



ARTC amended submission version: 28 November 2024

**AUSTRALIAN RAIL TRACK CORPORATION LIMITED**  
**("ARTC")**

in favour of

**AUSTRALIAN COMPETITION AND CONSUMER COMMISSION**  
**("ACCC")**

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**2024 ACCESS UNDERTAKING**  
**INTERSTATE RAIL NETWORK**

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## PART 1

**ACCESS UNDERTAKING** dated

2024

**BY**

**AUSTRALIAN RAIL TRACK CORPORATION LIMITED** ABN 75 081 455 754 of 11 Sir Donald Bradman Drive, Keswick Terminal South Australia 5035 ("**ARTC**")

**IN FAVOUR OF**

**AUSTRALIAN COMPETITION AND CONSUMER COMMISSION** being a body corporate established under section 6A of the CCA ("**ACCC**")

### 1 PREAMBLE

#### 1.1 Introduction

- (a) ARTC was established on 24 February 1998 as a company under the Corporations Act.
- (b) ARTC's shares are fully owned by the Australian Government. ARTC was established as the entity to manage the granting of access to rail operators to the Interstate Rail Network. ARTC was created with an objective to create a single process of access to the Interstate Rail Network consistent with the Competition Principles Agreement and the National Rail Summit Heads of Agreement.
- (c) ARTC currently owns or leases and is responsible for the granting of access to that part of the Interstate Rail Network comprising the Network.
- (d) In ARTC's view, as a vertically separated provider of access, ARTC operates in a competitive environment where competitive pressure from other modes of transport (particularly road) place constraints on rail transport and access pricing. Accordingly, in ARTC's view, it is unlikely to be able to price in any of its markets at levels which will fully recover the full economic costs of its assets.
- (e) As the manager of a significant part of the Interstate Rail Network, ARTC has adopted the concepts of equity and transparency as key elements of its pricing policies. ARTC will not discriminate price on the basis of the identity of the Customer. By so doing, ARTC seeks to stimulate customer confidence, competition and market growth in the rail industry in an evolving environment in which government owned vertically integrated railways have largely been replaced by privately owned operators with access to shared track infrastructure.
- (f) As an access provider, maintenance of the Network and Associated Facilities is a large component of ARTC's current cost structure. These services are either outsourced and managed under maintenance contracts entered into on commercial terms as a result of a competitive tender process, or, in ARTC's view, otherwise managed on an efficient

basis. ARTC has adopted this practice with a view to ensuring that ARTC's cost structure will reflect efficient infrastructure practice.

- (g) ARTC has prepared this Undertaking voluntarily in pursuance of its charter objectives.
- (h) ARTC is a signatory to the Memorandum of Cooperation to support National Rail System Interoperability for future major rail investments and is a member of a number of committees pursuant to that memorandum.
- (i) ARTC acknowledges the importance of:
  - (i) its role as the operator of the Network in these committees and other stakeholder forums to promote improved interoperability of, and harmonising across, the national rail network; and
  - (ii) the need to update its stakeholders regularly on actions and engagement with forums related to interoperability and harmonisation, including through the Interstate Network Rail Access Forum.
- (j) This Undertaking will be applied consistently to Access Applications where such applications are within the scope of this Undertaking as set out in Part 2.

## **1.2 Objectives**

This Undertaking is a voluntary undertaking submitted by ARTC under Part IIIA of the CCA. The intent of the Undertaking is to:

- (a) provide a framework to manage negotiations with Applicants for Access to the Network for the purpose of operating Services;
- (b) establish a workable, open, non-discriminatory, efficient and inclusive process for lodging and processing Access Applications;
- (c) use transparent and detailed principles and processes for determining access terms and conditions;
- (d) reach an appropriate balance between:
  - (i) the legitimate business interest of ARTC:
    - (A) the recovery of all reasonable costs associated with the granting of Access to the Network;
    - (B) a fair and reasonable return on ARTC's investment in the Network and Associated Facilities commensurate with its commercial risk; and
    - (C) stimulate customer confidence, competition, and market growth in the rail industry;

- (ii) the interest of the public:
  - (A) increase competition ensuring efficient use of resources;
  - (B) the promotion of economically efficient investment, use and operation of the Network; and
  - (C) promoting other relevant social objectives, such as an increase of traffic from road to rail;
- (iii) the interests of Applicants wanting Access to the Network, including:
  - (A) providing Access to the Network on fair and reasonable terms; and
  - (B) providing Access in an open, efficient and non-discriminatory manner;
- (e) provide an efficient, effective and binding resolution process in the event that ARTC and the Applicant are unable to negotiate a mutually acceptable Access Agreement; and
- (f) operate consistently with the objectives and principles in Part IIIA of the CCA and the Competition Principles Agreement.

### **1.3 Request for information**

- (a) The ACCC may, by written notice to ARTC, require ARTC to provide information or documents required by the ACCC in relation to this Undertaking.
- (b) The written notice must set out:
  - (i) in reasonable detail;
    - (A) the information or documents required by the ACCC; and
    - (B) the reasons why the ACCC requires the information or documents;
  - (ii) the form in which the information or documents must be provided; and
  - (iii) the deadline for ARTC to provide the information or documents, which must be no less than 14 days from the date of ARTC's receipt of the notice.
- (c) If ARTC receives a request for information or documents which it considers is unreasonable, then ARTC must advise the ACCC by notice in writing no less than 7 days from the date of ARTC's receipt of the request for information or documents of:

- (i) the reasons why ARTC considers the request is unreasonable;  
and
  - (ii) how the request may be modified to address ARTC's legitimate concerns.
- (d) The ACCC will notify ARTC as soon as practicable its decision after receiving such a request from ARTC. If applicable, the notice must set out the time for ARTC to provide the information or documents pursuant to the ACCC's decision, which must be not less than 14 days from the date of ARTC's receipt of that notice.

## PART 2

### 2 SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION OF UNDERTAKING

#### 2.1 Scope

- (a) This Undertaking provides for the negotiations of Access required for the operation of Train Services by Operators on the Network, with details of the specified services and sections of the Network defined during Access negotiations. Access will include, in addition to the track, the benefit of Associated Facilities required to facilitate such Access.
- (b) This Undertaking does not extend to any Extension to the Network nor to the track and infrastructure not part of the Network that may connect to the Network.

#### 2.2 Grant and Duration of Undertaking

- (a) ARTC undertakes to the ACCC that it will comply with the terms and conditions specified in this Undertaking in relation to the grant of Access to Operators to the Network for Services. This Undertaking takes effect 21 days after it is accepted by the ACCC under section 44ZZA(3) of the CCA ("**Commencement Date**") and will continue until the earlier to occur of:
  - (i) the expiry of the Term; or
  - (ii) withdrawal of this Undertaking in accordance with its terms or the CCA.
- (b) Not later than 12 months prior to the expiry of the Term of the Undertaking ARTC will submit to the ACCC a written statement outlining whether or not it intends to submit a new voluntary undertaking to the ACCC for its consideration.
- (c) If ARTC intends to submit a new voluntary undertaking to the ACCC for its consideration, ARTC will also apply to the ACCC for an extension of the expiring Undertaking.
- (d) The application for extension would include a proposed extension period which, in ARTC's view, reasonably estimates the time it would take for ARTC to formulate a new undertaking and have that undertaking take effect following approval by the ACCC.
- (e) If ARTC does not propose to submit to the ACCC a new voluntary undertaking then clause (b) to (d) would not be applicable. Nothing in this clause would prevent ARTC from submitting a voluntary undertaking to the ACCC at any time during the Term of this Undertaking.



### **2.3 Term**

This Undertaking will continue to be binding upon ARTC until:

- (a) 30 June 2029; or
- (b) the date upon which the ACCC consents to the withdrawal of the Undertaking by ARTC, whichever is the earlier.

### **2.4 Review of Undertaking**

- (a) If, during the Term, ARTC is of the opinion that circumstances have changed such that this Undertaking is no longer commercially viable for ARTC or becomes inconsistent with the objectives prescribed at clause 1.2, ARTC may seek the approval of the ACCC to vary this Undertaking.
- (b) Prior to seeking the approval of the ACCC under clause 2.4(a), ARTC will first consult with Operators regarding the proposed variation.
- (c) ARTC may only vary the Undertaking with the consent of the ACCC under section 44ZZA(7) of the CCA.

### **2.5 Existing Contractual Agreements**

This Undertaking applies only to the negotiations of new Access Agreements or the negotiation of Access Rights in addition to those already the subject of an Access Agreement. Nothing in this Undertaking can require a party to an existing Access Agreement to vary a term or provision of that agreement.

### **2.6 Insurance**

ARTC will take out and maintain a liability insurance policy with a limit of not less than \$250,000,000 for any one occurrence which provides an indemnity in respect of:

- (a) loss of, loss of use of, and destruction or damage to, real or personal property;
- (b) injury to, or disease or death of, persons; and
- (c) ARTC's liability to the Operator under clause 15 of Schedule D to the extent coverable by insurance.

### **2.7 Interstate Network Rail Access Forum**

- (a) ARTC will, at least once per calendar year, convene a forum for stakeholders (including Operators and access seekers) and the ACCC for stakeholders to raise issues relating to Access ("**Interstate Network Rail Access Forum**") and discuss:

- (i) the general operation of the Undertaking and the Indicative Track Access Agreement;
  - (ii) other issues of relevance to users of the Network, including the efficient use of the Network, interoperability, resilience and transparency;
  - (iii) as operator of the Network, actions taken by ARTC and engagement at committees and stakeholder forums related to improving interoperability and harmonisation, including through the Interstate Network Rail Access Forum;
  - (iv) reports from the Data Working Group;
  - (v) for the forums in 2025 and 2026, a report to be prepared by ARTC on the engagement referred to in paragraph (e); and
  - (vi) general issues relating to Access.
- (b) ARTC will agree with the ACCC a terms of reference, including procedural arrangements, for the Interstate Network Rail Access Forum within 6 months after the Commencement Date and publish that terms of reference on its website.
  - (c) ARTC will use best endeavours to maximise attendance but will meet the requirement to hold a meeting, at least once per calendar year, despite any party or parties (other than the ACCC) being unable to attend.
  - (d) The Interstate Network Rail Access Forum will not be a forum for discussion of individual negotiation processes or to discuss any matters that would otherwise require authorisation under the CCA (such as discussions involving individual access seekers' terms and conditions, volumes, individual pricing arrangements, or collective bargaining).
  - (e) For at least 18 months following the Commencement Date, ARTC will engage with stakeholders on potential amendments to the Indicative Track Access Agreement, including those raised by ARTC and stakeholders during the process for obtaining the ACCC's approval to this Undertaking.

## **2.8 Contact Details and Website**

- (a) Persons wishing to contact ARTC for further information or to apply for Access to the Network should contact ARTC at any of the following addresses:
  - (i) Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited  
11 Sir Donald Bradman Drive  
KESWICK TERMINAL SA 5035

Attention: Chief Executive Officer  
Telephone: (08) 8217 4366  
Facsimile: (08) 8217 4578

- (ii) Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited  
PO Box 10343  
Gouger Street  
ADELAIDE SA 5000
  - (iii) [InterstateAccessEnquiries@artc.com.au](mailto:InterstateAccessEnquiries@artc.com.au)
- (b) Applicants are also encouraged to search ARTC's internet web site at [www.artc.com.au](http://www.artc.com.au) on which will be published various information regarding ARTC and this Undertaking including:
- (i) illustrative maps showing a geographical description of the Network in the form of the annexures to Schedule E as amended by ARTC from time to time during the Term;
  - (ii) a narrative description of the Network;
  - (iii) as required by clause 4.6:
    - (A) the Standing Offer for Reference Services;
    - (B) prices for which Access has been granted to Services other than Reference Services, together with a general description of the Services to which such prices relate;
  - (iv) the Network Management Principles;
  - (v) the Indicative Track Access Agreement;
  - (vi) current available market terms and conditions;
  - (vii) a copy of ARTC's annual report;
  - (viii) a graphical representation of Committed Capacity on the Network (excluding track possessions for Network maintenance);
  - (ix) indicative section running times for Reference Services by corridor;
  - (x) route standards by corridor;
  - (xi) the Performance Indicators; and
  - (xii) the Rail Network Supply Chain Optimisation Strategy.

