of these particular functions is performed depends on the referral the Authority receives from the Ministers, as the Authority only performs these functions on request from the Ministers.

## Competitive Neutrality

*“Significant government business activities which compete with the private sector should do so fairly”*

Simply stated, the principle of competitive neutrality requires that public sector business activities, which are in competition with the private sector, should not have competitive advantages or disadvantages as a result of not being subject to one or more of the following: Commonwealth or State taxes and tax equivalent systems; debt guarantee fees; or the procedural or regulatory requirements of the Commonwealth, State or a local government.

The need for competitive neutrality is reinforced by the growth in competition between the public sector and the private sector resulting, in part, from the commercialisation and corporatisation of public sector activities.

The principle of competitive neutrality does not extend to competitive advantages or disadvantages arising from factors such as business size, skills, location or customer loyalty.

## Third Party Access

*“Essential infrastructure should be accessible to all potential users”*

Third party access supports competition by enabling third parties to access essential infrastructure which cannot be economically duplicated. Infrastructure which may meet this criteria includes electricity distribution grids, rail tracks and port channels.

In some markets, competition cannot occur until competitors have this type of access.

Third party access enables competitors to use essential infrastructure on commercial terms so that they can compete in related markets (such as electricity retailing and rail transport).

## Other

Under section 10(e) of the QCA Act, the Authority can be directed by the Ministers to examine and report to them on any matter relevant to the implementation of competition policy. In particular, the Authority has been charged with recommending levels of payments to councils under the Local Government Financial Incentive Payments Scheme.

## Application

In undertaking its roles, the Authority is currently working within the following areas:

- ◆ Rail
- ◆ Local Government
- ◆ Ports
- ◆ Water
- ◆ Gas
- ◆ Electricity
- ◆ Competitive Neutrality

## Changed Responsibilities

In May 2000, amendments were made to the QCA Act, which varied the responsibilities of the Authority in several areas.

### Water

The Authority's responsibilities in relation to the water sector were expanded. In particular, the Government extended the Authority's prices oversight jurisdiction to include private sector water businesses and also the newly-formed South East Queensland Water Corporation Limited.

### Competitive Neutrality

The definition of the principle of competitive neutrality was amended. The Authority is now only required to investigate those matters where an agency's activities are not subject to one or more of the following:

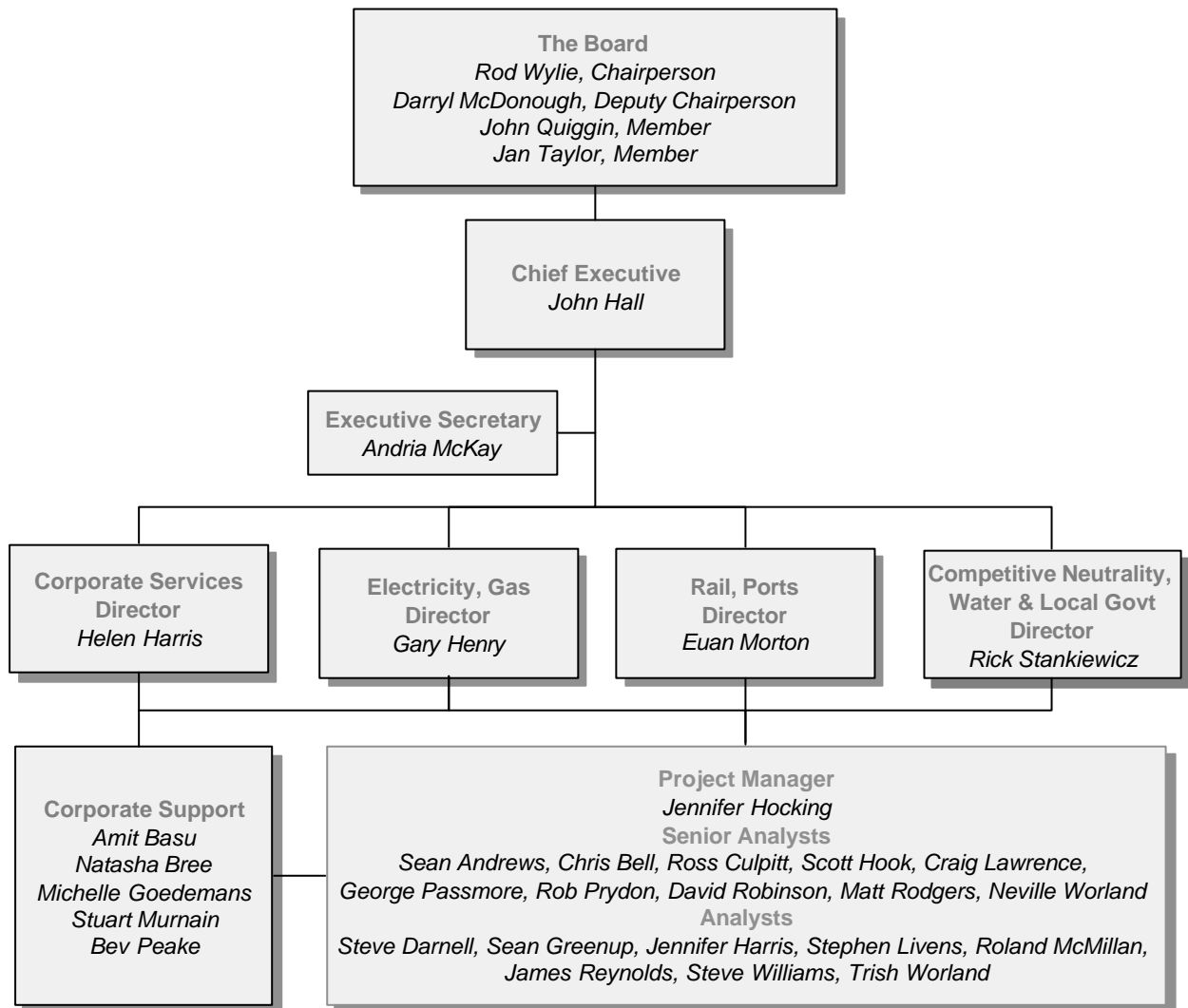
- ◆ full Commonwealth or State taxes and tax equivalent systems;
- ◆ debt guarantee fees directed towards offsetting the competitive advantages of government guarantees; and
- ◆ procedural or regulatory requirements of the Commonwealth, the State or a local government on conditions equivalent to the conditions to which a competitor or potential competitor may be subject, including, for example, requirements about the protection of the environment and about planning and approval processes.

