

## STAKEHOLDER NOTICE

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22 September 2017

Notice of time periods—Aurizon Network's 2017 Standard User Funding Agreement Draft Amending Access Undertaking (UT4 SUFA DAAU)

The QCA has updated the notice of time periods for the assessment of Aurizon Network's UT4 SUFA DAAU. The DAAU satisfies Aurizon Network's obligation under clause 8.8.3(a) of UT4 to submit the UT4 SUFA DAAU within three months of UT4 approval date of 11 October 2016.

### Consultation process

Clause 8.8.3(b) of UT4 provides that the QCA must assess the proposed UT4 SUFA DAAU, and if deemed appropriate, seek submissions from stakeholders. Sections 138(3) and 143(3) of the QCA Act provide that the QCA may only approve a DAAU if (among other things) it has published the DAAU and invited persons to make submissions on it within the time stated by the QCA, and considered any submissions received within that time.

On 18 January 2017, we commenced an investigation into the UT4 SUFA DAAU and invited stakeholder submissions by 12 April 2017.

On 10 August 2017, we made a draft decision in respect of the UT4 SUFA DAAU and invited written submissions by **15 September 2017**.

On 22 September 2017, we provided stakeholders with an additional consultation period for collaborative stakeholder submissions. The collaborative consultation period provides an opportunity for stakeholders to present agreed positions to help inform our final decision in respect of Aurizon Network's UT4 SUFA DAAU.

Collaborative submissions are due no later than **5 pm on Tuesday 31 October 2017**.

Details of the address for providing submissions are set out below.

### Submissions

The address for submissions is:

**Queensland Competition Authority**

**GPO Box 2257**

**Brisbane Q 4001**

[www.qca.org.au/submissions](http://www.qca.org.au/submissions)

### Statutory timeframes for assessment

In accordance with section 147A of the QCA Act, the QCA must use its best endeavours to decide whether to approve or not approve a DAAU within six months from the last day of the time for making submissions stated in the investigation notice. However, 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 statutory timeframe for assessing the UT4 SUFA DAAU

In accordance with section 147A of the QCA Act, the six-month period commenced on 13 April 2017, following the closing date of submissions on the UT4 SUFA DAAU.

The six-month statutory timeframe does not include the following:

• Consultation period on draft decision	10 August 2017 to 15 September 2017
• Collaborative consultation period	22 September 2017 to 31 October 2017

The six-month statutory timeframe for assessing the UT4 SUFA DAAU is now scheduled to expire on 29 December 2017, but this date may be extended to account for any future periods of time that are excluded from the statutory timeframe in accordance with section 147A of the QCA Act.

An updated notice of time periods will be issued detailing any changes to the stated timeframe for assessing the UT4 SUFA DAAU, as well as reasons for the change.



**Charles Millstead**

Chief Executive Officer