## **PART 3**

### **3 NEGOTIATING FOR ACCESS**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

As part of ARTC's philosophy, it seeks to encourage utilisation of the Network and as such will negotiate with the Applicant in good faith. ARTC recognises that the process needs to be flexible to suit specific circumstances and is willing to tailor the process in consultation with the Applicant. However, ARTC also recognises that the industry seeks some certainty and provides this framework to satisfy that need.

#### **3.2 Framework**

This part of the Undertaking seeks to outline the process which will be followed to enable an Applicant to gain Access to the Network. It provides for:

- (a) preliminary meetings and exchanges of information;
- (b) submission of an Access Application by the Applicant;
- (c) preparation of an Indicative Access Proposal by ARTC;
- (d) negotiations to develop an Access Agreement for execution;
- (e) dispute resolution procedures; and
- (f) both ARTC and the Applicant to negotiate in good faith.

#### **3.3 Provision of Information**

- (a) Subject to clause 3.3(b), ARTC will, if requested by an Applicant, provide the following information to Applicants to assist with negotiations:
  - (i) path length availability;
  - (ii) Available Capacity;
  - (iii) axle load limitations;
  - (iv) maximum allowable speeds;
  - (v) infrastructure characteristics;
  - (vi) applicable safeworking requirements;
  - (vii) Segment run times; and
  - (viii) any other information relating to Capacity or Train operations reasonably required by the Applicant in relation to the Access

Application, provided ARTC is given an opportunity to provide to the Applicant an estimate of the reasonable cost of preparing the aspects of such other information which are not ordinarily and freely available to ARTC, and the Applicant agrees to pay such costs.

- (b) ARTC's obligation under clause 3.3(a) is subject to:
  - (i) ARTC not disclosing any information which would breach a confidentiality obligation binding on it; and
  - (ii) the Applicant agreeing to pay the reasonable costs incurred by ARTC in obtaining information that is not ordinarily and freely available to ARTC.

### **3.4 Parties to Negotiation**

- (a) ARTC reserves the right to negotiate only with Applicants who comply with the requirements and processes set out in this Undertaking. If an Applicant does not comply with the relevant obligations and processes, and ARTC considers that such non-compliance is material, ARTC will not be obliged to continue negotiations regarding the provision of Access for that Applicant.
- (b) ARTC will negotiate Access with an Applicant which is not an Accredited Operator where the Applicant will procure the services of an Accredited Operator to operate the proposed Services provided that all of the terms and conditions of the Access Agreement are met by the Applicant or the Operator.
- (c) At any time, before or during the negotiation process, ARTC may require the Applicant to demonstrate to ARTC that it is able to meet the prudential requirements set out in clause 3.4(d). In the event the Applicant cannot meet these prudential requirements, ARTC may refuse to commence negotiations or may cease negotiations with that Applicant.
- (d) For the purposes of clause 3.4(c), the Applicant will be required to meet the following prudential requirements:
  - (i) the Applicant must be Solvent; and
  - (ii) the Applicant, or a Related Party of the Applicant, must not be currently, or have been in the previous 2 years, in Material Default of any agreement with ARTC, or any agreement in accordance with which access to rail infrastructure not managed by ARTC, has been provided to the Applicant or a Related Party of the Applicant; and
  - (iii) the Applicant must be able to demonstrate to ARTC that it has a legal ownership structure with a sufficient capital base and assets of value to meet the actual or potential liabilities under an Access

Agreement, including without limitation timely payment of access charges and payment of insurance premiums and deductibles under the required policies of insurance.

- (e) If ARTC refuses to negotiate for any reasons as described in clauses 3.4(a) or 3.4(c), it will, within 10 Business Days of the decision to refuse to negotiate, explain in writing to the Applicant the reasons for such refusal.
- (f) If the Applicant considers that ARTC has unreasonably refused to commence or subsequently unreasonably ceased negotiations in accordance with clause 3.4, then the Applicant may refer the matter to dispute resolution under clause 3.12. If the parties fail to resolve this issue by agreement and an arbitrator determines that ARTC has unreasonably refused to commence or subsequently unreasonably ceased negotiations, ARTC will recommence negotiations immediately.
- (g) If at any time, ARTC is of the view that an Applicant's request for Access is frivolous in nature, ARTC may refer that matter to dispute resolution under clause 3.12. If the parties fail to resolve this issue by agreement and an arbitrator determines that the request is in fact frivolous, then ARTC will be entitled to cease negotiations and will not be obliged to comply with this Undertaking in respect of the request.

### 3.5 Confidentiality

- (a) Each party acknowledges, subject to clause 3.5(b), that all information provided by one party ("**Provider**") to the other ("**Receiver**") as part of the negotiation process for Access under this Undertaking that relates directly to:
  - (i) the Applicant's future markets;
  - (ii) the Applicant's future market and business strategies; and
  - (iii) the strategies of ARTC's or the Applicant's customers;

("Confidential Information") is secret and confidential and that the Receiver of Confidential Information will treat that Confidential Information as secret and confidential and the property solely of the Provider and not use that Confidential Information for any purpose other than the provisions of this Undertaking allow.
- (b) For the purposes of this clause 3.5 Confidential Information does not include information which is:
  - (i) in the public domain at the time of disclosure other than through the fault of the Receiver or of anyone to whom the Receiver has disclosed it;
  - (ii) obtained lawfully from a third party without restriction on use or disclosure;

- (iii) required to be made public by operation of law (subject to the Receiver claiming any immunity, privilege or restriction on or from disclosure that it can reasonably claim), including without limitation information required by any stock exchange, rail safety or economic regulator; or
- (iv) necessary for the provision of advice to the Receiver by the Receiver's legal advisors, financiers, accountants or other consultants (provided they are under a legal obligation not to disclose the Confidential Information to any third party).

### **3.6 Access Application and Arbitration Agreement**

- (a) Requests for Access are to be submitted to ARTC in the form of an Access Application and in accordance with the form requirements of Schedule A.
- (b) The Access Application must include an Arbitration Agreement executed by the Applicant. The Arbitration Agreement in Schedule A is a template agreement that can be negotiated between ARTC and the Applicant prior to execution.
- (c) In order for ARTC to consider a request for Access, the information set out in Schedule B will accompany the Access Application.
- (d) Prior to submitting an Access Application, an Applicant may seek initial meetings with ARTC to discuss the Access Application and the terms of the Arbitration Agreement and to seek clarification of the process as outlined in this Undertaking and in particular, the information requirements set out in Schedule B.

### **3.7 Acknowledgment**

- (a) Upon receiving an Access Application from an Applicant, ARTC will acknowledge receipt of the Access Application in writing (or electronically) to the Applicant within 5 Business Days of its receipt, or such longer period as specified in accordance with clause 3.7(c).
- (b) Prior to acknowledging the Access Application, ARTC may seek:
  - (i) additional information where ARTC can reasonably demonstrate the need for such information for the purpose of preparing an Indicative Access Proposal; or
  - (ii) clarification of the information that has been provided in the Access Application.
- (c) If ARTC seeks additional information or clarification in accordance with clause 3.7(b), it will advise the Applicant of the additional information or the clarification required within 5 Business Days of receipt of the Access Application. Upon receiving the required information or clarification from

the Applicant, ARTC will provide written acknowledgment of the receipt of the completed Access Application within 5 Business Days.

### **3.8 Indicative Access Proposal**

- (a) Subject to clause 3.8(b), ARTC will use reasonable efforts to provide the Indicative Access Proposal to the Applicant within 30 Business Days of the acknowledgment given under clause 3.7.
- (b) In assessing an Access Application, ARTC may consider that, due to the complexity of the Access Application or due to other extenuating circumstances, it is not reasonable for it to provide an Indicative Access Proposal within the 30 Business Days referred to in clause 3.8(a). In these circumstances, ARTC will advise of such in its acknowledgment and within a further 5 Business Days will advise the Applicant of its estimate of the time required to deliver the Indicative Access Proposal. Where the Applicant is of the view that the time estimated for preparation of the Indicative Access Proposal under this clause 3.8(b) is excessive, then the Applicant may refer the matter to dispute resolution under clause 3.12. ARTC will use reasonable efforts to provide the Indicative Access Proposal within the estimated time period provided by ARTC or as otherwise agreed or determined by an arbitrator in accordance with the dispute resolution process under clause 3.12.
- (c) The Indicative Access Proposal will include, amongst other things:
  - (i) the results of a Capacity Analysis determining whether there is sufficient Available Capacity to accommodate the requested Access Rights;
  - (ii) in the event the Access Application requires the Applicant to have recourse to Additional Capacity, an outline of the works and an indicative estimate of the cost of such works required to provide the Additional Capacity or an outline of the requirements for an investigation into the provision of Additional Capacity for the requested Access Rights;
  - (iii) advice in respect of the existence of other Applicants who have submitted an Access Application (where negotiations are continuing in accordance with this Undertaking) in respect of Access which, if it were to be provided, would limit the ability of ARTC to provide Access in accordance with the Indicative Access Proposal;
  - (iv) a reference to the Indicative Track Access Agreement and a reference to the current available market terms and conditions as published on ARTC's website;
  - (v) an initial estimate of the Charges for the Access Rights, based on the pricing principles set out in Part 4;



- (vi) details of the additional information required for ARTC to progress the proposal and further develop the Charges and terms and conditions for acceptance;
  - (vii) the indicative Train Path availability; and
  - (viii) the Arbitration Agreement countersigned by ARTC or, if ARTC does not agree to amendments made to the Arbitration Agreement by the Applicant, the reasons why ARTC does not agree to those changes.
- (d) The Indicative Access Proposal will, unless it contains specific provisions to the contrary, contain indicative arrangements only and does not oblige ARTC to provide Access in accordance with specific terms and conditions, including Charges, contained within it.
  - (e) If, after 30 Business Days following ARTC's acknowledgment of the Access Application, or if applicable, after expiration of the time estimated by ARTC or as otherwise agreed or determined by an arbitrator in accordance with the dispute resolution process in clause 3.12 (as referred to in clause 3.8(b)), the Applicant believes that ARTC is not making reasonable progress in the preparation of the proposal, then the Applicant may refer the matter to dispute resolution under clause 3.12.
  - (f) In the event that ARTC is unable to provide an Indicative Access Proposal based on the Access Application, ARTC will, if possible, submit to the Applicant an Indicative Access Proposal offering alternative Access which it reasonably believes may meet the Applicant's Access requirements.
  - (g) Disputes arising from the process described in clause 3.8 will be resolved in accordance with clause 3.12.

### **3.9 Negotiation**

- (a) If the Applicant intends to progress its Access Application under the negotiation process set out in this Undertaking on the basis of the arrangements outlined in the Indicative Access Proposal, the Applicant will notify ARTC of its intention to do so within 30 Business Days of the date it receives the Indicative Access Proposal (or such other period of time that the parties agree). In the event that a notification is given after this period of time, ARTC will review the Indicative Access Proposal and, if considered necessary by ARTC, prepare a revised Indicative Access Proposal in accordance with clause 3.8 and the negotiation process outlined in this Part 3 will recommence from that point.
- (b) If the Applicant is of the view that the Indicative Access Proposal has not been prepared in accordance with this Undertaking and would therefore not be an appropriate basis for continuing with the negotiation process under this Undertaking, then the Applicant will notify ARTC of its concerns within 30 Business Days of the date of receipt of the Indicative Access Proposal.

- (c) ARTC will take all reasonable steps to respond to the concerns raised by the Applicant in relation to the Indicative Access Proposal under clause 3.9(b) within 30 Business Days of receipt of notification of the concerns. If ARTC is unable to address the concerns of the Applicant within such time frame, ARTC will notify the Applicant in writing as to the reasons why and advise an intended course of action, with indicative time frames, of how the concern is being addressed. If the Applicant is satisfied with the response received from ARTC, including any revision to the Indicative Access Proposal, it will notify ARTC of its intention to proceed with negotiations within 30 Business Days of receiving ARTC's response.
- (d) If the Applicant is not satisfied with the response from ARTC, including any revision to the Indicative Access Proposal, the Applicant may seek to resolve the Dispute in accordance with the dispute resolution process outlined in clause 3.12, in which case the Applicant must issue a Dispute Notice within 30 Business Days of receiving ARTC's response.

