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NOTICE

Invitation for Public Submissions

Review of the Regulatory Compliance Arrangements for the Public Transport Authority

The Economic Regulation Authority (**Authority**) has released a Background Paper on the Review of the Regulatory Compliance Arrangements for the Public Transport Authority (**PTA**). The Background Paper is available on the Authority's <u>web site</u>.

Background

The Authority administers the Western Australian Railways Access Regime (**Regime**). The Regime is comprised of the *Railways (Access) Act 1998* (**Act**) and the *Railways (Access) Code 2000* (**Code**).

The Authority's role is to oversee, monitor and enforce compliance with the Act and the Code. The rail network and types of infrastructure subject to the Regime are defined in Schedule 1 of the Code.

The Authority is currently reviewing the regulatory compliance arrangements for the Public Transport Authority under the Regime.

The objective of the review is to reduce the regulatory compliance requirements for the PTA in order to minimise the compliance and administration costs of the Regime while maintaining a rail access regulatory framework that ensures effective, fair and transparent competition on Western Australia's regulated access railway network.

As part of this review, the Authority has proposed a reduction in the PTA's regulatory compliance arrangements as outlined in Section 6 of the Background Paper. The proposed reduced compliance arrangements would not involve any change to the existing rail access legislation. Both the PTA and the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure have been consulted in relation to the proposed changes and have indicated their agreement to these changes.

Public submissions

The Authority invites submissions from interested parties. The purpose of the Background Paper is to provide background information on this matter to assist interested parties in making submissions to the Authority. Following the receipt of these submissions, the Authority will make a final decision on the PTA's regulatory compliance arrangements.

All submissions should be in electronic and hard copy form and must be received by 4:00pm (Western Daylight Saving Time) on Friday 25 January 2008.

Written submissions should be mailed to:

Mr Lyndon Rowe Chairman **Economic Regulation Authority** PO Box 8469 Perth BC WA 6849

Electronic submissions should be made to: jennifer.hughes@era.wa.gov.au.

In general, all submissions from interested parties will be treated as in the public domain and placed on the Authority's web site.

Where an interested party wishes to make a submission in confidence, it should clearly indicate the parts of the submission for which confidentiality is claimed and specify in reasonable detail the basis for the claim.

The publication of a submission on the Authority's web site shall not be taken as indicating that the Authority has knowledge either actual or constructive of the contents of a particular submission and, in particular, whether the submission in whole or part contains information of a confidential nature and no duty of confidence will arise for the Authority.

For further information contact:

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LYNDON ROWE **CHAIRMAN**

3 January 2008