The Queensland Government has advised that a Secretariat will be established within Queensland Treasury to deal with complaints which relate to competitive neutrality concerns other than those contained within the revised definition in the QCA Act.

### Local Government

The Authority's monopoly prices oversight responsibilities were extended to apply to local government significant business activities. In addition, the application of the Authority's third party access responsibilities in respect of local government monopoly infrastructure was made more explicit.

Organisation Chart as at 30 June 2000



## Members of the Authority

Under the QCA Act, the Authority is to consist of at least three members, each of whom may be appointed for a term not exceeding five years. In appointing a member, regard must be had to the desirability of the members collectively having knowledge and understanding of commerce, economics, the interests of consumers and the interests of the Government in government agencies that carry on business activities. There are currently four members, each of whom is appointed until 7 August 2001.

Mr Rod Wylie, OBE BComm BA FCA FAICD

*Chairperson* – Formerly senior partner of the Queensland practice of Peat Marwick Mitchell & Co Chartered Accountants, Mr Wylie is Chairman of Thiess Pty Ltd and Deputy Chairman of Leighton Holdings Limited. Mr Wylie was Chairman of Pauls Limited for approximately 20 years prior to its takeover and recently retired as a Director of AMP Limited. He is also a former Chairman of the Queensland Branch Councils and a former member of the National Councils of both the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia and the Institute of Directors in Australia.

Dr Darryl McDonough, BBus LLB(Hons) SJD FCPA FAICD

*Deputy Chairperson* - Dr McDonough is a Brisbane partner of national law firm Clayton Utz, specialising in corporate matters. He is a Director of the Bank of Queensland Limited, a Director of Bond University Limited, a Trustee of the Brisbane Cricket Ground Trust and a past State President of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Professor John Quiggin, BA BEc MEc PhD GAICD FASSA

*Member* - Professor John Quiggin joined the Board in December 1998. He is an Australian Research Council Senior Research Fellow in Economics, currently based at the Australian National University and the Queensland University of Technology. Prior to taking up this appointment, he worked at the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics, the University of Maryland and James Cook University, Townsville. Professor Quiggin is prominent both as a research economist and as a commentator on Australian economic policy.

Ms Jan Taylor, BA LLB MAICD

*Member* - Formerly Queensland's Commissioner for Consumer Affairs, Ms Taylor now manages a consultancy firm providing organisational and community consultation services to government and industry. She is currently on the boards of the RACQ and Ports Corporation Queensland, and chairs the Australian Council of Businesswomen and Epilepsy Queensland Inc. She is also the National Credit Union Ombudsman.

## Senior Staff

Mr E John Hall, BCom BEcon AAUQ FAICD

*Chief Executive* - From 1970 to 1990, Mr Hall held a variety of senior positions in the Queensland Treasury, including that of Under Treasurer from 1988 to 1990. From 1990 to 1997, he was firstly Executive Director of major Queensland law firm Feez Ruthning and, upon its merger with national law firm Allen Allen and Hemsley, Queensland Practice Director of the merged firm. Mr Hall joined the Authority in 1997. He is a member of the board of Consolidated Rutile Limited and has held board positions with a variety of Queensland statutory bodies, including Suncorp Insurance and Finance, the Queensland Industry Development Corporation (Deputy Chairman), the Queensland Tourist and Travel Corporation, Queensland Events Corporation (Deputy Chairman), the North Queensland Enterprise Zone and the Workers' Compensation Board.

Ms Helen Harris, BComm GradDipLegStud

*Director, Corporate Services* - Ms Harris has considerable experience in the finance, information technology, administration, personnel and legal fields. Between 1988 and 1998, she held roles in the areas of genome research, central administration and policy, supercomputer research, international marketing, law and distance education across four different institutions within the university sector. Prior to this, Ms Harris spent some time in the banking sector and on overseas postings.

Mr Gary Henry, BCom (Econ)

*Director* - Mr Henry commenced his career as a teacher with the NSW Department of Education. He joined the Industries Assistance Commission in 1984 and worked on a range of industry inquiries in both the Econometric and Inquiry Divisions of the Commission. In 1990 he moved to the Northern Territory Treasury where he held a number of senior positions before being appointed Deputy Under Treasurer in 1996. Mr Henry commenced as a Director with the Authority in March 2000.

Mr Euan Morton, BCom LLB (Hons) BEcon (Hons)

*Director* - Mr Morton has substantial experience in competition reform, having been Principal Advisor - Regulation with the Queensland Electricity Reform Unit where he focused on developing the regulatory environment for the Queensland electricity supply industry in the deregulated market. Between 1992 and 1997, Mr Morton was with the Queensland Treasury where he managed the corporatisation process for Queensland Rail and the commercialisation process for Department of Primary Industries Forestry. During this time he also led the implementation of third party access and prices oversight reform in Queensland.

Mr Rick Stankiewicz, BEcon MEcon Studs

*Director* – Mr Stankiewicz has considerable experience in micro-economic reform. Previously a Director (microeconomics) with Queensland Treasury, Mr Stankiewicz was also an advisor to the Queensland Commission of Audit and, subsequently, a Director of the Audit Commission Implementation Office responsible for the economic portfolio. Mr Stankiewicz has also held various other roles involving structural reform and implementation.

## The Year in Review

### Chart of Statistics

<i>Issues Papers/Request for Comments Papers/Discussion Papers</i>	
Electricity Distribution	6
Queensland Rail Third Party Access	4
Gas Distribution	1
<i>Total</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Submissions Received</i>	
Electricity Distribution	21
Queensland Rail Third Party Access	29
Local Government Financial Incentive Payments Scheme	122
<i>Total</i>	<i>172</i>
<i>Competitive Neutrality Complaints Dealt With</i>	
	9
<i>Reports to Government</i>	
Local Government FIPS Recommendation	1
Ports – Assessment Against Monopoly Business Activity Criteria	1
<i>Total</i>	<i>2</i>

### Rail

The Authority continued detailed assessments of Queensland Rail's (QR's) Draft Access Undertaking regarding third party access to its rail transport infrastructure towards preparation of a Draft Decision. Under the QCA Act, the Authority must either approve, or refuse to approve, an undertaking submitted to it.

As part of the assessment process, the Authority has adopted a consultative approach. During 1999-2000, the consultation was advanced with publication of the following papers:

- ◆ Treatment of Past Capital Contributions in July 1999;
- ◆ Reference Tariffs, Reference Train Services and Rate Regulation in October 1999;
- ◆ QR's Scheduling & Train Control Protocols and Proposed Assignment of Marshalling Yards in February 2000; and
- ◆ QR's Costing Manual in March 2000.