### **3.10 Negotiation Process**

- (a) If the Applicant indicates its willingness to progress negotiations under clause 3.9, then both parties will commence negotiations as soon as reasonably possible to progress towards an Access Agreement.
- (b) The negotiation period will commence upon the Applicant providing a notification pursuant to clause 3.9 and will cease upon any of the following events:
  - (i) execution of an Access Agreement in respect of Access sought by the Applicant;
  - (ii) written notification by the Applicant that it no longer wishes to proceed with its Access Application;
  - (iii) the expiration of 3 months from the commencement of the negotiation period, or if both parties agree to extend the negotiation period, the expiration of the agreed extended period;
  - (iv) if ARTC believes that the negotiations are not progressing in good faith towards the development of an Access Agreement within a reasonable time period; or
  - (v) if ARTC receives evidence confirming that the Applicant no longer satisfies the prudential requirements of clause 3.4(d), on receiving such evidence ARTC will advise the Applicant of such evidence and issue a notice of intent to end the negotiation period, to become effective 10 Business Days after the issue of the notice. Where ARTC issues a notice of intent, ARTC will provide to the Applicant written reasons for its decision to end the negotiation period.

- (c) Upon cessation of the negotiation period, ARTC will be entitled to cease negotiations with the Applicant.
- (d) In circumstances where two or more Applicants are seeking mutually exclusive Access Rights:
  - (i) each Applicant will be so notified as soon as practicable after the relevant conflict arises; and
  - (ii) Access will be granted to the Applicant who accepts an Access Agreement with ARTC which, in the opinion of ARTC, is most favourable to it. Ordinarily, but without limiting ARTC's discretion in this regard, ARTC would make such a decision based on the Access Agreement that represented the highest present value of future returns to ARTC after considering all risks associated with the Access Agreement.
- (e) If, at any time during the negotiation period, a Dispute arises between the parties, that Dispute will be resolved in accordance with the dispute resolution process outlined in clause 3.12.

### **3.11 Access Agreement**

- (a) The granting of Access will be finalised by the execution of an Access Agreement. The parties to the Access Agreement will be ARTC and:
  - (i) if the Applicant is an Accredited Operator, that Applicant; or
  - (ii) if the Applicant is not an Accredited Operator, that Applicant or the Accredited Operator or both (as the case may be).
- (b) Subject to clause 3.11(c) ARTC may offer any of the following as an Access Agreement:
  - (i) the Indicative Track Access Agreement subject to the Applicant satisfying the prudential requirements in clause 3.4(d); or
  - (ii) the current available market terms and conditions as published on ARTC's website; or
  - (iii) an updated Access Agreement to reflect agreed amendments to the Access Agreement. A negotiated Access Agreement will, unless otherwise agreed between ARTC and the Applicant at least address the essential elements set out in Schedule C. The details of Schedule C do not provide an exhaustive list of the issues that may be included in an Access Agreement.
- (c) ARTC must offer the Indicative Track Access Agreement to an Applicant if the Applicant:
  - (i) seeks access to Reference Services; and

- (ii) meets the prudential requirements in clause 3.4(d); and
- (iii) either:
  - (A) the Network has sufficient Available Capacity to meet the Applicant's needs; or
  - (B) ARTC consents to provide Additional Capacity to meet the Applicant's needs in accordance with clause 6.3.
- (d) Once the Applicant has notified ARTC that it is satisfied with the terms and conditions of the Access Agreement as drafted, ARTC will, as soon as reasonably practicable, provide a final Access Agreement (or, if applicable, an amendment to an existing Access Agreement) to the Applicant for execution.
- (e) Where the ARTC offers an Access Agreement and the Applicant accepts the terms and conditions offered in that Access Agreement, both ARTC and the Applicant will execute the Access Agreement. The parties will use reasonable endeavours to comply with this clause as soon as practicable.

### **3.12 Dispute Resolution**

#### *3.12.1 Disputes*

- (a) Subject to paragraph (b) below, if any dispute arises under this Undertaking or in relation to the negotiation of Access between an Applicant and ARTC ("**Dispute**") then, unless otherwise agreed by both parties in writing, such Dispute must be resolved in accordance with this clause 3.12 and either party may give to the other party to the Dispute notice in writing ("**Dispute Notice**") specifying the Dispute and requiring it to be dealt with in the manner set out in this clause 3.12. The parties will use reasonable endeavours acting in good faith to settle the Dispute as soon as is practicable.
- (b) Disputes in relation to an Access Agreement once executed will be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of that Access Agreement and are not dealt with under this Undertaking.

#### *3.12.2 Negotiation*

Within 5 Business Days of a party giving the other party a Dispute Notice (or such longer period agreed by the parties in writing), senior representatives from each party will meet and use reasonable endeavours acting in good faith to resolve or narrow the Dispute.

#### *3.12.3 Executive negotiation*

If the Dispute is not resolved by negotiation in accordance with clause 3.12.2 within 10 Business Days of a party giving the other party a Dispute Notice (or such longer period agreed by the parties in writing), the

chief executive officers from each party, or their authorised delegates, will meet and use reasonable endeavours acting in good faith to:

- (i) resolve or narrow the Dispute; or
- (ii) if the Dispute cannot be resolved, seek to agree whether the parties will attempt to resolve the Dispute by mediation pursuant to clauses 3.12.4(b), (c) and (d).

#### *3.12.4 Mediation*

- (a) If the Dispute is not resolved by negotiation in accordance with clause 3.12.3 within 20 Business Days of a party giving the other party a Dispute Notice (or such longer period agreed between the parties in writing) then:
  - (i) if the parties agree in writing, they will attempt to resolve the Dispute by mediation pursuant to clauses 3.12.4(b), (c) and (d); or
  - (ii) if the parties have not agreed to mediation under clauses 3.12.4(b), (c) and (d), either party may by notice in writing to the other, refer the Dispute to be determined by arbitration under clause 3.12.5.
- (b) If the parties agree to mediate the Dispute under clause 3.12.4(a)(i), the parties will arrange for a mediation to be conducted in South Australia and for it to be facilitated by a single mediator.
- (c) The appointment of the single mediator is to be by agreement of the parties or, if they fail to agree within 10 Business Days of the agreement to mediate under clause 3.12.4(a)(i), a mediator appointed by the President of the Law Society of South Australia acting on the written request of either party.
- (d) Unless the parties agree otherwise in writing:
  - (i) the mediation will be conducted by a mediator under the "Ethical Guidelines for Mediators" issued by the Law Council of Australia (whether or not the mediator is a legal practitioner);
  - (ii) the parties may appoint a person, including a legally qualified person to represent it or assist it in the mediation;
  - (iii) each party will bear their own costs relating to the preparation for and attendance at the mediation; and
  - (iv) the costs of the mediator will be borne equally by the parties.
- (e) If the Dispute remains unresolved 35 Business Days after the appointment of the mediator (or such longer period agreed by the parties in writing), then either party may by written notice to the other terminate the

mediation and refer the Dispute to be determined by arbitration under clause 3.12.5.

### 3.12.5 Arbitration

- (a) Unless otherwise agreed by both parties in writing, where a Dispute is referred to arbitration in accordance with clauses 3.12.4(a)(ii) or 3.12.4(e), the following will apply:
- (i) Subject to subparagraphs (ii) – (xiii) below, the arbitration will be conducted in accordance with the rules of arbitration of the Australian Centre for International Commercial Arbitration (“**ACICA**”) in force at the date of service of the Notice of Dispute.
  - (ii) The seat of arbitration will be Adelaide, South Australia and the language of the arbitration will be English.
  - (iii) The number of arbitrators will be 1 (“**Arbitrator**”).
  - (iv) The parties will seek to agree on the choice of Arbitrator. If the parties cannot reach agreement within 10 Business Days of the referral of the Dispute to arbitration, either party may write to ACICA notifying ACICA that the parties have not been able to agree on the choice of Arbitrator and requesting that ACICA make that appointment. The Arbitrator will then be appointed by ACICA.
  - (v) The Arbitrator will observe the rules of natural justice.
  - (vi) The Arbitrator will have power to grant all legal, equitable and statutory remedies.
  - (vii) The Arbitrator will give reasons on which the award is based.
  - (viii) Any arbitration conducted pursuant to this clause 3.12.5 will not mimic court proceedings of the seat of the arbitration and the practices of those courts will not regulate the conduct of the proceedings before the Arbitrator.
  - (ix) In making an award the Arbitrator must take into account:
    - (A) the principles, methodologies and provisions set out in this Undertaking;
    - (B) ARTC’s legitimate business interests and investment in the Network;
    - (C) any additional investment that the Applicant or ARTC has agreed to undertake;
    - (D) the Applicant’s legitimate business interests in obtaining Access;

- (E) the interests of all persons who have rights to use the Network;
  - (F) the operational and technical requirements necessary for the safe and reliable operation of the Network;
  - (G) the economically efficient operation of the Network;
  - (H) the costs of providing the Services requested, including the particular characteristics of the relevant Service, which includes axle load, speed, wheel diameter, Train length, origin and destination, number and length of intermediate stops, departure and arrival times and days of the week;
  - (I) the commercial and logistical impacts on ARTC's business of the Services requested compared to the Standing Offer for Reference Services;
  - (J) formal offers tabled and rejected by the parties;
  - (K) the factors listed in clause 4.2 (as applicable); and
  - (L) any other matters that the Arbitrator thinks are appropriate to have regard to.
- (x) In making an award, the Arbitrator:
- (A) may require ARTC to provide access to the Service requested by the Applicant (or a variation of it);
  - (B) may specify the terms and conditions of the Service;
  - (C) may require ARTC to extend the Network (including capacity or geographical reach);
  - (D) may require ARTC to permit interconnection to the Network by the Applicant;
  - (E) may specify the extent to which the award overrides an earlier award relating to access to Services by the Applicant;
  - (F) must not prevent an existing user obtaining a sufficient amount of the Service to be able to meet the user's requirements, measured at the time when the dispute was notified;
  - (G) must not deprive any person of an existing contractual right;
  - (H) must not result in the Applicant becoming the owner (or one of the owners) of any part of the Network, or of

extensions of the Network (including expansions of the capacity of the Network and expansions of the geographical reach of the Network), without the consent of ARTC;

- (I) must not require ARTC to bear some or all of the costs of extending the Network (including expanding the capacity of the Network and expanding the geographical reach of the Network);
  - (J) must not require ARTC to bear some or all of the costs of maintaining extensions of the Network (including expansions of the capacity of the Network and expansions of the geographical reach of the Network); and
  - (K) must not require ARTC to bear some or all of the costs of interconnections to the Network or maintaining interconnections to the Network.
- (xi) If an Applicant does not enter into an Access Agreement consistent with an award of the Arbitrator within 20 Business Days of the award or such later time provided in the award, the Applicant or any associate of the Applicant must not give a Dispute Notice about the same or substantially similar Service the subject of the award for a period of one year from the date of the award.
  - (xii) Except where the award is subject to an appeal or application to set aside in a court of law, if an Applicant does not comply with the award, then ARTC will no longer be obliged to continue negotiations regarding the provision of Access for that Applicant.
  - (xiii) Neither party will have a right of appeal under section 34A of the *Commercial Arbitration Act 2011* (SA) on a question of law arising out of an award made under this clause 3.12. To avoid doubt, this does not affect other appeal rights the parties may have under the *Commercial Arbitration Act 2011* (SA) or at law.
- (b) ARTC will notify the ACCC of Disputes referred to arbitration at the time of referral and will provide the ACCC, on a confidential basis, with a copy of any award made by an Arbitrator pursuant to this clause 3.12.5.



