



Notice

9 July 2025

Public Transport Authority Approval of revised over-payment rules

The ERA has approved the Public Transport Authority's (PTA) revised [over-payment rules](#).

All railway owners are required by section 47 of the *Railways (Access) Code 2000* to submit a statement of the rules (*the over-payment rules*) that are to apply where breaches of Schedule 4 clause 8 occur on the part of that owner that could not be reasonably avoided.

Clause 8 is the *ceiling price test* which puts revenues received by the railway owner against its allowable recoverable costs (the ceiling cost determined or approved by the ERA). The over-payment rules provide a scheme under which refunds to all access holders are determined in respect of any excess of revenue over costs.

The over-payment rules may be amended or replaced by the railway owner with the approval of the ERA. The PTA submitted its proposed over-payment rules to the ERA on 8 May 2025, which we published for consultation. No submissions were received.

The revised over-payment rules make the terms defined in the rules consistent with changes to defined terms in the Code, as amended in 2023. Examples of changed terms are:

- “operator” has been replaced with “access holder”
- “proponent” has been replaced with “access seeker”.

The provisions of the revised over-payment rules are substantially identical to the over-payment rules approved in 2018.

The PTA is required to provide its approved over-payment rules for publication before 15 July 2025.

Further information

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