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Australian Competition & Consumer Commission
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Aurizon submission on ACCC's Draft Decision on the ARTC Proposed IAU

6 September 2024

Dear Matthew,

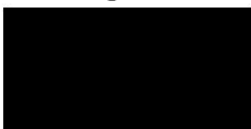
Aurizon welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission to the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (**ACCC**) in response to the ACCC's Draft Decision on ARTC's proposed 2024 Interstate Access Undertaking (**Proposed IAU**).

Aurizon is Australia's largest rail operator, with its operations extending across Australia, including the large scale bulk haulage of coal and iron ore, integrated supply chain services for other bulk products and the recent introduction of inter-city containerised freight services. Aurizon has strong ambitions to grow its containerised freight and bulk supply chains, which can only be achieved by driving new freight volumes to rail. Accordingly, the ability to efficiently access the national rail network – including ARTC's portion of the interstate network – is crucial to Aurizon's ability to offer attractive rail haulage services to its customers.

Aurizon supports the ACCC's recommended amendments to the Proposed IAU. But there are a number of issues which were not able to be fully considered within the available timeframe. Maintaining momentum on these outstanding issues is critical to achieving a fit-for-purpose access framework that promotes efficient utilisation of the national rail network and enables rail to more effectively compete with road. Accordingly, in responding to the Draft Decision, Aurizon has focussed on the recommended processes for addressing outstanding issues.

Aurizon's submission does not contain any confidential information and is in a form suitable for publication by the ACCC. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Gayle Andrews at Gayle.Andrews@aurizon.com.au.

Kind regards,



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