## **PART 4**

### **4 PRICING PRINCIPLES**

#### **4.1 Objectives**

ARTC will develop its Charges with a view to achieving the objective set out in clause 1.2(d).

#### **4.2 Charge Differentiation**

In formulating its Charges, ARTC will have regard to a range of factors which impact on its business including, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) in particular, the Standing Offer for Reference Services;
- (b) the particular characteristics of the relevant Service, which without limitation include axle load, speed, wheel diameter, Train length, origin and destination (including number and length of intermediate stops), departure and arrival times and days of the week;
- (c) the commercial impact on ARTC's business, which without limitation includes factors such as:
  - (i) the term of the Access Agreement;
  - (ii) the potential for growth of the business;
  - (iii) the opportunity costs to ARTC;
  - (iv) the consumption of ARTC's resources, including relative Capacity consumption;
  - (v) the credit risk associated with the business;
  - (vi) the market value of the Train Path sought;
  - (vii) the Segments of the Network relevant to the Access being sought;
  - (viii) previously negotiated Charges agreed under the terms of this Undertaking, where relevant, as published by ARTC as set out in clause 2.8(b); and
  - (ix) changes requested by the Applicant to the Indicative Track Access Agreement;
- (d) logistical impacts on ARTC's business which without limitation include:
  - (i) the impact on other Services and risk of failure of the Operator to perform; and

- (ii) reduced Capacity and system flexibility;
- (e) capital or other contributions by the Applicant to ARTC's costs; and
- (f) the cost of any Additional Capacity.

#### **4.3 Limits on Charge Differentiations**

- (a) Subject to clause 4.2 above, in formulating its Charges, and subject to ARTC having an obligation under clause 2.3 of the Indicative Track Access Agreement, ARTC will not have regard to:
  - (i) the identity of the Applicant; and
  - (ii) whether or not the Applicant is a Government Authority.
- (b) Subject to clause 4.2 above, in formulating its Charges, ARTC will not differentiate between Applicants in circumstances where:
  - (i) the characteristics of the Services are alike; and
  - (ii) the Applicants are operating within the same end market.

For the purposes of this clause, ARTC will determine whether the characteristics of two Services are alike having regard to matters including but without limitation the applicable non-price terms, location, duration and quality of the Train Path, nature of Train consist, characteristics of the Service, longevity of Access, arrival and departure times of the day and week.

#### **4.4 Structure of Charges**

- (a) Access charges will comprise:
  - (i) a variable component, which is a function of distance and gross mass (\$/gtkm); and
  - (ii) a flagfall component, which is fixed and specific to each Train service type and Segment (\$/km).
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in the Access Agreement, the flagfall component of the Charges is levied from the date ARTC grants access to the Train Path to the Operator until the expiry of that Train Path irrespective of whether such Train Path is utilised.
- (c) Notwithstanding the structure described above, all elements of the Charge are open to negotiation. Any variation to the structure described above will be agreed between ARTC and the Applicant.

#### 4.5 Standing Offer

- (a) As part of this Undertaking, ARTC will provide Reference Services at charges listed in the Standing Offer to Applicants seeking Access to those Services.
- (b) ARTC may annually vary on 1 July the Standing Offer for Reference Services (“**Review Date**”) by up to an amount determined in accordance with the following formula:

$$AC_t = AC_{t-1} * (1 + TV_i)$$

Where

$AC_t$  is the Standing Offer for Reference Services following the relevant Review Date;

$AC_{t-1}$  is the Standing Offer for Reference Services immediately preceding the relevant Review Date;

$TV_i$  is the maximum variation to the Standing Offer for Reference Services (measured as a percentage) that may be applied from 1 July 2024 and thereafter from each Review Date during the Term and is to be determined in accordance with the following formula;

$$TV_i \text{ is } (((CPI \text{ Index}_i / CPI \text{ Index}_0) / CV_{i-1}) - 1) * 100$$

Where

$CPI \text{ Index}_i$  is the All groups Consumer Price Index, Weighted Average of Eight Capital Cities, Index Number for the March quarter preceding the relevant Review Date;

$CPI \text{ Index}_0$  is the All groups Consumer Price Index, Weighted Average of Eight Capital Cities, Index Number for the March quarter of the year 2024, being 137.4.

$CV_{i-1}$  is the cumulative effect of the variations actually applied by ARTC to the Standing Offer for Reference Services from 1 July 2024 to the relevant Review Date (“i”). The cumulative effect is to be determined in accordance with the following formula:

$$CV_{i-1} = (1 + V_1) * (1 + V_2) * \dots * (1 + V_{i-1})$$

Where

$V_1, V_2 \dots V_{i-1}$  are the actual % variations which have been applied to the Standing Offer for Reference Services from 1 July 2024 to the relevant Review Date.

- (c) ARTC will publish:

- (i)  $(CV_{i-1}) \times 100$ ; and
- (ii)  $\left(\frac{\text{CPI Index}_i}{\text{CPI Index}_0} / CV_i - 1\right) * 100$

following each Review Date.

#### **4.6 Publication of Charges**

- (a) ARTC will publish on its website:
  - (i) the Standing Offer for Reference Services; and
  - (ii) subject to paragraph (b), prices for which Access has been granted to a Customer for Services other than Reference Services, together with a general description of the Services to which such prices relate.
- (b) If ARTC cannot de-identify a Customer from the pricing information it is required to publish under paragraph (a)(ii), then ARTC will publish the pricing information or equivalent information that it can reasonably do so in the circumstances.

## **PART 5**

### **5 MANAGEMENT OF CAPACITY**

#### **5.1 Capacity Analysis**

- (a) A Capacity Analysis will be undertaken by ARTC as part of the preparation of the Indicative Access Proposal. The Capacity Analysis will identify whether, indicatively, there is sufficient Available Capacity to meet the Applicant's requirements and, if not, indicatively, the extent to which Additional Capacity is required.
- (b) Where ARTC believes that there are major impediments to the provision of Additional Capacity to meet the requirements of the Applicant, and that the Capacity enhancement that might be necessary would have a significant bearing on the economics of the proposed operation, the Capacity Analysis may be done in more detail which may require more time for the preparation of the Indicative Access Proposal (see clause 3.8(b)). Where a Capacity Analysis is to be done in more detail pursuant to this clause, ARTC may charge a fee that is based on reasonable cost and agreed with the Applicant.
- (c) The finalisation of the Capacity Analysis will enable the finalisation of the resultant Capacity Entitlement, Train Paths, Charges and terms and conditions of the resultant Access Agreement.

#### **5.2 Capacity Allocation**

- (a) In the event of multiple Applicants and subject to clause 5.2(b), Access Rights will be allocated to the Applicant with whom ARTC can negotiate and execute an Access Agreement which, in the opinion of ARTC, is most favourable to it.
- (b) As previously stated in this Undertaking, if, at any time, two or more Applicants are seeking access with respect to mutually exclusive Access Rights, each of the Applicants who have received an Indicative Access Proposal with respect to those mutually exclusive Access Rights will be so advised. In such circumstances, ARTC is entitled to seek to finalise an Access Agreement in respect of such Access with the Applicant with whom ARTC can agree terms and conditions, including Charges, which are considered in the opinion of ARTC, to be most favourable to it. Ordinarily, but without limiting ARTC's discretion in this regard, ARTC would make such a decision based on the Access Agreement that represented the highest present value of future returns to ARTC after considering all risks associated with the Access Agreement.

### **5.3 Capacity Transfer**

- (a) The terms of the Access Agreement will provide that ARTC may reduce Train Paths by removing particular Train Paths where a Customer has under-utilised its Capacity Entitlement granted to it under that Access Agreement. Any decision by ARTC in this regard is subject to the dispute resolution provision in the Access Agreement.
- (b) A Customer may also reduce its Capacity Entitlement by cancelling Train Paths in accordance with the terms of the Access Agreement.
- (c) Train Paths may be assigned by a Customer to a third party with approval from ARTC in accordance with the assignment provisions of that Access Agreement.

## PART 6

### 6 NETWORK CONNECTIONS AND ADDITIONS

#### 6.1 Rail Network Supply Chain Optimisation Strategy

- (a) ARTC will develop a Rail Network Supply Chain Optimisation Strategy annually. The strategy will provide an ongoing framework for stakeholder engagement on growth opportunities, operational and service improvements, potential investment projects on the Network, network resilience and actions taken by ARTC to improve interoperability and harmonisation.
- (b) The Rail Network Supply Chain Optimisation Strategy must include the following:
  - (i) a representation of the Network and its current capabilities;
  - (ii) completed Network investments by ARTC;
  - (iii) Network investments in development and in progress by ARTC;
  - (iv) projections of the interstate rail task (including intermodal, steel, grain, minerals, general freight and passenger);
  - (v) Network performance (current state);
  - (vi) options for Additional Capacity enhancements to meet the projections of the rail task;
  - (vii) rail market challenges and opportunities;
  - (viii) operational and service improvements;
  - (ix) network resilience; and
  - (x) actions taken by ARTC to improve interoperability and harmonisation, including reporting on ARTC's involvement in committees and forums under the Memorandum of Cooperation to support National Rail System Interoperability.
- (c) In developing the Rail Network Supply Chain Optimisation Strategy, ARTC will base the strategy on the rolling annual capacity forecast developed by ARTC, which will:
  - (i) be based on forecast volumes sought by existing and prospective Customers;
  - (ii) inform forward growth capital; and
  - (iii) identify future Capacity and performance requirements.

- (d) The Rail Network Supply Chain Optimisation Strategy will include Capacity expansion options which:
  - (i) seek to ensure sufficient Capacity to meet forecast volumes referred to in clause 6.1(c)(i);
  - (ii) include a preliminary high-level assessment of objectives, indicative benefits and estimated costs;
  - (iii) include an estimate of cost to be incurred in the concept assessment stage; and
  - (iv) include recommendations on the preferred options.
- (e) The Rail Network Supply Chain Optimisation Strategy is indicative only and any Capacity expansion options set out in the Rail Network Supply Chain Optimisation Strategy are subject to ARTC's approval processes.
- (f) Before finalising the Rail Network Supply Chain Optimisation Strategy, ARTC will:
  - (i) schedule an annual meeting with the Operators;
  - (ii) publish a draft Rail Network Supply Chain Optimisation Strategy on the ARTC website and invite comments on the options set out in draft strategy from all users of the Network; and
  - (iii) consider the views submitted by those stakeholders in good faith and take those views into account in finalising the Rail Network Supply Chain Optimisation Strategy.
- (g) ARTC will publish the Rail Network Supply Chain Optimisation Strategy on its website as soon as practicable after it is finalised each year under clause 6.1(f)(iii).
- (h) On completion of a preferred Capacity expansion option, ARTC will prepare and publish on its website a "close-out report" detailing:
  - (i) a summary of project deliverables;
  - (ii) a summary of capital expenditure incurred for the project and the funding source; and
  - (iii) a review of the project against its initial budget, timeline, scope and expected benefits.

## **6.2 Network Connections**

- (a) In the event that other owners of track not part of the Network wish to connect such track to the Network, ARTC will consent to such a connection provided:



- (i) all relevant approvals from all relevant Government Authorities have been obtained;
  - (ii) the configuration of the connection to the Network is such that the connection will not, by virtue of its existence, reduce Capacity;
  - (iii) procedural and physical interface arrangements are in compliance with ARTC's existing interface arrangements and there is no impact on the safety of all users of the Network;
  - (iv) the owners of track not part of the Network ensure that all users of such track comply with the directions of ARTC's Train controllers regarding entry to and exit from the Network;
  - (v) the connection meets ARTC's engineering and operational standards; and
  - (vi) the owners of track not part of the Network meet the initial and continued costs associated with constructing and maintaining the connection.
- (b) If ARTC has refused consent under clause 6.2(a)(ii), ARTC will notify the Applicant in writing of the reasons why the connection would, in its view, reduce Capacity.

