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Dear Interested Party

## Application for revocation of authorisation AA1000425 and substitution of AA1000644 — interim authorisation decision

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) has decided to grant interim authorisation with a condition in respect of the application for authorisation lodged on 16 June 2023 by One Rail Australia, Manildra Group, Pacific National, Qube, Southern Shorthaul Railroad, Sydney Rail Services, Linx Rail Pty Ltd and Aurizon (together, the **Applicants**). A copy of the ACCC's decision is attached.

Interim authorisation protects the limited arrangements for which it is granted from legal action under the relevant provisions of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth) while the ACCC considers and evaluates the merits of the full application.

## **Next steps**

For your information, the next step in the process is for the ACCC to release a draft determination which will take account of any submissions from the Applicants and interested parties and will indicate the ACCC's preliminary views on the merits of the application. The ACCC will give both the Applicants and interested parties the opportunity to provide a further submission on the draft determination before the ACCC issues its final decision.

As noted in the attached decision, the ACCC may review its decision on interim authorisation at any time. In this regard the ACCC will reconsider this decision at the time of issuing its draft determination. The ACCC's decision in relation to interim authorisation should not be taken to be indicative of whether or not final authorisation will be granted by the ACCC.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Sophie Magliano on 03 9658 6429 or <u>exemptions@accc.gov.au</u>.

Yours sincerely

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David Hatfield Director Competition Exemptions