Economic Regulation Authority

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NOTICE

FINAL REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF THE RAILWAYS (ACCESS) CODE 2000

The Economic Regulation Authority (Authority) completed a final report on the review of the *Railways (Access) Code 2000* (Code) on 23 September 2005. This review was undertaken pursuant to the requirements of the *Railways (Access) Act 1998* (Act). The Authority subsequently forwarded this report to the Treasurer, Hon. Eric Ripper, as required under the Act.

Following recent approval from the Treasurer to release the final report to the public, the Authority has now placed this report on its website <u>www.railaccess.wa.gov.au/html/inq00.php</u>

BACKGROUND

The Authority is required to undertake a review of the Code in accordance with section 12 of the Act on the third anniversary of the commencement of the Code. As the Code commenced in late 2001 the review was required in late 2004. The Authority commenced this review in December 2004 and during the course of the review undertook extensive public consultation prior to completing the final report.

During the public consultation process, a number of issues were raised by interested parties that were outside the scope of the review as set out under the Act and consequently were not dealt with in the final report. However, as the Authority considered that these matters may have relevance to the efficient operation of the rail regulatory regime it provided a summary of these matters to the Treasurer in a separate report. As the matters discussed in this separate report fall outside the scope of the code review, the Authority has not given consideration to these issues or formed a view in relation to these matters.

The Treasurer has approved the release of the separate report and the Authority has also placed this report on its website <u>www.railaccess.wa.gov.au/html/inq00.php</u>

For further information contact:

General Inquiries

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LYNDON ROWE CHAIRMAN 5 December 2005