### **6.3 Additional Capacity sought by Applicants**

- (a) As indicated in clauses 3.8 and 5.1, ARTC will consider as part of the negotiation process, any requests by Applicants for Additional Capacity. ARTC will consent to the provision of Additional Capacity if:
- (i) in ARTC's opinion, such provision is commercially viable to ARTC having regard to the relevant Access Agreement, the Rail Network Supply Chain Optimisation Strategy and ARTC's total business activity; or
  - (ii) the Applicant agrees to meet the cost of the Additional Capacity (to the extent such cost is not commercially viable under paragraph (a)), and the Additional Capacity of the Network is, in the opinion of ARTC:
    - (A) technically and economically feasible;
    - (B) consistent with the safe and reliable operation of the Network;
    - (C) will not impact on the safety of any user of the Network;
    - (D) does not reduce Capacity;
    - (E) meets ARTC's engineering and operational standards; and

- (F) does not compromise ARTC's legitimate business interests.
- (b) If ARTC does not agree to the creation of Additional Capacity, then ARTC will provide the relevant Applicant with its reasons in writing (having regard to the matters in paragraph (a)).
- (c) A request by Applicants for Additional Capacity under paragraph (a) may, but does not need to be, Additional Capacity identified in the Rail Network Supply Chain Optimisation Strategy.
- (d) In the event ARTC agrees to the creation of Additional Capacity, ARTC's costs of providing that Additional Capacity may be met:
  - (i) by the Applicant reimbursing the relevant costs as and when they are incurred by ARTC; or
  - (ii) through increased Charges, or making other periodic payments, reimbursing ARTC for recurring costs, plus an annuity in advance calculated in respect of ARTC's capital outlay; or
  - (iii) by ARTC, at its sole discretion, bearing some or all of the capital costs required in respect of an Applicant's request for Additional Capacity; or
  - (iv) by such other way that ARTC and the Applicant agree.
- (e) The option of increasing Charges or making periodic payments including an annuity as set out in clause 6.3(d)(ii) is only available to an Applicant if arrangements are made which satisfy ARTC that the risk of the Applicant failing to make such payments is commercially acceptable and is at ARTC's discretion.
- (f) Any Additional Capacity, once created, will be owned and managed by ARTC.
- (g) Where requested to do so by an Applicant, ARTC will provide the Applicant written reasons for the basis of decisions made by it in relation to Additional Capacity.

#### **6.4 Transport (Compliance and Miscellaneous) Act 1983 (VIC)**

If:

- (a) an Operator is or becomes a train operator for the purposes of section 10 of the *Transport (Compliance and Miscellaneous) Act 1983* (VIC); and
- (b) the Head, Transport for Victoria gives a lawful direction to ARTC under section 10 of the *Transport (Compliance and Miscellaneous) Act 1983* (VIC) requiring or approving a timetable change; and

- (c) the effect of the direction by the Head, Transport for Victoria is to interfere with any existing train paths granted by ARTC to other rail operators; and
- (d) in order to minimise or prevent any interference to such existing train paths, ARTC, acting reasonably, chooses to effect improvements or extensions to the Network or Associated Facilities,

the reasonable costs incurred by ARTC in effecting such improvements or extensions will be payable by the Operator.

## **6.5 Industry Consultation**

In regard to the planning for Additional Capacity on the Network sought in accordance with clause 6.3 ARTC will:

- (a) provide Operators with a reasonable opportunity to present their views regarding Additional Capacity;
- (b) outline its views regarding Additional Capacity; and
- (c) circulate a summary of the results of consultation regarding Additional Capacity to the Operators including, where applicable, reasons for disagreeing with Operators' views.

## **PART 7**

### **7 NETWORK TRANSIT MANAGEMENT**

ARTC's objective in Train management is to exit Trains according to their contracted exit time. Where conflicts arise between Trains in transit, Train management will be conducted according to the Network Management Principles.

## **PART 8**

### **8 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

#### **8.1 Commitment by ARTC**

ARTC undertakes during the Term to maintain the Network (but only insofar as the Network is relevant to the Operator's Scheduled Train Paths (as defined in the Indicative Track Access Agreement)) in a condition which is fit for use by the Operator to provide rail transport services having regard to the terms of the Access Agreements.

#### **8.2 Reporting**

- (a) ARTC will publish on its website the Performance Indicators relating to the Network set out in Schedule G. The Performance Indicators will be published at the frequency referred to in Schedule G, on an ongoing quarterly or annual basis (as applicable), and will comprise the industry performance and not that of individual Operators.
- (b) ARTC will publish on its website by 30 November each year the information set out in Schedule I.
- (c) ARTC's publications in paragraph (a) and (b) will include reported data in a numerical format in a timeseries and will be in a downloadable format suitable for quantitative analysis.
- (d) ARTC's obligations to report Performance Indicators with quarterly reporting frequency will not commence until the completion of the first full calendar quarter that is at least three months after the date of the acceptance by the ACCC of this Undertaking and the first quarterly report will only relate to performance on the Network during that first full calendar quarter.
- (e) ARTC's obligations to report Performance Indicators with annual reporting frequency will not commence until the completion of the first full financial year that is at least twelve months after the date of the acceptance by the ACCC of this Undertaking and the first annual report will only relate to performance on the Network during that first full financial year.
- (f) ARTC will incorporate into its annual internal audit process a review of Performance Indicator reporting. The internal audit will be conducted by ARTC's internal auditor, which will be an entity independent of ARTC. The auditor will prepare a written report on the process and the reporting of the Performance Indicators together with a finding on the measurement of the Performance Indicators. ARTC will publish the findings on its website and make the report available to the ACCC upon request. ARTC's obligations to audit under this clause will not commence until the date that is 6 months after the date of the acceptance by the ACCC of this Undertaking

and will only relate to Performance Indicator reporting occurring after the audit obligation commences.

### **8.3 Data Working Group**

- (a) Within 6 months after the Commencement Date, ARTC will agree with the ACCC a terms of reference, including procedural arrangements, for a data working group comprising ARTC and Operators to discuss improvements to the performance indicators and data provision (“**Data Working Group**”) and publish that terms of reference on its website.
- (b) ARTC will convene the Data Working Group in accordance with the terms of reference and report on progress to the Interstate Network Rail Access Forum.

## PART 9

### 9 DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

#### 9.1 Definitions

The following terms will have the meaning set out below unless the context otherwise requires:

**“Access”** means access to use the Network, or any part thereof, for the purpose of running a Service;

**“Access Agreement”** means an access agreement entered into between ARTC and the Customer, the current indicative terms and conditions of which are set out in Schedule D;

**“Access Application”** means the application for Access as described in clause 3.6;

**“Access Rights”** means the specific configuration and nature of Access sought by the Applicant;

**“Accredited”** means in relation to an Operator, having accreditation as an operator as defined under the Rail Safety Act of each State in which such Operator runs its Services on the Network and **“Accreditation”** bears a corresponding meaning;

**“Additional Capacity”** means, in relation to the Network, the capability of the Network to carry additional task by an enhancement or improvement of the infrastructure associated with the Network;

**“Applicant”** means the person seeking Access from ARTC and seeking to become a Customer and, to avoid doubt, includes an existing Customer seeking new or additional Train Paths (rather than variations) to those Train Paths already contracted under an Access Agreement;

**“Arbitration Agreement”** means an agreement between ARTC and an Applicant which provides for the arbitration of disputes. A template Arbitration Agreement is included in Schedule A;

**“ARTC’s Environmental Licence”** means ARTC’s:

- (a) environment protection licence under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (NSW) in respect of the Network that is situated in New South Wales; and
- (b) environment protection authority licence under the *Environment Protection Act 1993* (SA) in respect of the Network that is situated in South Australia;

or such other replacement licences that may be issued from time to time;

**“Associated Facilities”** means all associated track structures, over and under track structures, supports (including supports for equipment or items associated with the use of the Network), tunnels, bridges, train control systems, signalling systems, communication systems and associated plant, machinery and equipment from time to time but only to the extent that such assets are related to or connected with the Network but does not include any sidings or yards;

**“Available Capacity”** means Capacity that is not Committed Capacity (including Committed Capacity in instances where it will cease being Committed Capacity prior to the time in respect of which Capacity is being assessed);

**“Business Day”** means a day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or public or bank holiday in the State of South Australia;

**“Capacity”** means the capability of the Network for Services, including Additional Capacity, after taking the account:

- (a) possessions of the Network reasonably required by ARTC for maintenance, repair or enhancements; and
- (b) the operation of work Trains;

**“Capacity Analysis”** means the assessment by ARTC as to the Available Capacity of the Network and whether or not there is sufficient Available Capacity to accept the Access Application and, if not, an assessment of the Additional Capacity required to accept the Access Application as described in Part 5;

**“Capacity Entitlement”** means the Capacity granted to the Operator under the Access Agreement in the form of Train Paths;

**“CCA”** means the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth);

**“Charges”** means the charges payable by the Operator to ARTC for the provision of Access under the Access Agreement;

**“Commencement Date”** has the meaning given in clause 2.2(a);

**“Committed Capacity”** means that portion of the Capacity that is required to meet the Capacity Entitlement of Operators;

**“Competition Principles Agreement”** means the agreement entered into by the Commonwealth of Australia and each State and Territory of Australia in 1995 to implement the national competition policy of Australia;

**“Corporations Act”** means the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth);

**“CPI”** means the CPI All Groups, Weighted Average of Eight Capital Cities index number published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics;

**“Customer”** means an Applicant who has been granted Access and, where such Customer is also the Accredited Operator to operate the Trains relating to such Access, the expression “Customer” will also mean “Operator”;



**“Data Working Group”** means the group established under clause 8.3;

**“Extension”** means the addition of infrastructure not forming part of the Network when the addition is proposed as part of an Access Application or during the negotiation process;

**“Government Authority”** means any Commonwealth, State or Local government department or other body exercising an executive, legislative, judicial or governmental function;

**“Head, Transport for Victoria”** means the Head, of Transport for Victoria under the *Transport (Compliance and Miscellaneous) Act 1983* (VIC), their successors, permitted substitutes and permitted assigns;

**“Incident”** has the meaning described in Schedule D;

**“Indicative Access Proposal”** means the preliminary Access proposal submitted by ARTC under clause 3.8;

**“Indicative Track Access Agreement”** means the indicative Track access agreement in Schedule D;

**“Interstate Network Rail Access Forum”** means the forum described in clause 2.7;

**“Interstate Rail Network”** means the standard gauge rail network linking the mainland State capital cities and their ports, with connecting lines to Whyalla, Port Kembla, Newcastle, Alice Springs, Westernport and Kwinana;

**“kgtkm”** means a thousand gross tonnes multiplied by kilometres travelled;

**“Material Default”** means any breach of a fundamental or essential term or repeated breaches of any of the terms of the agreements referred to in clause 3.4(d)(ii);

**“Network”** means the network of railway lines delineated or defined in Schedule E, excluding the annexures to Schedule E;

**“Network Management Principles”** means the principles set out in Schedule F;

**“Operator”** means the Accredited Operator that will operate the Trains in accordance with the Access Agreement;

**“Performance Indicators”** means the performance indicators described in Schedule G;

**“Provider”** means a provider as defined by section 44B of the CCA;

**“Rail Network Supply Chain Optimisation Strategy”** means the strategy developed in accordance with clause 6.1;

**“Rail Safety Acts”** means the Acts passed by the Commonwealth, the States, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory, which relate to rail safety, including the:

- (a) *Rail Safety National Law (WA) Act 2015*;
- (b) *Rail Safety National Law (South Australia) Act 2012*;
- (c) *Rail Safety National Law Application Act 2013 (VIC)*;
- (d) *Rail Safety National Law (NSW)*;
- (e) *Rail Safety (Adoption of National Law) Act 2012 (NSW)*;
- (f) *Rail Safety National Law (Qld)*;
- (g) *Rail Safety National Law (Queensland) Act 2017 (Qld)*;
- (h) *Rail Safety National Law (ACT) Act 2014*; and
- (i) *Rail Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2012 (NT)*;

