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To the Assistant Director

Aurizon welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Economic Regulation Authority's (the Authority's) third review of the *Railways (Access) Code 2000* (the Code).

Aurizon recognises the importance of periodic reviews of the Code which assess whether the objectives of the Western Australian Rail Access Regime are being satisfied, and if not, what changes can be made to the Code to address any deficiencies which the Authority identifies.

This review will also benefit from the recent parliamentary enquiry into the management of the Western Australian rail freight network. Similarly, the Authority will also obtain the benefit from stakeholder insights with negotiations having now occurred both inside and outside of the Code and for a more diverse range of stakeholders, markets and economic conditions.

As a rail operator, railway infrastructure provider and potential developer of integrated supply chain infrastructure within Western Australia, Aurizon is able to offer a broad and balanced perspective on the operation of the Code. Please find attached Aurizon's submission to the Authority's Issues Paper which reflects these perspectives.

Should you have any questions on any aspects of the submission please contact Dean Gannaway, Principal Regulatory Economist by phone on (07) 3019 2055 or via email at dean.gannaway@aurizon.com.au.

Yours sincerely

Jonn Snorτ Vice President, National Policy