

STAKEHOLDER NOTICE

2 December 2016

Notice of investigation and time periods—Aurizon Network's 2017 Draft Access Undertaking

On 30 November 2016, we received a draft access undertaking from Aurizon Network for the regulatory period commencing 1 July 2017 (2017 DAU).

On 2 December 2016, we gave notice to Aurizon Network of our intention to commence an investigation to decide whether to approve, or refuse to approve, Aurizon Network's 2017 DAU.

In accordance with section 146 of the *Queensland Competition Authority Act 1997* (QCA Act), this notice:

- informs stakeholders of our intention to commence the investigation to decide whether to approve, or refuse to approve, Aurizon Network's 2017 DAU; and
- invites stakeholders to make written submissions to the QCA on Aurizon Network's 2017 DAU. Details of the address for providing submissions and the due date are set out below.

Submissions

Section 138(3) of the QCA Act provides that the QCA may only approve a draft access undertaking if, among other things, it has published the draft access undertaking, invited submissions on it and considered any submissions received within the time provided.

We have published Aurizon Network's 2017 DAU on our website (www.qca.org.au) and invite submissions from all interested parties. The closing date for submissions is 17 February 2017. The address for submissions is:

Queensland Competition Authority
GPO Box 2257
Brisbane Q 4001

www.qca.org.au/submissions

Statutory timeframe 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 draft access undertaking 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:

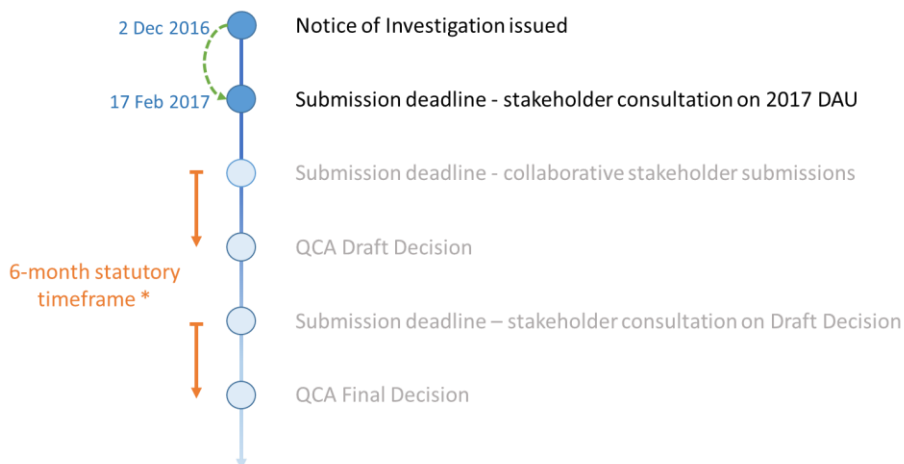
- a day in the period given by the QCA for making submissions in relation to a draft access undertaking or a related document
- a day in the period where a person has been required to give information or produce a document in response to a notice given by the QCA under section 185 of the QCA Act
- day(s) 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 Aurizon Network's 2017 DAU

In accordance with section 147A of the QCA Act, the six-month period commences on 17 February 2017. As outlined in the Statement of Regulatory Intent (July 2016), the QCA will allocate an additional stakeholder

collaborative consultation period to commence following the closing date for submissions on Aurizon Network's 2017 DAU.

Six-month statutory timeframe for assessing Aurizon Network's 2017 DAU



*Note: * Six-month statutory timeframe does not include periods of time that are excluded from the statutory timeframe in accordance with section 147A of the QCA Act.*

The six-month statutory timeframe for assessing Aurizon Network's 2017 DAU is currently scheduled to expire on 19 August 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, including:

- the scheduled stakeholder collaborative consultation period
- the scheduled stakeholder consultation period on the QCA Draft Decision
- time periods provided for stakeholders to respond to notices given under section 185 of the QCA Act.

An updated notice of time periods will be issued detailing any changes to the stated timeframe for assessing Aurizon Network's 2017 DAU, as well as reasons for the change.