High quality submissions have been received from a variety of interested parties in response to these papers. The Authority is appreciative of the efforts of the parties who have made these submissions. Their input has made an important contribution to the Authority's consideration of issues raised by the Draft Undertaking.

With the exception of the paper on Scheduling and Marshalling Yards, the papers released by the Authority in 1999-2000 deal principally with issues relevant to the development of reference tariffs for the use of QR's rail transportation infrastructure for coal haulage. This is one of the significant issues to be addressed as part of the Authority's assessment of the Draft Undertaking and considerable work in the second half of the year related to the quantification of reference tariffs, including financial modelling.

The Authority's financial modelling was supplemented by extensive work on the following issues with respect to QR's below rail coal activities:

- ◆ valuation of, and rate of return on, assets;
- ◆ depreciation;
- ◆ efficiency of operating and maintenance expenditure;
- ◆ capacity on the coal network; and
- ◆ allocation of below rail costs across the coal network.

In the final quarter of the year, the Authority convened a number of working group meetings of QR and its stakeholders to facilitate resolution of outstanding issues with respect to the following:

- ◆ the terms and conditions of access agreements and consultation on the future planning and development of QR's network;
- ◆ pricing structures and performance regime;
- ◆ assignment of marshalling yards and train scheduling; and
- ◆ cost allocation.

## Local Government

### Local Government Incentive Payments Scheme

In July 1998, the Authority was directed under s10(e) of the QCA Act to examine and report on the implementation of competition policy reforms by local governments, and to recommend to the Ministers levels of payment under the Local Government Financial Incentive Payments Scheme (the Scheme) over a five year period.

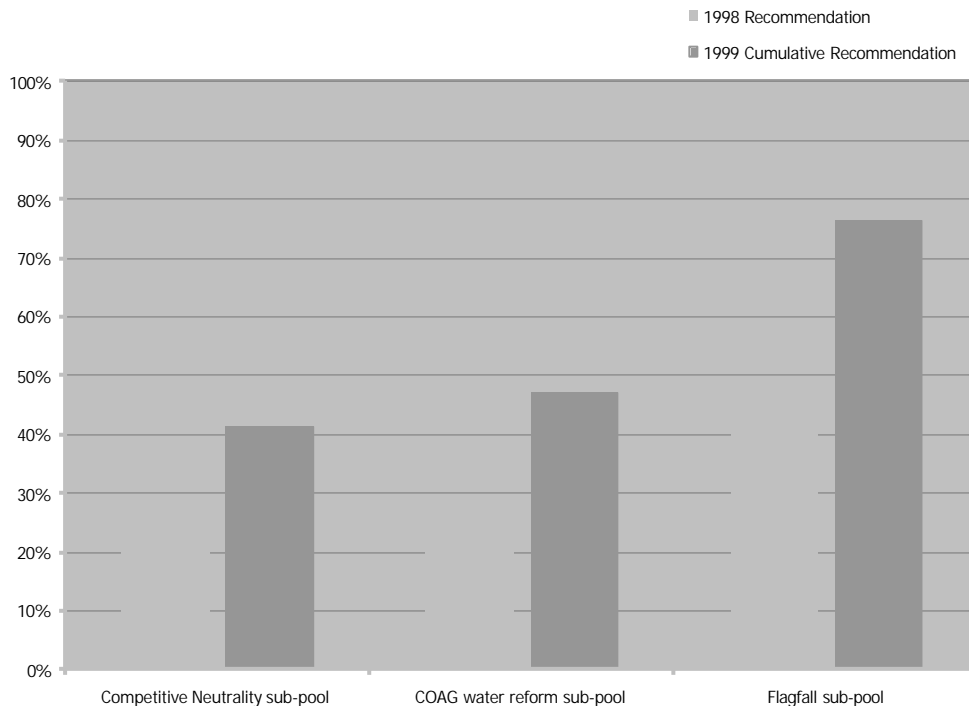
Under the Scheme, the State Government has allocated a total of \$141.5 million of the competition payments anticipated from the Commonwealth Government to local government, subject to the recommendations of the Authority.

The Scheme Guidelines, the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Local Government Finance Standard 1994* outline the appropriate reforms for those local governments that choose to participate. The Authority's assessment process addresses both the legislative obligations and the underlying principles of competition reform.

As in the previous year, the Authority:

- ◆ prepared and distributed Information Returns to all councils;
- ◆ arranged regional workshops, providing councils with the opportunity to discuss the Authority's assessment process;
- ◆ visited the 17 largest councils to discuss the particular requirements for large business activities; and
- ◆ reviewed detailed returns from councils for their relevant business activities.

The Authority submitted its second report to the Ministers on 30 November 1999. A comparison of progress in recommended payments in the first two years of the Scheme, as against the maximum possible allocation for all business activities, follows. On the basis of the Authority's first two reports (covering the period 1 August 1997 to 31 July 1999), over \$60 million has been paid to councils by the Queensland Government.



## Water

On 14 April 1999, the Ministers directed the Authority to:

- ◆ update, where necessary, an initial report on water pricing principles and address in the report water pricing issues for local governments; and
- ◆ conduct a consultation process to communicate and refine, where necessary, the principles and methodologies in the report.

The Authority established three reference groups to assist in the preparation of the water pricing principles. The reference groups comprised key State Government agencies, the Local Government Association of Queensland, the Brisbane City Council, the Australian Industry Group and the Queensland Chamber of Commerce and Industry. In addition, the Authority reviewed the approaches adopted by other jurisdictions and commissioned studies into a number of key technical issues.

The Authority has focussed its initial efforts on the principles relevant to the urban water sector. In developing the urban water pricing principles, the Authority has complied with a requirement of the Queensland Government to co-ordinate its efforts with work being undertaken to develop local government full cost pricing guidelines and the development of rural water price paths.

By the end of June, the Authority had completed and circulated for comment by the reference groups a preliminary paper focussing upon the urban water sector.

## Gas

The *Gas Pipelines Access (Queensland) Act 1998* and the attached National Third Party Access Code for Natural Gas Pipeline Systems came into effect on 19 May 2000. The Act and the Code confer upon the Authority the responsibility for approving third party access arrangements with respect to gas distribution networks in Queensland, as well as several other responsibilities such as monitoring ring-fencing arrangements and approving associate contracts. The access arrangements will establish the terms and conditions for access to gas distribution networks by third parties, including reference tariffs.

