



16 June 2016

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

Dear Professor Green

### **Asciano Response to Aurizon Network DAAU to Extend the 2010 Access Undertaking**

Asciano 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 30 September 2016 and amend reference tariffs, system allowable revenues and system forecast volumes to reflect those used in the QCA's Final Decision (FD) on the 2016 Access Undertaking.

The 2010 Access Undertaking currently expires on 30 June 2016. The QCA released its Final Decision (FD) on the 2016 Access Undertaking in late April 2016. Ideally Asciano would prefer that the FD be approved and implemented by June 30 2016, however Asciano recognises that the time frames involved in the approval and implementation process are challenging and that there is a possibility that without the 2010 Access Undertaking extension that no access undertaking would apply. Given this, Asciano supports the extension of the 2010 Access Undertaking to 30 September 2016 in order to ensure regulatory certainty, and to facilitate an orderly implementation of the 2016 Access Undertaking.

Asciano understands that Aurizon Network is proposing to align system allowable revenues and volumes with the FD figures in aggregate, but is proposing to treat the various annual adjustments in different time periods to those time periods contemplated in the FD. Thus some figures in the FD and Aurizon Network's proposal may differ between individual years but should be consistent in aggregate. Asciano has no major concerns with this proposed approach as long as the Aurizon Network and FD figures are consistent in aggregate and the proposed approach does not act to disadvantage access holders and end users.

Overall Asciano broadly supports the DAAU as it provides ongoing regulatory certainty, although Asciano seeks that all parties use their best endeavours to approve and implement the FD by 30 June 2016 so that the DAAU is not required to be implemented. 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