**“Reference Service”** means Services operating on the Network with characteristics as prescribed in Schedule J;

**“Related Party”** has the meaning given to Related Body Corporate in the Corporations Act;

**“Rolling Stock”** means a locomotive, carriage, wagons or other vehicle for use on a railway;

**“Segment”** means a component of the Network as defined in Schedule H and distinguished for the purposes of applying Charges;

**“Services”** means a Train run by the Operator using the Network which provides railway freight or passenger services including work Trains;

**“Solvent”** means that, in the last five years:

- (a) the Applicant has been able to pay all its debts as and when they become due and has not failed to comply with a statutory demand under section 459F(1) of the Corporations Act;
- (b) a meeting has not been convened to place it in voluntary liquidation or to appoint an administrator;
- (c) an application has not been made to a court for the Applicant to be wound up without that application being dismissed within one month;
- (d) a controller (as defined in the Corporations Act of any of the Applicant’s assets has not been appointed); or

- (e) the Applicant has not proposed to enter into or enters into any form of arrangement with its creditors or any of them, including a deed of company arrangement;

**“Standing Offer”** means the access charges set out in Schedule J and as varied from time to time in accordance with clause 4.5(b);

**“Term”** means the term of this Undertaking as described in clause 2.3;

**“Train”** means a single unit of Rolling Stock or two or more units coupled together, at least one of which is a locomotive or other self-propelled unit;

**“Train Path”** means the entitlement of a Customer to use the Network between the times and between the locations as specified in an Access Agreement entered into between ARTC and the Customer (whether being scheduled or on an ad hoc basis);

**“Undertaking”** means this undertaking as amended from time to time in accordance with clause 2.4.

## 9.2 Interpretation

In this Undertaking unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) singular words will also have their plural meaning and vice versa;
- (b) a reference to one gender includes all genders;
- (c) a reference to a person includes companies and associations;
- (d) a reference to a consent of a party means the prior written consent of that party;
- (e) headings are for convenient reference only and do not affect the interpretation of this Undertaking;
- (f) a reference to a clause, Part or a Schedule is a reference to a clause, Part or Schedule of this Undertaking;
- (g) a reference to a party includes its successors and permitted assigns;
- (h) notices that are required to be given in writing to ARTC may, if so agreed by ARTC, be provided in electronic form;
- (i) a reference to any Act includes all statutes regulations codes by-laws or ordinances and any notice demand order direction requirement or obligation under that Act (and vice versa) and unless otherwise provided in that Act includes all consolidations amendments re-enactments or replacements from time to time of that Act and a reference to “law” includes a reference to any Act and the common law; and
- (j) a reference to \$ and dollars is to Australian currency.

**DATED** the day \_\_\_\_\_ of 2024.

**SIGNED** for and on behalf of **AUSTRALIAN RAIL TRACK CORPORATION LIMITED**  
by its duly authorised Officer:

..... (Signature)

..... (Name)

..... (Position)

**ACCEPTED BY THE AUSTRALIAN COMPETITION AND CONSUMER COMMISSION  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 44ZZA OF THE COMPETITION AND CONSUMER ACT 2010  
(CTH) ON**

.....

Chairperson  
For and on behalf of the Australian Competition and  
Consumer Commission

## **SCHEDULE A**

### (Access Application)

Any electronic or written form is acceptable providing it clearly states:

*“This is an application made in accordance with the Undertaking of [Date undertaking becomes effective]. In submitting this application, the Applicant agrees:*

- (a) that the dispute resolution framework and Arbitration Agreement set out in clause 3 of the Undertaking applies in relation to this application and any Dispute arising from it;*
- (b) that any Dispute arising under the Undertaking or in relation to the negotiation of Access between the Applicant and ARTC will be resolved in accordance with clause 3.12 of the Undertaking;*
- (c) it will enter into the Arbitration Agreement and provide the executed Arbitration Agreement with this application; and*
- (d) subject to any appeal rights available at law, any decision of an arbitrator made pursuant to the processes in clause 3.12.5 of the Undertaking is final and binding.”*

Note to Applicants: the form of Arbitration Agreement is set out below. It is a template Arbitration Agreement that can be negotiated and Applicants should consider seeking independent legal advice before executing the agreement.

## Arbitration Agreement

---

**Date** [Insert]

### Parties

Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited (ABN 75 081 455 754) (**ARTC**)

and

[Insert party's name] (ABN [Insert]) (the **Applicant**)

(collectively, the **Parties**)

### Agreement to Arbitrate

- 1 In this agreement terms have the meaning given to them in the 2024 Access Undertaking (the **Undertaking**) unless otherwise stated in this agreement.
- 2 The Parties agree that any Dispute between the Parties that is not resolved through the processes contained in clauses 3.12.2, 3.12.3 or 3.12.4 of the Undertaking shall be finally determined by arbitration.
- 3 Any arbitration between the Parties shall be governed by clause 3.12.5 of the Undertaking.
- 4 This agreement is a deed and is executed as a deed.
- 5 This Arbitration Agreement is governed by the laws of South Australia.
- 6 This Arbitration Agreement may only be amended by written agreement, signed by the Parties.
- 7 This Arbitration Agreement may be signed in counterparts and all counterparts taken together comprise the one document.

**EXECUTED as a deed**

**Signing Page**

SIGNED for and on behalf of Australian Rail )  
Track Corporation Limited ABN 75 081 455 754 )  
by its duly authorised officer and in the presence )  
of:

.....  
Signature of Authorised Officer

.....  
Signature of Witness

.....  
Name of Authorised Officer  
(BLOCK LETTERS)

.....  
Name of Witness  
(BLOCK LETTERS)

.....  
Position of Authorised Officer  
(BLOCK LETTERS)

SIGNED for and on behalf of [Insert applicant's )  
name] ABN [Insert] by its duly authorised officer )  
and in the presence of: )

.....  
Signature of Authorised Officer

.....  
Signature of Witness

.....  
Name of Authorised Officer  
(BLOCK LETTERS)

.....  
Name of Witness  
(BLOCK LETTERS)

.....  
Position of Authorised Officer  
(BLOCK LETTERS)

## **SCHEDULE B**

(Information to Accompany Access Application)

The Applicant will furnish ARTC with the following information:

1. Applicant's details including:
  - (a) Business Name of Applicant
  - (b) ACN and ABN of Applicant
  - (c) Business Address of Applicant
  - (d) Telephone contact details
  - (e) Fax contact details
  - (f) Email contact details
  - (g) Contact person for progression of Access Application
2. Access Requirements including:
  - (a) Required entry and exit locations to and from Network
  - (b) Frequency and times of entry and exit
  - (c) Any additional requirements relating to path scheduling to meet above-rail needs
  - (d) Term of access requirement including approximate commencement date
  - (e) Service category (maximum speed) of Train or if not applicable alternative proposed Train characteristics for path schedule required
  - (f) Maximum intended axle load of Service
  - (g) Physical length of Service in metres
3. Details of all Rolling Stock



## **SCHEDULE C**

### (Essential Elements of Access Agreement)

- non-exclusive access to Network;
- contracted Train Paths subject to the matters outside ARTC's control, safety and Network Management Principles;
- each party warranting the accuracy of information provided;
- a process for renegotiation of Scheduled Train Paths consistent with the provisions of clause 2.9 of Schedule D;
- Customers paying an access charge based on flagfall and gtkm;
- charges varying in accordance with clause 4.5 of Schedule D;
- payment by the Customer of charges and premiums to the Transport Accident Commission in respect of the Network in Victoria;
- the right of ARTC to seek security from the Customer;
- ARTC to conduct Train Control, issue Instructions as defined in the Indicative Track Access Agreement, maintain and operate the Network in a non-discriminatory manner;
- the Customer providing warranties regarding Rolling Stock;
- the Customer complying with the Codes of Practice as published by ARTC from time to time and Instructions issued by ARTC;
- the party operating the Trains relating to the contracted Train Paths having appropriate Accreditation and insurance;
- ARTC having the ability to vary (temporarily or permanently), remove and review contracted Train Paths in appropriate circumstances and to take possession of the Network for repairs, maintenance, new works and upgrades;
- the ability of ARTC to conduct audits on the Operator;
- compliance by the Operator with plans dealing with Incidents, preservation of evidence and environmental requirements;
- compliance by the Operator with applicable and appropriate safety standards;
- contracted Capacity not utilised seven out of twelve times may be withdrawn by ARTC;
- appropriate termination and suspension provisions;

- indemnities by the Operator and ARTC;
- dispute resolution procedures;
- provisions which allow ARTC to meet its obligations under its NSW lease, including without limitation:
  - the provision of all train paths will be subject to ARTC's obligations regarding passenger priority; and
  - the train decision factors which detail the allocation of train priority in real time Train Control;
- implementation and compliance with ARTC's Environmental Licence and environmental management system manual;
- provisions which allow ARTC to meet its obligations in relation to third parties' rights to conduct works on the Network;
- payment of, if payable, legal costs of execution (including without limitation any associated stamp duty, fees, fines and penalties thereon) in all relevant jurisdictions on the Access Agreement and any document contemplated or allowed by the Access Agreement;
- termination of Access Agreements on termination or cessation of ARTC's leasehold rights; and
- warranties or guarantees from Operators sufficient to meet obligations or potential obligations under the Access Agreement.

**SCHEDULE D**

(Indicative Track Access Agreement as at Commencement Date)

(see attached 63 pages)

## **SCHEDULE E**

(Network)

### **South Australia, part Western Australia (Kalgoorlie to WA/SA border) and part New South Wales (SA/NSW border to Broken Hill)**

#### **1. Tarcoola – Asia Pacific Interface Point**

Mainline from the 504.5 kms mark to the 510.85 kms mark.

#### **2. Kalgoorlie to Crystal Brook**

Mainline from the eastern end of Kalgoorlie at 1780.600 kms to Crystal Brook including all tracks, turnouts and signals forming the Crystal Brook and Coonamia triangle.

#### **3. Port Augusta to Whyalla**

Mainline from the point of connection with the Kalgoorlie to Port Augusta line to the main line facing points located at 166.590 kms at the northern entrance to the Whyalla yard.

#### **4. Crystal Brook to Broken Hill**

Mainline from the eastern end of the Crystal Brook triangle to the western end of Broken Hill at 391.990 kms.

#### **5. Crystal Brook to Dry Creek**

Mainline from the southern end of the Crystal Brook triangle to the southern apex of the Dry Creek triangle.

#### **6. Adelaide Metropolitan Area**

6.1 Mainline from Dry Creek including all tracks, points and signals forming the Dry Creek triangle to Port Adelaide Junction (signal 1155).

6.2 Mainline from Glanville (signal 1456) to Pelican Point/Outer Harbour.

6.3 Mainline from Gillman Junction to a point approximately 100 metres before the Eastern Parade level crossing at Port Adelaide flat.

#### **7. Dry Creek to the South Australian/Victorian border**

Mainline from the southern apex of Dry Creek Triangle to the Victorian border at 313.209 kms.

#### **8. Crossing Loops**

All crossing loops within each corridor described above.

**9. Authority Points**

All other rail track connecting with those running lines within each corridor described above between the mainline and the last signal, derail or other point of authority on that rail track protecting access to the running line.

**Victorian Lease**

**Part 1 – Mainline South Australia to Melbourne\***

<b>Location</b>	<b>Boundary</b>
SA/VIC Border	Marked distance 463.610 km
Mainline including crossing loops, dual gauge, turnouts, and diamond	Last long timber at turnouts to sidings and diamond crossings
Dimboola	Last long timber to Yaapeet branch line
Murtoa	Last long timber to Hopetoun branch line
Maroona	Last long timber to Portland branch line
Gheringhap	Last long timber at Divergence of dual gauge at Butcher Road 81.600 km
North Geelong “C”	Last long timber at divergence of dual gauge
Newport Last	Long timber at divergence of dual gauge
Brooklyn Last	Long timber at divergence of dual gauge
Sims Street Junction	Ref “Part 3 – Melbourne Boundaries”

**Part 2 – Mainline New South Wales to Melbourne\***

<b>Location</b>	<b>Boundary</b>
Albury**	Marked distance 304.163 km
Mainline including crossing loops, cripple roads, dual gauge, turnouts, and diamond	Last long timber at turnouts to sidings (other than cripple roads) and diamond crossings
Somerton	Last long timber in turnout to No. 3
McIntyre Last	Long timber in turnout No. 2
Sims Street Junction Ref	“Part 3 – Melbourne Boundaries”

\* To the extent that such railway lines are owned by ARTC or leased by VicTrack to ARTC.

