pacificnational

Friday, 16 September 2016

Professor Roy Green
Chair
Queensland Competition Authority
PO Box 2257
Brisbane Queensland 4001

Dear Professor Green

Pacific National Response to Aurizon Network DAAU to Extend the 2010 Access Undertaking

Pacific National welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Queensland Competition Authority (QCA) on Aurizon Network's Draft Amending Access Undertaking (DAAU) which seeks to extend the term of the 2010 Access Undertaking to the earlier of 30 November 2016 or the date that the QCA approves a replacement access undertaking.

The 2010 Access Undertaking currently expires on 30 September 2016. Ideally Pacific National would have preferred that the access undertaking was approved and implemented by 30 September 2016; however Pacific National recognises that the time frames involved in the approval and implementation process are challenging and that there is a strong possibility that without this current DAAU no access undertaking would apply. Given this, Pacific National supports the extension of the 2010 Access Undertaking to 30 November 2016 in order to ensure regulatory certainty, and to facilitate an orderly implementation of the 2016 Access Undertaking.

Pacific National supports the DAAU as it provides ongoing regulatory certainty, although Pacific National seeks that all parties use their best endeavours to approve and implement the 2016 Access Undertaking by 30 November 2016.

On a separate matter Pacific National is seeking that the QCA be aware that future submissions relating to Aurizon Network will now be made by Pacific National rather than Asciano. This follows the sale of Asciano in August 2016 which has resulted in Pacific National becoming a stand-alone company with new owners. Submissions made before this ownership change should be treated as joint submissions from Pacific National and Asciano.

If you wish to discuss this submission further please contact me on 02 8484 8056 or Ying Yeung on 07 3002 3726.

Yours faithfully

Stuart Ronan
Manager Access and Regulation