In preparation for the lodgment of proposed access arrangements for QCA approval, the Authority has been liaising with the owners of gas distribution networks in Queensland (Energex/Allgas, Envestra, Dalby Town Council and Roma Town Council) regarding various relevant issues.

## Electricity

The Authority's responsibilities with respect to electricity are set out in two separate sets of legislation:

First, the *Electricity – National Scheme (Queensland) Act 1997*, which commenced on 22 May 1997, gives effect to the National Electricity Code. The Code provides for the Authority to regulate distribution prices from 19 December 2000, to prepare ring-fencing guidelines and to undertake several other roles eg. with respect to network connection.

Second, the *Electricity Act 1994* provides that the Authority may prepare and enforce conduct rules, and requires the Authority to monitor standards of service quality if issued by the Minister for Mines and Energy.

In December 1999, the Authority set the effective date of its initial distribution pricing determination as 1 July 2001 in light of the decision by the Department of Mines and Energy to establish new prices with effect from 1 July 2000. It was considered that another price change to take effect within a year would be unreasonable. In the interim, the Authority commenced detailed work on its distribution pricing review with a series of discussion papers having been released seeking input into the review process from interested parties.

The following papers were published during the year regarding Electricity Distribution:

- ◆ a Discussion Paper on the Determination of Prescribed Services;
- ◆ a Draft for Comment paper on Ring-Fencing Guidelines; and
- ◆ Issues Papers on
  - ◆ Ring-Fencing for Electricity Distribution Entities;
  - ◆ Asset Valuation, Depreciation and Rate of Return;
  - ◆ the Framework for Regulation;
  - ◆ Electricity Conduct Rules; and

## Competitive Neutrality

### Complaints

Both the QCA Act and the *Local Government Act 1993* provide for complaints to be made to the Authority about government entities which are alleged not to comply with the principle of competitive neutrality.

During the year, the Authority received several enquiries relating to competitive neutrality issues. Two of these enquiries have resulted in the instigation of formal complaint investigations.

For the Authority to be able to investigate a potential breach by a State government agency, the complaint must be directed against an activity which has been “declared” to be a significant business activity by gazette notice. Appendix 1 contains a list of declared significant business activities as at 30 June 2000.

The *Local Government Act 1993* provides that each council must establish a process for handling competitive neutrality complaints where its business activities are subject to competitive neutrality reforms. The Authority may be involved if a council has appointed it as referee in this process, or if a complainant seeks to appeal against the decision of a local government in respect of a complaint. As at 30 June 2000, 27 councils have appointed the Authority as their competitive neutrality complaints referee. The appointments cover 36 separate business activities, including roads, water and sewerage, and waste. A complete list of the nominations is contained in Appendix 2.

#### Accreditations

The QCA Act and the *Local Government Act 1993* provide for accreditation of certain government and local government business activities by the Authority for the purposes of removing doubt about whether the activity is conducted in accordance with competitive neutrality principles.

During the year, no applications for accreditation were received.

### Corporate Matters

#### Corporate Governance

The Authority ascribes to the principles embodied in the concept of corporate governance. Management, under the guidance of the Authority, has implemented an administrative framework to ensure the Authority is managed in an effective and efficient manner.

A range of policies and procedures has been developed to ensure that assets are safeguarded and that proper financial and accounting records are maintained.

Information and knowledge are regarded as some of the Authority's most valuable assets and, accordingly, emphasis has been placed on the management and protection of this information, as well as the maintenance of confidentiality where appropriate.

Staff are expected to behave in accordance with a strict code of conduct and the highest ethical standards are expected, all of which are outlined in the Authority's Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct is distributed to all staff members and, along with all the Authority's policy and procedures documentation, is available on the Authority's intranet site.

#### Staffing Levels

The number of permanent staff employed by the Authority as at 30 June 2000 was 30. The staffing levels for the Authority are predicated by the workload as outlined in the yearly operational plan. Specialist services or additional staffing needs faced during times of peak activity have been filled through the use of consultants. The Authority has an extensive education and training program which is aligned with the performance assessment process.

## Implementation of the New Tax System

The implementation of the new tax system on 1 July 2000 required the Authority to overhaul its accounting systems, policies and procedures to ensure that it was fully prepared. This has been undertaken and the Authority believes that it is well situated to undertake the implementation.

## Equal Employment Opportunities

The Authority strongly supports the principles underlying equal employment opportunities and actively ensures that these principles are adhered to in the Authority's work environment. To the extent practicable, the Authority supports part-time work, flexible working hours and the ability to work from home.

Staff Statistics as at 30 June 2000

	<i>Total Staff</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NESB<sup>(a)</sup></i>	<i>A&amp;TSI<sup>(b)</sup></i>
Chief Executive	1	1	-	-	-
Directors	4	3	1	1	-
Technical Staff	19	16	3	-	1
Support Staff	6	2	4	1	-
<i>Total</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>
Full-time Staff	27	22	5	2	1
Part-time Staff	3	-	3	-	-
Age					
15-24	-	-	-	-	-
25-34	13	8	5	-	1
35-44	11	9	2	1	-
45 +	6	5	1	1	-

(a) *Non English Speaking Background*

(b) *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander*

## Year 2000 Compliance Issues

The Authority undertook a comprehensive planning and checking process with respect to Year 2000 issues. No significant issues were encountered and all critical and important systems were shown to be fully compliant.

## Freedom of Information

The Queensland Competition Authority is required to adhere to, and indeed supports, the concepts embodied in the Freedom of Information (FOI) legislation. No Freedom of Information requests were received during the 1999-2000 financial year.

## The Year Ahead

### Rail

The Authority anticipates releasing a Draft Decision outlining its position on QR's Draft Undertaking before the end of 2000.

The publication of the Draft Decision will give interested parties an opportunity to provide comments to the Authority prior to its Final Decision, which is scheduled for release in early 2001.

### Local Government

The Authority will continue the assessment of councils' implementation of competition reforms under the Local Government Financial Incentive Payments Scheme (the Scheme). Its third annual report is due in February 2001.

Regional visits, to assist councils to better understand the requirements of competition reforms to be addressed under the Scheme and assist in the verification process, will be further increased.

The Authority anticipates that it will be required to assess additional Public Benefit Assessments and reforms adopted by some councils with a view to assessing the continuing appropriateness of their payment caps which have in the past been set to reflect reforms adopted by those councils which are lower than the appropriate benchmark.

### Ports

Tasks will be dependent on the Government's response to the reports already lodged.