\*\* To the extent that such railway lines are leased by Transport for NSW to ARTC.

**Part 3 – Melbourne\* Boundaries**

**South Dynon Junction to Spencer Street**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Boundary</b>
Spencer Street signal	SST184
Reversing Loop Junction	Last long timber in the mixed gauge
Contrans Siding	Dwarf Signal 204
South Dynon Terminal (east end)	Dwarf Signals 214 & 210
South Dynon Terminal (west end)	Dwarf Signals 126, 228, 230 & 232

**Sims Street Junction to North Dynon**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Boundary</b>
North Dynon Intermodal Terminal	Dwarf Signals 92 & 94
North Dynon Agents Area	Dwarf Signal 90

**South Dynon Junction to Appleton Dock**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Boundary</b>
Operations Terminal (west end)	Dwarf Signal 142
Operations Terminal (east end)	Dwarf Signal 236 Note: track on crossover between MOT No. 3 track and MOT no. 2 track, beyond the last long timber and turnout No. 235, does not form part of the ARTC Network. Dwarf Signal 238, although beyond the ARTC boundary, forms part of the ARTC Network.
Appleton Dock	Footscray Road Level Crossing

**Other Areas**

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<b>Location</b>	<b>Boundary</b>
Track to NRC Wagon maintenance Centre	Dwarf Signal 154
Locomotive Provisioning Centre (west end)	Dwarf Signal 130
Locomotive Provisioning Centre (east end)	Dwarf Signal 128 Note: track between the last long timber turnout No. 127D and the last long timber on turnout No. 123U, does not form part of the ARTC Network.
Sims Street Triangle	Sims Street Junction Weighbridge Junction South Dynon Junction

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\*To the extent that such railway lines are owned by ARTC or leased by VicTrack to ARTC.



## New South Wales Lease

### Mainline, crossing loops, dual gauge and turnouts as summarised below:

1. 648.000 km Albury<sup>1</sup> to 57.965 km Macarthur
2. 57.965 km Macarthur to 21.285 km Sefton Park East Junction (Southern Sydney Freight Line)<sup>2</sup>
3. Newcastle (Islington Junction)<sup>2</sup> 163.920 km on the Down Relief/Down Islington Loop/Up Islington Loop (Woodville Junction to Islington Junction) and 164.045 km on the Up and Down Mains (Islington to Hamilton) to 875.980 km Queensland Border (Border Loop Tunnel)<sup>3\*</sup>
4. 428.300 km northern apex and 428.900 km southern apex of the Cootamundra West Triangle to 1126.640 km Broken Hill<sup>4</sup>
5. 144.500 km northern end of north fork and 145.000 km southern end of south fork at Moss Vale Junction to 91.080 km Unanderra<sup>2</sup>

\*Excludes Sandgate Flyover (for the purposes of Part 4 pricing principles only) and the following Newcastle Coal Lines:

#### ARTC Sector

915	Islington Junction – Scholey Street Junction
917	Scholey Street Junction – Waratah (via Coal)
925	Waratah – Hanbury Junction (via Coal)
926	Hanbury Junction – Sandgate (via Coal)
927	Hanbury Junction – Kooragang East Junction
931	Kooragang East Junction – Sandgate
936	Sandgate – Thornton (via Coal)
937	Thornton – Maitland (via Coal)
944	Telarah – Farley

- 1 To the extent where the railway line joins that part of the Network leased by VicTrack to ARTC.
- 2 To the extent where the railway line joins the rail network owned by Transport Asset Holding Entity of NSW (“**TAHE**”).
- 3 To the extent where the railway line joins the rail network owned by Queensland Rail.
- 4 To the extent where the railway line joins the rail network owned by ARTC.

## **Metropolitan Freight Network Lease**

### **Freight Corridors**

Sefton Park Junction – Chullora Junction

South Flemington – North Enfield

North Enfield – South Enfield via main lines

South Enfield – Loftus Street Campsie

Marrickville Junction – Port Botany

### **Shared Corridor**

Loftus Street Campsie – Marrickville Junction

## **Queensland Lease**

Border Loop to Acacia Ridge

## **ANNEXURE 1 TO SCHEDULE E**

**This annexure illustrates the Network in South Australia, part Western Australia (Kalgoorlie to WA/SA border) and part New South Wales (SA/NSW border to Broken Hill) as it was on February 2021 (and current as at the date of this Undertaking). The precise details of the Network in South Australia, part Western Australia (Kalgoorlie to WA/SA border) and part New South Wales (SA/NSW border to Broken Hill) will change over the duration of the Undertaking, but not in such a way as to be inconsistent with the textual descriptions in Schedule E. Applicants should refer to ARTC's website for an up to date map of the Network in South Australia, part Western Australia (Kalgoorlie to WA/SA border) and part New South Wales (SA/NSW border to Broken Hill).**

**Attached A3 Map ARTCSEWINT\_3 one (1) page.**

## **ANNEXURE 2 TO SCHEDULE E**

**This annexure illustrates the Network forming part of the Victorian Lease as it was on July 2019 and June 2024 for Maps ARTCSEWINT\_2 and ARTCSNSINT\_1 respectively (and current as at the date of this Undertaking). The precise details of the Network forming part of the Victorian Lease will change over the duration of the Undertaking, but not in such a way as to be inconsistent with the textual descriptions in Schedule E. Applicants should refer to ARTC's website for an up to date map of the Network forming part of the Victorian Lease.**

**Attached A3 Map ARTCSEWINT\_2, ARTCSNSINT\_1 two (2) pages.**

### **ANNEXURE 3 TO SCHEDULE E**

**This annexure illustrates the Network forming part of the New South Wales Lease and Queensland Lease as it was on June 2023, December 2023, June 2024 and October 2024 for Maps ARTCSNSINT\_2, ARTCSHVINT, ARTCSNSINT\_1 and ARTCSEWINT\_1 respectively (and current as at the date of this Undertaking). The precise details of the Network forming part of the New South Wales Lease and Queensland Lease will change over the duration of the Undertaking, but not in such a way as to be inconsistent with the textual descriptions in Schedule E. Applicants should refer to ARTC's website for an up to date map of the Network forming part of the New South Wales Lease and Queensland Lease.**

**Attached A3 Maps ARTCSNSINT\_2, ARTCSHVINT, ARTCSNSINT\_1, ARTCSEWINT\_1 four (4) pages.**

#### **ANNEXURE 4 TO SCHEDULE E**

**This annexure illustrates the Network forming part of the New South Wales Lease as it relates to the Southern Sydney Freight Line and Metropolitan Freight Network as it was on October 2024 (and current as at the date of this Undertaking). The precise details of the Network forming part of the Southern Sydney Freight Line and Metropolitan Freight Network will change over the duration of the Undertaking, but not in such a way as to be inconsistent with the textual descriptions in Schedule E. Applicants should refer to ARTC's website for an up to date map of the Network forming part of the Southern Sydney Freight Line and Metropolitan Freight Network.**

**Attached A3 Map ARTCSSFNINT one (1) page.**

## **SCHEDULE F**

(Network Management Principles)

This schedule applies in circumstances where Train Paths are interrupted due to matters outside ARTC's control and there is a need to resolve competing interests of users of the Network. Refer to the following 4 pages.

## NETWORK MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

### Train Decision Factors

The following definitions apply in this Schedule F except where expressly limited.

**“Commuter Peak Services”** means TAHE’s commuter rail passenger services arriving at Sydney Central Station between 0600 and 0900 hours and departing Sydney Central Station between 1600 and 1800 hours and continuing until they reach their destination point.

**“Express Freight Services”** means those freight services capable of maintaining sectional running times that are, or are determined by the appropriate Train Controller, to operate at faster sectional times than local Frequent-Stopping Services.

**“Frequent-Stopping Services”** means those rail passenger services that stop at most or all stations along their Train Path.

**“Healthy Train”** means a Train that, having regard to the daily train plan applicable on the day:

- (a) presents to the Network on time, is configured to operate to its schedule and operates in a way that it remains able to maintain its schedule; or
- (b) is running late only due to causes within the Network, but only where the root cause is outside the Operator’s control; or
- (c) is running on time, regardless of previous delays.

**“Limited-Stop Services”** means those rail passenger services that stop at a few selected stations along their Train Path.

**“Long-distance Passenger Services”** means those rail passenger services operating to or from points outside the Sydney metropolitan rail area, excluding TAHE’s CityRail services.

**“Non-Revenue Positioning Movements”** means movements of Trains required for reasons other than revenue services.

**“Special Event”** means a major community, cultural, sporting or similar event within the metropolitan rail area, which is identified as such by a relevant NSW agency, and which may require:

- (a) a special timetable for the operation of TAHE rail passenger services before, during and after the event; and
- (b) significant operational priority for TAHE rail passenger services; and
- (c) consequential adjustments to other rail operators’ services.

**“Train”** means a single unit of Rolling Stock or 2 or more units of Rolling Stock including a locomotive or other self propelled unit coupled together to operate on the track as a single unit.



**“Train Control”** means the control and regulation of all rail operations (including Train Movements, movements of Rolling Stock and track maintenance vehicles) to ensure the safe, efficient and proper operation of the Network.

**“Train Movement”** means a particular trip by a Train on a Train Path.


**“Train Path”** means the series of network segments over a particular time interval through which a Train can travel and may include stopping points and intervals and fuelling stations and other set down or changeover points.

**TRAIN DECISION FACTORS:**

1. **Where Trains are on-time**, they will be managed as specified in the daily train plan.
2. **Where one or more Trains are late or unhealthy**, they will be managed as specified in the matrices below subject to a rail operator’s preferences for its own services.

The 2 tables are used in conjunction with each other. Table 1 will enable a person undertaking Train Control (“**Train Controller**”) to define the relative priority of two conflicting Trains. Table 2 will specify the type of decision available to Train Controller in delivering Train Control directions to resolve the potential conflict.

**Table 1 – Train Priority Matrix**

Decreasing order of priority	Type of train service in ARTC Network
From Highest	Long-distance Passenger Services
	Commuter Peak Services and rail passenger services likely to affect Commuter Peak Services or Special Event services.
	Limited – Stop Services that are not Commuter Peak Services or Special Event Services.
	Freight services likely to affect Commuter Peak Services or Special Event services.
	Express Freight Services
	Frequent-Stopping Services that are not Commuter Peak Services.
	Non-express Freight Services
To Lowest	Non-Revenue Positioning Movements

**Table 2 – Decision Matrix**

Trains of Equal Health	Both Healthy One on Time & One Late	Both Late
Equal Priority Trains	Rule 1 + 2	Rule 3
Unequal Priority Trains		Rule 6 + 3
Higher Priority Train is On Time + Lower Priority is Late	Rule 5 + 2	
Higher Priority Train is Late + Lower Priority Train is On Time	Rule 4 + 2	
<hr/>		
Trains of Unequal Health	Rule 7 + 2	

**Rule 1:**

- (a) A Healthy Train should be managed such that it will exit on time.
- (b) If a Healthy Train is running late, it should be given equal preference to other Healthy Trains and advanced wherever possible to regain lost time. Any delay to other Healthy Trains as a result of such advancement must be kept to a minimum as defined in Rule 2.

**Rule 2:** The following delay limits apply to the full journey of a Healthy Train being held back:

- (a) the delay to the individual rail passenger service held back does not exceed 5 minutes;
- (b) there is a plan in place to recover lost time so that the downstream effect on the service held back and on individual subsequent rail passenger services also does not exceed 5 minutes;
- (c) the delay to a freight service held back does not exceed 15 minutes; or
- (d) there is a plan in place to recover lost time so that the downstream effect on the healthy freight service held back and on individual subsequent healthy freight services also does not exceed 15 minutes. Any plan for the recovery of time by freight services must be capable of being achieved prior to their entry into the Sydney metropolitan rail area.

