

File ref: 2072908

23 June 2026

Ms Cat Pepler
Group Executive Network
Aurizon Network Pty Ltd
GPO Box 456
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Ms Pepler

Aurizon Network's 2025 UT5 Draft Amending Access Undertaking

On 22 December 2025, Aurizon Network submitted its proposal to extend the term of its access undertaking, amending existing arrangements and providing indicative revenues and reference tariffs for the regulatory period (the 2025 UT5 DAAU).

The Queensland Competition Authority (QCA) is assessing the appropriateness of the 2025 UT5 DAAU in accordance with the requirements under the QCA Act, including having regard to the statutory assessment criteria.

On 23 June 2026, the QCA published its preliminary assessment of Aurizon Network's 2025 UT5 DAAU. For the most part, the QCA considers that the package of arrangements negotiated with, and supported by, access holders, as contained in the 2025 UT5 DAAU is appropriate. However, based on the information before us to date, the proposed operational expenditure allowance appears higher than reasonably required to reflect the efficient costs incurred in providing below-rail services to coal-carrying trains. We have also identified corrections to the provisions contained within the 2025 UT5 DAAU to enable the package of arrangements to operate as intended. For those reasons, the QCA's draft decision is to refuse to approve the 2025 UT5 DAAU.

The QCA encourages submissions on the draft decision from interested parties, including further justification from Aurizon Network to support its proposal. Submissions are due by 20 August 2026. The QCA will consider submissions before making its final decision.

This letter and the draft decision will be published on the QCA website for stakeholders' information.

I am happy to discuss any question you may have on this or any other matters. Should your staff have any questions about the attached draft decision, they can contact Richard Creagh on 07 3222 0555 or by email at richard.creagh@qca.org.au.

Yours sincerely



Charles Millstead
Chief Executive Officer