### Water

The Authority anticipates that the water pricing principles requested by Ministers will be issued by the end of 2000, after the completion of an extensive consultation process.

As a result of recent amendments to the QCA Act, the Authority is required to develop criteria for use by the Ministers for deciding whether to declare a water supply activity to be a monopoly water supply activity. The criteria are due for completion by November 2000.

Following the extension of the Authority's responsibilities in relation to water, it is possible that some pricing investigations may be necessary over the coming year.

## Gas

Under the provisions of the Code, network owners are to lodge gas distribution access arrangements with the Authority within 90 days of the legislation becoming effective (i.e. by 17 August 2000), unless an extension of time has been granted. Once lodged, the proposed access arrangements and associated access arrangement information will be released publicly for comment, along with an issues paper prepared by the Authority calling for submissions on various key issues. The Authority will then assess the proposed access arrangements in terms of their compliance with the Code, and issue draft decisions for further public comment, prior to issuing its final decisions.

## Electricity

The Authority has several regulatory responsibilities with respect to electricity that it will be addressing over the forthcoming year. The *Electricity Act 1994* provides for the Authority to prepare and enforce conduct rules, and to monitor standards of service quality if set by the Minister for Mines and Energy. The Authority intends to complete its review of the need for conduct rules in 2000 and will also implement measures to monitor service standards should these be introduced.

The National Electricity Code also requires the Authority to prepare ring-fencing guidelines for distribution entities. The Authority has sought public input into its proposed ring-fencing guidelines and will finalise these in late 2000. The Authority will continue detailed work with respect to the distribution pricing review during the year with a view to having a draft determination released around December 2000.

## Competitive Neutrality

### Complaints

The Authority has no influence on the number and timing of complaints it receives, and consequently is unable to estimate the number of investigations that can be reasonably anticipated over the coming year. However, given the changes to the definition of competitive neutrality, it is unlikely that there will be a significant number of investigations. Two complaints are currently under investigation.

### Referees

It is anticipated that the Authority will be appointed by a number of additional councils as their referee for significant water and sewerage and waste business activities.

### Accreditations

Interest in accreditation has been negligible over the past year and there is little indication that interest will increase over the next twelve months.

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## Financial Statements

### Operating Statement

for year ended 30 June 2000

	Notes	2000 \$	1999 \$
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>			
Government Grant		5,000,000	3,500,000
Interest & Miscellaneous Income		160,641	95,744
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>		<b>5,160,641</b>	<b>3,595,744</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			
Members' Fees	3	149,535	141,215
Staff and Related Costs	4	2,458,687	2,125,913
Other Operating Costs	5	1,663,330	921,531
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>		<b>4,271,552</b>	<b>3,188,659</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS</b>		<b>889,089</b>	<b>407,085</b>

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements.

## Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2000

	Notes	2000 \$	1999 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash	6	2,978,376	2,000,452
Receivables	7	3,884	0
Prepayments		40,942	32,753
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>3,023,202</b>	<b>2,033,205</b>
<b>NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Prepayments		3,538	5,650
Property, Plant & Equipment	8	985,169	962,584
<b>Total non current assets</b>		<b>988,707</b>	<b>968,234</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>4,011,909</b>	<b>3,001,439</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors	9	172,418	110,177
Provisions	10	103,510	108,821
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>275,928</b>	<b>218,998</b>
<b>NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Provisions	10	227,341	162,890
<b>Total non current liabilities</b>		<b>227,341</b>	<b>162,890</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>503,269</b>	<b>381,888</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>3,508,640</b>	<b>2,619,551</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Capital	11	1,579,027	1,579,027
Accumulated Result from Operations	12	1,929,613	1,040,524
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>3,508,640</b>	<b>2,619,551</b>

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements.

## Statement of Cash Flows

for year ended 30 June 2000

	Notes	2000 \$	1999 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Inflows:			
Operating Grant		5,000,000	3,500,000
Interest & Miscellaneous Income		160,641	95,744
		<b>5,160,641</b>	<b>3,595,744</b>
Outflows:			
Members Fees		(150,411)	(140,340)
Staff Related Expenses		(2,391,025)	(1,965,326)
Other Operating Costs		(1,413,305)	(704,428)
		<b>(3,954,741)</b>	<b>(2,810,094)</b>
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</b>	13(a)	<b>1,205,900</b>	<b>785,650</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Outflows:			
Property, Plant & Equipment		(227,976)	(196,073)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</b>	13(b)	<b>(227,976)</b>	<b>(196,073)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net increase in cash held</b>		<b>977,924</b>	<b>589,577</b>
Cash at beginning of reporting period		2,000,452	1,410,875
<b>Cash &amp; Investments at end of reporting period</b>		<b>2,978,376</b>	<b>2,000,452</b>

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements.

## Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2000

### Note 1: Objective

The Queensland Competition Authority (the "Authority") is a statutory body established under the Queensland Competition Authority Act 1997. Its aim is to perform specified services associated with national competition policy in Queensland. Broadly, the Authority is responsible for:

- subject to reference or declaration by the Ministers (the Premier and the Treasurer), undertaking prices oversight of monopoly or near monopoly Government business activities;
- receiving and investigating competitive neutrality complaints against significant government and local government business activities;
- accrediting significant government and local government business activities as complying with the principle of competitive neutrality;
- overseeing and arbitrating third party access to infrastructure;
- undertaking such other activities relating to national competition policy as the Ministers may direct.

### Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### a) Basis of Preparation:

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Administration and Audit Act 1977 and the *Financial Management Standard 1997*. The statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention with the exception of non-current physical assets which are valued as outlined in Note 2(d).

As a statutory body under the Financial Administration and Audit Act 1977, the Authority is required to prepare general purpose financial statements in accordance with professional Statements of Accounting Concepts, Urgent Issues Group Abstracts and Australian Accounting Standards. Unless otherwise stated, the accounting policies have been consistently applied.

#### b) Revenue and Expenses

The accrual basis of accounting has been used (i.e. revenues are recognised when earned and expenses recognised when incurred).

Salary and related staff costs include salaries, entitlements, recruitment costs, staff training and other costs. These are recognised on an accrual basis and include relevant oncosts.

#### c) Leasing

Operating leases are those where the risk of ownership is retained by the lessor.

Operating lease costs are charged to the Operating Statement in the periods in which they are incurred. The Authority also leases motor vehicles which are part of employees' remuneration packages and therefore lease expenses for those vehicles are included with Employee Expenses. The Authority does not have any finance leases.