**Rule 3:** Give preference to the Train whose Train performance indicates it will lose least or no more time and even make up time and hold the gain; and consider downstream effect to minimise overall delay.

**Rule 4:** A lower priority Train gets preference. A higher priority Train can be given preference subject to the delay to the lower priority Train being kept to a minimum as defined in Rule 2.

**Rule 5:** A higher priority Train should be given preference over a lower priority Train. A lower priority Train may be given preference over higher priority Train provided the delay to that Train is kept to a minimum as defined in Rule 2.

**Rule 6:** A high priority Train has preference, subject to Rule 3.

**Rule 7:** A Healthy Train should be given preference over an unhealthy Train. An unhealthy Train may be given preference over a Healthy Train provided the delay to that Train is kept to a minimum as defined in Rule 2.

## SCHEDULE G

(Performance Indicators)

**Table I – Service Quality Performance Reporting**

Performance Measure	Responsibility	Reporting Frequency
<b>Reliability<sup>1</sup></b>		
Number and percentages of healthy <sup>2</sup> Services <sup>3</sup> that exit the Network within tolerance <sup>4</sup> .	ARTC	Quarterly
Number and percentage of unhealthy Services that do not deteriorate further, within tolerance.	ARTC	Quarterly
Number and percentage of Services which are operated in a healthy manner.	Operator	Quarterly
Number and percentage of Services which exit the Network no later than schedule, within tolerance.	Both	Quarterly
Number and percentage of Services which enter the Network no later than schedule, within tolerance.	Operator	Quarterly
Number and percentage of Services which exit the Network no later than one hour <sup>5</sup> after schedule.	Both	Quarterly
<b>Network Availability<sup>6</sup></b>		
Transit Time – Infrastructure Configuration Capability <sup>7</sup>	ARTC	Quarterly
Transit Time – Infrastructure Practical Capability <sup>8</sup>	ARTC	Quarterly
Transit Time – Availability to Market <sup>9</sup>	ARTC	Quarterly
<b>Transit Time<sup>1</sup></b>		
Number and percentage of Services which transit <sup>10</sup> the Network no later than schedule transit, within tolerance.	Both	Quarterly
Sum of minutes delay (and minutes per hour transit) attributed to below rail cause by type of delay eg track, signals/communications, train management/control.	ARTC	Quarterly
Sum of minutes delay (and minutes per hour transit) attributed to above rail cause by type of delay eg late entry, yard/terminal, crew, locomotive, Rolling Stock, running.	Operator	Quarterly
Sum of minutes delay (and minutes per hour transit) unable to be attributed to a cause or beyond either party's reasonable control.	Neither	Quarterly
<b>Temporary Speed Restrictions<sup>11</sup></b>		
Number of kilometres and percentage of track under temporary speed restriction on the Network at the end of a reporting period.	ARTC	Quarterly
<b>Track Condition<sup>11</sup></b>		
Track quality measured by index. <sup>12</sup>	ARTC	Quarterly

1. Separate reporting will be undertaken in relation to Services segregated by ARTC (and averaged or aggregated as applicable) as East- West, Melbourne – Sydney, Sydney – Brisbane and Melbourne – Brisbane. Reported performance will only relate to that on the Network. All measures would not reflect Services materially affected by a Force Majeure event (as defined in the Indicative Track Access Agreement).
2. For this purpose, a healthy service is one which:

- a. presents to the Network within tolerance<sup>4</sup>, is configured to operate to its schedule and operates in a way that it remains able to maintain its schedule; or
  - b. is running late only due to causes within the Network, but only where the root cause is outside the rail operator's control; or
  - c. is running within tolerance<sup>4</sup>, regardless of previous delays.
3. Services include all Committed Capacity and scheduled Capacity (excludes ad hoc Services).
  4. For this purpose tolerance is to be 15 minutes (unless otherwise agreed).
  5. It may be appropriate to employ shorter or longer timeframes as appropriate depending on corridor transit times.
  6. Separate reporting will be undertaken in relation to a Reference Service (and averaged as applicable) movement on Melbourne - Parkeston, Melbourne - Sefton Park East Junction, Newcastle - Queensland Border, and Cootamundra - Crystal Brook. Reported performance will only relate to that on the Network.
  7. A measure of transit time over the Network, delivered by the infrastructure given its configuration (alignment, grades, curves and associated permanent speed restrictions). Measured by simulated operation of a Reference Service over the Network (excluding prevailing temporary speed restrictions). Reported on the basis of average speed.
  8. A measure of transit time over the Network, delivered by the infrastructure given its configuration (as measured by Transit Time - Infrastructure Configuration Capability) and maintenance requirements (including the transit time impact of temporary speed restrictions). The transit time impact of temporary speed restrictions is determined by applying the temporary speeds restrictions in place on the Network to a simulation model designed to determine the total of time lost by Reference Service subject to each temporary speed restriction. Reported on the basis of average speed.
  9. A measure of transit time offered to the market, delivered by the infrastructure given its configuration, maintenance requirements and network usage (scheduled delays for path interactions). Measured by average scheduled transit time for Reference Services adjusted for any Operator requirements (dwells, deviation from offered section run times). Reported on the basis of average speed.
  10. Transit time is the difference between entry and exit times and so includes all time for all enroute activities (scheduled and actual).
  11. Separate reporting will be undertaken in relation to Segments segregated by ARTC (and averaged or aggregated as applicable) as East- West, Melbourne - Sydney, Sydney - Brisbane. Reported performance will only relate to that on the Network.
  12. To be measured by Track Quality Index (TQI) and averaged over each Segment. The TQI is calculated over 100m sections, using 0.5m raw data from the AK car. TQI is the sum of the standard deviations (x3) in each rail for a 20m inertial top (average over left and right rail), horizontal alignment (versine over a 10m chord (average over left and right rail)), twist over 2.0m and gauge.

**Table 2 - Periodic Reporting of ARTC Unit Costs**

The unit cost categories in this Table 2 relate to the Segment level based on volume and distance (while Schedule I provides the absolute cost data and the relationships between the categories as further highlighted in the footnotes).

Cost Area	Unit Cost	Frequency
Infrastructure Maintenance <sup>1</sup>	\$/track km, \$/GTK <sup>2</sup>	Annually
Train Control <sup>3</sup>	\$/train km	Annually
Operations <sup>4</sup>	\$/train km	Annually

1. Total annual expenditure associated with infrastructure maintenance activities. This refers to the sum of the fixed and variable maintenance costs specified in section 1(a)(v)(A) of Schedule I.
2. These are the total of the GTKs referred to in section 1(a)(iv) of Schedule I.
3. Total annual expenditure associated with ARTC Train Control and transit management function. These are the same as the Train Control costs specified in section 1(a)(v)(B) of Schedule I.
4. Total annual expenditure associated with Train Control costs in Note 3 above, plus a portion of total ARTC operations planning and management function. These are a subset of the overhead costs specified in section

1(a)(v)(B) of Schedule I. Methodologies that underpin these calculations and allocations will be detailed in the published reports.

## **SCHEDULE H**

(Segments)

- 1 Dry Creek – Parkeston
- 2 Tarcoola – Asia Pacific Interface
- 3 Dry Creek - Spencer St (Melbourne)
- 4 Melbourne (Tottenham) - Macarthur
- 5 Newcastle - Acacia Ridge
- 6 Crystal Brook – Parkes
- 7 Cootamundra – Parkes
- 8 Dry Creek - Pelican Point
- 9 Port Augusta – Whyalla
- 10 Moss Vale – Unanderra
- 11 Southern Sydney Freight Line incl Sefton Park Junction – Flemington South
- 12 Metropolitan Freight Network Chullora Junction – Port Botany

## SCHEDULE I

(Annual Reporting – information provision and timing)

### 1 ARTC annual reporting obligations

- (a) By 30 November each year, ARTC must publish on its website a report which details for the previous financial year:
  - (i) the Performance Indicators set out in Schedule G for each Segment of the Network;
  - (ii) total Access revenue earned for each Segment by commodity:
    - (A) intermodal/steel;
    - (B) grain;
    - (C) minerals;
    - (D) general freight; and
    - (E) passenger;
  - (iii) any non-Access revenue related to access to the Network and Associated Facilities;
  - (iv) volumes on each Segment of the Network (gtkm and train km), by commodity:
    - (A) intermodal/steel;
    - (B) grain;
    - (C) minerals;
    - (D) general freight; and
    - (E) passenger;
  - (v) operating costs for the Network, split into:
    - (A) maintenance costs for each Segment, split by category of fixed and variable; and
    - (B) non-maintenance operating costs for each Segment or by other defined method such as the overhead allocation model. For comparison to the costs referred to in Schedule G, this includes all costs defined under Operations (including Train Control) plus a further allocation of ARTC operation and planning management as well as corporate overheads, for the Network (and not including



the proportion of these costs which are incorporated into capital costs);

- (vi) capital expenditure for each Segment of the Network, split into:
  - (A) rail infrastructure capital; and
  - (B) capital expenditure on major projects; and
- (vii) references to published financial reports, for the purpose of outlining the accounting depreciation of ARTC's asset base as reflected in ARTC's financial asset registers.
- (b) If any of the items listed in clause 1(a) of this schedule contain Confidential Information, ARTC will keep records of the items and provide these records to the ACCC on a confidential basis.
- (c) The information published pursuant to this Schedule is for reporting purposes and does not involve the ACCC undertaking a review of whether expenditure is efficient or prudent.

## **2 Major project capital**

ARTC must include in its annual reporting documentation in respect of the completion of major projects specified in the Rail Network Supply Chain Optimisation Strategy during the term of the Access Undertaking:

- (a) a description of the relevant major projects;
- (b) reference to any published business case or project assessment which has been shared with stakeholders for the major projects; and
- (c) the final capital cost and associated data of each completed major project,

where applicable.



**ARTC** Port Botany Track Access Charges  
Effective from 1 July 2024

**TRACK ACCESS PRICES**

Train Size	Rate
0-650m	403.149
651-900m	604.720
901-1200m	Refer Note below

Note: Trains above 900m require individual approval and would be priced separately if requested

**ARTC** Metropolitan Freight Network Access Charges  
Effective from 1 July 2024

**TRACK ACCESS PRICES**

	SEFTON PARK JUNCTION - FLEMINGTON SOUTH	CHULLORA JUNCTION - PORT BOTANY GATE
<b>Intermodal and Steel</b>		
<b>VARIABLE PRICE PER '000 GTK</b>	<b>6.904</b>	<b>6.904</b>
<b>FLAGFALL PRICE per TRAIN KM</b>		
Express Freight	4.860	4.860
Regular Freight	10.695	10.695
Super Freight	4.607	4.607
Standard Freight	4.069	4.069
Heavy Freight	10.695	10.695
<b>Regional Services</b>		
<b>VARIABLE PRICE PER '000 GTK</b>	<b>2.244</b>	<b>2.244</b>
<b>FLAGFALL PRICE per TRAIN KM</b>		
Regular Freight	6.735	6.735
Standard Freight	6.735	6.735

**FLAGFALL APPLICATION**

FLAGFALL	TRAIN TYPE AND DESCRIPTION
Express Freight	Max train speed 115kph / Max Axle Loading up to 20T
Regular Freight	Max train speed 80kph / Max Axle Loading up to 23T / Length to corridor standard max
Super Freight	Max train speed 110kph / Max Axle Loading up to 21T / Length up to corridor standard max
Standard Freight	Max train speed 80kph / Max Axle Loading up to 23T / Length to corridor standard max

\*\* Rates apply to ARTC business customers only

\*\* 10% GST will be added to the total access charge for each service based on above charges

\*\* Some rounding may occur on the final invoice

**Note A:** These Charges are exclusive of GST.

**Note B:** The Standing Offer reflects the existing Capacity of the Network and the terms of service in the Indicative Track Access Agreement. If an Applicant requests Additional Capacity or different terms of service, then ARTC will negotiate any changes to pricing to reflect that request in accordance with this Undertaking.