

STAKEHOLDER NOTICE

6 December 2018

Final Decision—Aurizon Network's 2017 draft access undertaking investigation

Today, the QCA released its final decision refusing to approve Aurizon Network's 2017 draft access undertaking (2017 DAU).

The QCA's decision is based on the evidence and information available, having regard to the statutory assessment criteria in section 138(2) of the *Queensland Competition Authority Act 1997*.

The QCA has consulted extensively on Aurizon Network's 2017 DAU and provided numerous opportunities for interested parties to put forward their views on the merits of Aurizon Network's proposal and potential alternatives. This included opportunities for stakeholders to collaborate, discuss and, where possible, reach consensus on certain issues. The QCA appreciates the efforts of Aurizon Network and other interested parties in providing submissions and other information as part of this investigation.

The QCA has assessed Aurizon Network's 2017 DAU afresh and in its entirety. This has necessarily required the QCA to consider all of the elements of Aurizon Network's proposal, as well as the interrelationships between various matters, many of which remained in contention between Aurizon Network and key stakeholders. In considering each aspect of Aurizon Network's 2017 DAU, the QCA's decision has sought an appropriate balance between competing interests and provided reasons for the decision with reference to the issues that are relevant to each of the s. 138(2) factors.

The QCA has issued a secondary undertaking notice that requests Aurizon Network to amend its 2017 DAU in accordance with the final decision and submit a compliant draft access undertaking to the QCA within 60 days to enable the QCA to approve a replacement access undertaking shortly thereafter.

In the event Aurizon Network does not comply with the QCA's secondary undertaking notice, the QCA may prepare, and approve, its own draft access undertaking. The QCA will provide advice to stakeholders on the way forward for that process, should it become necessary.

The QCA's final decision on Aurizon Network's 2017 DAU, along with all stakeholder submissions and other relevant materials can be accessed at www.qca.org.au