#### d) Property, Plant & Equipment

Property, plant & equipment are valued in accordance with the Queensland State Government's policy titled, *The Recording and Valuation of Non-Current Physical Assets in the Queensland Public Sector*. Where assets are acquired, they are valued at their cost of acquisition, including all expenses incidental to the purchase and necessary to have the asset ready for use. Unless there is a material difference between the cost of acquisition and the deprival value, assets will be valued at cost less depreciation.

Items or components which form an integral part of an asset are recognised as a single asset. The asset recognition threshold has been set at \$300. The revaluation threshold has been set at \$250,000.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements (cont'd)  
for the year ended 30 June 2000

Depreciation of property, plant and equipment is calculated on a straight line basis based on estimated useful life. The following depreciation rates have been used:

Office Equipment:	20% to 33%
Computer Equipment:	33%
Furniture & Fixtures:	10% to 33%

**e) Employee Entitlements:**

Liabilities for annual leave are based on current rates including related oncosts.

Liabilities for long service leave are recognised and measured by the use of a shorthand method determined by the Queensland State Actuary as a simple alternative designed to achieve results that are not materially different from those that would have been achieved from a calculation of the present value of expected future payments.

No liabilities are recorded for non-vesting sick leave, as it is expected that the sick leave taken in future reporting periods will not be greater than entitlements which are expected to accrue in those periods. The Authority has no vesting sick leave.

**f) Taxation:**

The Authority is exempt from the payment of income tax under section 24AQ of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936 and sales tax under Item 126A in Schedule 1 to the *Sales Tax (Exemptions & Classifications) Act 1992*.

**g) Superannuation:**

Contributions to superannuation meet the minimum requirements of the *Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992*.

**h) Comparative Figures:**

Some comparatives have been re-cast to maintain consistency in presentation but remain essentially the same as were stated in last year's financial statements.

**Note 3: Members Fees**

Members' fees are determined by the Governor in Council.

**Note 4: Staff and Related Costs**

	2000	1999
	\$	\$
Salaries & related costs	2,141,437	1,855,680
Provision for employee entitlements accrued at QCA	32,440	72,860
Provision for employee entitlements assumed from prior service	26,700	71,900
Staff recruitment costs	161,578	52,170
Staff training costs	90,565	68,743
Other staff costs	5,967	4,560
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,458,687</b>	<b>2,125,913</b>

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements (cont'd)  
for the year ended 30 June 2000

<b>Note 5: Other Operating Costs</b>	2000	1999
	\$	\$
Occupancy Costs (including operating lease rentals)	273,920	235,106
Specialist Services	895,765	70,505
Depreciation	211,527	163,896
Information Technology Costs	42,906	107,170
Travel & Accommodation Costs	68,252	60,025
Auditors remuneration	4,650	5,250
Other Costs	166,310	279,579
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,663,330</b>	<b>921,531</b>

**Note 6: Cash**

Cash includes cash at bank and investments with Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC) which are deposited at call and can be redeemed at short notice at their face value.

The organisation does not have any borrowing or overdraft facilities. The balance represents the net effect of unpresented cheques, which were covered by cash transfers before their presentation.

	2000	1999
<i>Balance</i>	\$	\$
Cash at bank	(117,403)	1,085
QTC Investment	3,095,779	1,999,367
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,978,376</b>	<b>2,000,452</b>
 <i>Effective rates of interest</i>		
Cash at bank	4.75%	3.5%
Investment	6.42%	4.81%

**Note 7: Receivables**

These amounts are recorded at face value and have a short maturity. The Authority is not exposed to any known credit risk.

<b>Note 8: Property, Plant &amp; Equipment</b>	2000	1999
	\$	\$
Leasehold Improvements	24,146	0
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(3,365)	0
<b>20,781</b>	<b>0</b>	
 Office Equipment	151,804	122,714
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(64,786)	(33,436)
<b>87,018</b>	<b>89,278</b>	
 Computer Equipment	288,965	226,102
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(151,494)	(67,381)
<b>137,471</b>	<b>158,721</b>	
 Furniture & Fittings	950,140	832,126
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(210,241)	(117,541)
<b>739,899</b>	<b>714,585</b>	
 <b>Total Property, Plant &amp; Equipment</b>	<b>985,169</b>	<b>962,584</b>

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements (cont'd)  
for the year ended 30 June 2000

<b>Note 9: Creditors</b>	2000	1999
	\$	\$
Audit Fees Payable	4,600	4,500
Accrued Expenses	167,818	105,677
<b>Total</b>	<b>172,418</b>	<b>110,177</b>
<b>Note 10: Provisions</b>	2000	1999
	\$	\$
Current		
Employee entitlements accrued at the Authority	79,423	77,581
Employee entitlements related to prior public service employment	24,087	31,240
<b>Total</b>	<b>103,510</b>	<b>108,821</b>
Non-Current		
Employee entitlements accrued at the Authority	53,579	22,982
Employee entitlements related to prior public service employment	173,762	139,908
<b>Total</b>	<b>227,341</b>	<b>162,890</b>
<b>Note 11: Capital</b>	2000	1999
	\$	\$
Establishment Grant	1,559,000	1,559,000
Contributed Assets	20,027	20,027
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,579,027</b>	<b>1,579,027</b>
<b>Note 12: Accumulated Result from Operations</b>	2000	1999
	\$	\$
Accumulated Operating Surplus at beginning of reporting period	1,040,524	633,439
Operating Surplus for current reporting period	889,089	407,085
<b>Accumulated Operating Surplus at end of reporting period</b>	<b>1,929,613</b>	<b>1,040,524</b>
<b>Note 13: Notes to the Statement of Cash Flows</b>	2000	1999
a) <i>Reconciliation of Operating Surplus to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</i>	\$	\$
Operating Surplus	889,089	407,085
Add Depreciation	211,527	163,896
<i>Changes in assets and liabilities</i>		
Decrease/(increase) in receivables	(3,883)	21,640
Decrease/(increase) in prepaid expenses	(6,077)	206
Increase in employee entitlements	59,140	144,761
Increase in creditors and accruals	56,104	48,062
<b>Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>	<b>1,205,900</b>	<b>785,650</b>
b) <b>Reconciliation of Increase in property, plant &amp; equipment to Net Cash used in Investing activities</b>		
Property, plant & equipment (net)	(22,586)	(32,177)
Add Depreciation	(211,527)	(163,896)
<i>Changes in assets &amp; Liabilities</i>		
Increase in creditors and accruals	6,137	0
<b>Net cash used in Investing activities</b>	<b>(227,976)</b>	<b>(196,073)</b>

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements (cont'd)  
for the year ended 30 June 2000

- c) For the purposes of this statement, cash includes cash at bank and investments. Cash at the end of the year as shown in the cashflows equals the cash and investments as disclosed in the balance sheet.
- d) The Authority has no unused credit, standby credit or loan facilities.

