

Aurizon Network's 2023-24 capital expenditure claim

11 September 2024

On 10 September 2024, Aurizon Network submitted its 2023-24 capital expenditure claim. We will assess Aurizon Network's capital expenditure claim for its acceptance into the regulatory asset base, in accordance with the 2017 Access Undertaking (UT5).

Aurizon Network's 2023-24 capital expenditure claim is published on our website.

A renewals strategy and budget was approved for the Blackwater, Goonyella and Moura systems for 2023-24. In the Newlands and GAPE systems, Aurizon Network sought to implement its final draft strategy and budget as an interim measure.

As part of our assessment of Aurizon Network's claim, we will determine:

- the extent to which the asset replacement and renewal expenditure is consistent with the approved renewals strategy and budget (where relevant) and the prudence and efficiency of capital expenditure that departs from this
- the prudence and efficiency of other capital expenditure, including for works undertaken as part of an interim renewals strategy and budget.

Stakeholder submissions invited

We invite submissions from stakeholders on the prudence and efficiency of Aurizon Network's capital expenditure claim for 2023-24. This includes their views on the consistency of expenditure with the approved renewals strategies and budgets (where relevant) and the prudence and efficiency of expenditure that is either inconsistent with these, or has otherwise been undertaken (in accordance with cl. 7A.11.6 and cl. 2.2 of Schedule E of UT5).

Closing date for submissions: 8 October 2024

Public involvement is an important element of our decision-making processes. Therefore, we invite submissions from interested parties. We will take account of all submissions received within the stated timeframes.

Submissions, comments or inquiries regarding this paper should be directed to:

Queensland Competition Authority

GPO Box 2257, Brisbane QLD 4001

Tel 07 3222 [extension]

www.qca.org.au/submissions/

Confidentiality

In the interests of transparency, and to promote informed consultation, we intend to make all submissions publicly available. However, if a person making a submission believes that information in it is confidential, they should claim confidentiality over the relevant information (and state the basis for that claim). We will assess confidentiality claims in accordance with the Queensland Competition Authority Act 1997. Among other things, we will assess if disclosure of the relevant information is likely to damage a person's commercial activities, and we will consider the public interest.

Claims for confidentiality should be clearly noted on the front page of a submission, and relevant sections of the submission marked as confidential. The submission should also be provided in both redacted and unredacted versions. In the redacted version, all information claimed as confidential should be removed or hidden. In the unredacted version, all information should be exposed and visible. These measures will make it easier for us to make the remainder of the document publicly available. A confidentiality claim template is available at www.qca.org.au/submission-policy/

The template gives guidance on the type of information that may help us to assess a confidentiality claim. We encourage stakeholders to use this template when making confidentiality claims.

Public access to submissions

Subject to any confidentiality constraints, submissions will be available for public inspection at our Brisbane office or on our website at www.qca.org.au/. If you experience any difficulty gaining access to documents, please contact us on **07 3222 0555**.