**Note 14: Operating Lease Commitments**

The offices occupied by the Authority are subject to three separate operating leases which expire on February 15, 2003.

Future operating lease rentals not provided for in the financial statements are payable as follows:	2000	1999
	\$	\$
Not later than one year	303,364	202,770
Later than one year but not later than two years	323,427	212,075
Later than two years but not later than five years	203,743	372,486
Later than five years	0	0
<b>Total commitments</b>	<b>830,534</b>	<b>787,331</b>
Rental expense included in the determination of the operating result	228,553	203,395

**Note 15:** The Authority has no known Contingent Liabilities not disclosed elsewhere in the Notes.

## Certificate of the Queensland Competition Authority

The foregoing financial statements have been prepared pursuant to section 46F of the Financial Administration and Audit Act 1977 and other prescribed requirements. We certify that -

- (a) the statements together with the other information and notes to and forming part thereof are in agreement with the accounts of the Authority; and
- (b) in our opinion -
  - (i) the prescribed requirements in respect of the establishment and keeping of accounts have been complied with in all material respects; and
  - (ii) the statements have been drawn up so as to present a true and fair view of the transactions and cash flows of the Authority for the period 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000, and of the financial position as at 30 June 2000.



.....  
RM Wylie  
Chairman  
28 August 2000



.....  
EJ Hall  
Chief Executive  
28 August 2000

## Independent Audit Report

*The Chairperson and Members of the Authority*

### Scope

I have audited the general purpose financial statements of the Queensland Competition Authority prepared by the statutory authority for the year ended 30 June 2000 in terms of section 46F of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1977*. The financial statements comprise the Operating Statement, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows, Notes to and forming part of the financial statements and certificates given by the Chairperson and person responsible for financial administration.

The Authority is responsible for the preparation and the form of presentation of the financial statements and the information they contain. I have audited the financial statements in order to express an opinion on them.

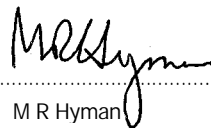
The audit has been conducted in accordance with QAO Auditing Standards which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards, to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. Audit procedures included the examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with prescribed requirements which include Australian Accounting Standards so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the entity's financial position and the results of its operations and its cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

### Audit Opinion

In accordance with section 46G of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act*, I certify that I have received all the information and explanations I have required and, in my opinion:

- the prescribed requirements in respect of the establishment and keeping of accounts have been complied with in all material respects; and
- the statements have been drawn up so as to present a true and fair view in accordance with prescribed accounting standards and other prescribed requirements of the transactions of the Queensland Competition Authority for the financial year 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000 and of the financial position as at the end of that year.



M R Hyman  
Director of Audit  
(as Delegate of the Auditor-General)



Queensland Audit Office  
Brisbane

## Appendices

### 1. List of Declared Significant Business Activities

For the Authority to be able to investigate a potential breach of the principle of competitive neutrality by a State government agency, a complaint must be directed against a government activity which has been “declared” to be a significant business activity by gazette notice. Below is a list of declared significant business activities. The list is current as at 30 June 2000.

Significant Business Activity	Relevant Government Agency	Date of Declaration
All the business activities of Queensland Generation Corporation	Queensland Generation Corporation	1 July 1997
All the business activities of AUSTA Energy Corporation	AUSTA Energy Corporation	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Stanwell Corporation	Stanwell Corporation	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Tarong Energy Corporation	Tarong Energy Corporation	1 July 1997
All the business activities of C S Energy	C S Energy	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Queensland Transitional Power Trading Corporation	Queensland Transmission and Supply Corporation	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Capricornia Electricity Corporation	Capricornia Electricity Corporation	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Far North Queensland Electricity Corporation	Far North Queensland Electricity Corporation	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Mackay Electricity Corporation	Mackay Electricity Corporation	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Queensland Electricity Transmission Corporation	Queensland Electricity Transmission Corporation	1 July 1997
All the business activities of South East Queensland Electricity Corporation	South East Queensland Electricity Corporation	1 July 1997
All the business activities of South West Queensland Electricity Corporation	South West Queensland Electricity Corporation	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Wide Bay - Burnett Electricity Corporation	Wide Bay - Burnett Electricity Corporation	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Southern Electricity Retail Corporation	Southern Electricity Retail Corporation	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Northern Electricity Retail Corporation	Northern Electricity Retail Corporation	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Central Electricity Retail Corporation	Central Electricity Retail Corporation	1 July 1997
All the business activities of DPI Forestry	Department of Primary Industries	1 July 1997
All the business activities of State Water Projects	Department of Natural Resources	1 July 1997
All the business activities of CITEC	Department of Public Works and Housing	1 July 1997
All the business activities of GOPRINT	Department of Public Works and Housing	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Queensland Property Management (QPM)	Department of Public Works and Housing	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Project Services	Department of Public Works and Housing	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Sales and Distribution	Department of Public Works and Housing	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Cairns Port Authority	Cairns Port Authority	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Gladstone Port Authority	Gladstone Port Authority	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Mackay Port Authority	Mackay Port Authority	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Port of Brisbane Corporation	Port of Brisbane Corporation	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Ports Corporation of Queensland	Ports Corporation of Queensland	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Rockhampton Port Authority	Rockhampton Port Authority	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Townsville Port Authority	Townsville Port Authority	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Queensland Rail	Queensland Rail	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Road Transport Construction Service	Department of Main Roads	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Plant Hire Service	Department of Main Roads	1 July 1997
All the business activities of Queensland Investment Corporation	Queensland Investment Corporation	1 July 1997
All the business activities of North Queensland Electricity Corporation Limited	North Queensland Electricity Corporation Limited	19 Sept 1997
All the business activities of Bundaberg Port Authority	Bundaberg Port Authority	19 Sept 1997
All the business activities of Golden Casket Lottery Corporation Limited	Golden Casket Lottery Corporation Limited	19 Sept 1997

## 2. List of Local Government Nominations of Authority to act as Competitive Neutrality Referee

Under the *Local Government Act 1993*, councils may resolve to appoint the Authority as their referee for the hearing of competitive neutrality complaints against specified local government business activities. Below is a list of the councils which have appointed the Authority as their competitive neutrality referee for various business activities. The list is current as at 30 June 2000.

Local Government	Business Activity
Barcaldine Shire Council	Roads
Belyando Shire Council	Roads
Blackall Shire Council	Roads
Broadsound Shire Council	Roads
Caloundra City Council	Water and Sewerage
Cambooya Shire Council	Roads
Chinchilla Shire Council	Roads
Cooloola Shire Council	Roads
Crows Nest Shire Council	Roads
Dalrymple Shire Council	Roads
Duaringa Shire Council	Roads
Gladstone City Council	Roads
Hervey Bay City Council	Roads Water and Sewerage
Livingstone Shire Council	Roads
Logan City Council	Water and Sewerage Waste
Mackay City Council	Roads Water and Sewerage
Mareeba Shire Council	Roads
Mount Isa City Council	Roads
Murilla Shire Council	Roads
Noosa Shire Council	Water and Sewerage
Paroo Shire Council	Roads
Pine Rivers Shire Council	Water and Sewerage
Redland Shire Council	Roads Water and Sewerage Waste
Rockhampton City Council	Roads Water and Sewerage
Rosalie Shire Council	Roads
Thuringowa City Council	Roads Water and Sewerage
Townsville City Council	Roads Water and Sewerage Waste Services

### 3. Staff List

*as at 30 June 2000*

#### Project Manager

Jennifer Hocking, BEcon (Hons)

#### Senior Analysts

Sean Andrews BBus(Eco/Fin), MBA

Chris Bell, BEcon

Scott Hook BEcon, MEcon

Craig Lawrence, BEcon, MMgtEcon, AIMM

George Passmore, BAgEcon (Hons), MAgEcon

Rob Prydon, BEcon, MProfAcc

David Robinson, BAdmin (Hons)

Matt Rodgers, BEcon

Neville Worland, BEcon (Hons)

#### Analysts

Steve Darnell, BEng, MBA, MComm (Applied Finance)

Sean Greenup, Becon, SIA (Aff)

Jennifer Harris, BA (Econ/Polit.), MA (Econ-Hons)

Stephen Livens, BBus

Roland McMillan, BEcon

James Reynolds, BEcon, MBA

Steve Williams, BEcon, MFM, GEconometrics, ASIA,

Trish Worland, BA, MEcon

#### Administration

Amit Basu, Finance Manager, B.Com (Hons), MBA

Natasha Bree, Receptionist

Michelle Goedemans, Administrative Support Officer

Andria McKay, Executive Secretary

Stuart Murnain, IT Officer, MCP

Bev Peake, Librarian/Office Assistant

#### 4. Legislative Provisions

The Authority's legislative responsibilities can be found in:

- ◆ *The Queensland Competition Authority Act 1997*
- ◆ *The Local Government Act 1993*
- ◆ *The Electricity Act 1994*
- ◆ *The Electricity – National Scheme (Queensland) Act 1997*
- ◆ *The Gas Pipelines Access (Queensland) Act 1998*

#### 5. Publications

During 1999-2000 the Authority released the following publications. Printed copies of public reports are available from the Authority's office or in PDF format from the Authority's website at [www.qca.org.au](http://www.qca.org.au).

<i>Release Date</i>	<i>Title</i>
<i>Public Reports</i>	
July 1999	<i>Issues Paper – Ring-Fencing for Electricity Distribution Entities</i>
July 1999	<i>Issues Paper – QR Draft Undertaking: Treatment of Past Capital Contributions</i>
October 1999	<i>Issues Paper – Queensland Rail's Draft Access Undertaking: Reference Tariffs, Reference Train Service and Rate Regulation</i>
November 1999	<i>Discussion Paper – Cross Subsidies: Gas Access Working Group</i>
December 1999	<i>Draft for Comment – Electricity Distribution: Ring-Fencing Guidelines</i>
December 1999	<i>Issues Paper – Electricity Distribution: Asset Valuation, Depreciation and Rate of Return</i>
December 1999	<i>Issues Paper – Electricity Distribution: Framework for Regulation</i>
February 2000	<i>Request for Comments – QR's Scheduling and Train Control Protocols and Proposed Assignment of Marshalling Yards</i>
February 2000	<i>Issues Paper – Electricity Conduct Rules</i>
March 2000	<i>Request for Comments – Queensland Rail's Undertaking: Costing Manual</i>
May 2000	<i>Discussion Paper – Electricity Distribution: Determination of Prescribed Services</i>
<i>Reports to Government</i>	
August 1999	<i>Do Any of the Services Provided by the Ports Corporation of Queensland Constitute Government Monopoly Business Activities?</i>
November 1999	<i>Recommendations for Payments for Local Government Reforms 1998-99 – Local Government Competition Policy Financial Incentive Payments Scheme</i>

## 6. Consultants

Total expenditure on consultants during 1999-2000 was \$757,679. All consultancies during this period were within budget. However, one consultancy, which has not yet been finalised, will most likely exceed its budget due to a delay in the data being provided by an independent body.

<i>Consultants by Category in 1999-2000</i>	<i>\$</i>
Management	32,500
Computing	24,616
Finance/Accounting	225,764
Professional/Technical	474,799
<i>Total</i>	<i>757,679</i>

<i>Consultancies Awarded in 1999-2000 by Value</i>	<i>No. of Consultants</i>
Less than \$10,000	1
\$10,001 - \$100,000	11
More than \$100,000	1
<i>Total</i>	<i>13</i>

## 7. Other Issues

### Overseas Visits

No overseas travel was undertaken by the Authority during 1999-2000.

### Meetings of the Authority

Meetings of the Authority were attended by all members during 1999-2000, with the exception of the meeting on 15 July when Ms Taylor was unable to attend due to illness. Meeting dates were as follows:

<i>1999</i>	<i>2000</i>
15 July	13 January*
12 August	15 February
9 September	24 February*
7 October	9 March
28 October*	13 April
11 November	8 May*
2 December	22 May
16 December*	9 June

\*out of session or special meetings

#### Details of Annual Report Production

300 copies of this report have been printed at an average cost of \$8.45 per copy. Extra copies may be obtained from the Authority's office. A copy of this report is available in PDF format on the Authority's website at [www.qca.org.au](http://www.qca.org.au).

### **8. Contact Details**

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Brisbane Qld 4000

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Brisbane Qld 4001

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Facsimile: (07) 3222 0599  
Email: [general.enquiries@qca.org.au](mailto:general.enquiries@qca.org.au)  
Internet: [www.qca.org.au](http://www.qca.org.au)