

Aurizon Network Pty Ltd

ABN 78 132 181 116

**Annual Financial Report
for the year ended 30 June 2024**

This financial report is the consolidated financial statements of the Group consisting of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd and its subsidiaries.

The financial report is presented in Australian dollars.

Aurizon Network Pty Ltd is a company limited by shares, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

Its registered office is:

Level 8
900 Ann Street
Fortitude Valley QLD 4006

The financial report for the Group for the year ended 30 June 2024 has been authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Directors on 12 August 2024.

Directors' Report

The Directors of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd (the Company) present their report, together with the financial statements of the Company and its controlled entities (collectively referred to as the consolidated entity or the Group) for the financial year ended 30 June 2024 (FY2024). Aurizon Network Pty Ltd is a subsidiary of Aurizon Holdings Limited. Aurizon Holdings Limited and its subsidiary entities are referred to as the Aurizon Group. Aurizon Holdings Limited is a public company listed on the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX: AZJ) and all relevant announcements are available on its website.

Directors

The following persons were Directors of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd during the financial year and up to the date of this report:

L Strambi (Chairman)
P Bains
M Bastos
A Harding
T Longstaff

Principal activities

The nature of the Company's operations and its principal activities during the year were:

- (i) provision of access to, and operation and management of, the Central Queensland Coal Network (CQCN); and
- (ii) the provision of design, construction, overhaul, maintenance and management services to the Aurizon Group as well as external below rail customers.

Review of operations

Business summary

The Company operates the 2,670 kilometre CQCN. The open access network is the largest coal rail network in Australia and one of the country's most complex, connecting multiple customers from more than 40 mines to five export terminals located at three ports. The CQCN includes four major coal systems (Moura, Blackwater, Goonyella and Newlands) and a connecting link, the Goonyella to Abbot Point Expansion (GAPE).

Coal access revenue is from the provision of access to the CQCN and is the primary source of revenue. It is determined based on railed coal volumes and the applicable system reference tariffs approved by the Queensland Competition Authority (QCA). This regulatory framework permits the Company to earn an approved return on its Regulatory Asset Base (RAB) and recover its capital expenditure and provides operating allowances over each regulatory period covered by a QCA approved access undertaking. Access revenue also includes revenue from non-coal access (freight and passenger trains) and above regulatory returns in certain circumstances, such as in relation to GAPE.

The Company also derives revenue from services and other revenue including the maintenance of private infrastructure, external design and construction works, customer funded infrastructure charges and other services.

Performance overview

EBIT increased \$115.3 million (25%) from \$461.1 million in FY2023 to \$576.4 million in FY2024, with increased revenue of \$98.6 million (7%), lower operating costs of \$18.8 million (4%) and higher depreciation of \$2.1 million (1%).

Regulatory access revenue has been accounted for based on actual railed tonnes using tariffs approved by the QCA on 26 May 2023 and the subsequent Electric Energy Charge approved on 21 June 2023, the QCA Levy variation approved on 24 August 2023 and Newlands Pricing DAAU approved on 22 February 2024.

Total Access Revenue increased by \$84.4 million (7%) with the main drivers being:

- Allowable Revenue increased by \$101.3 million, driven by the preliminary reset weighted average cost of capital (WACC) of 8.18% in FY2024 compared to 6.30% in FY2023;
- Increased volumes above the regulatory forecast resulted in an over recovery of \$19.0 million (inclusive of a transfer fee of \$3.9 million) in FY2024 compared to the prior period under recovery of \$21.3 million (inclusive of \$76.1 million of Take-or-Pay) in FY2023;
- Net favourable Revenue Cap (excluding GAPE) movements of \$30.3 million received in FY2024 relating to FY2021 and FY2022;
- WIRP Fees were \$18.9 million lower due to a termination fee received in FY2023;
- Other Access Revenue was \$6.6 million lower, driven by customer funded infrastructure rebates as a result of higher volumes and higher regulatory WACC; and

Review of operations (continued)

- Energy Charges (EC) were \$62.0 million lower in FY2024 due to the EC tariff reducing from \$2.82 to \$1.66 per EGTK'000.

Service and other revenue was \$14.2 million (17%) higher in FY2024 primarily due to higher external construction revenue.

Operating costs decreased by \$18.8 million (4%) with the main drivers being:

- Energy Charges decreased \$55.0 million (offset in Access Revenue) due to lower wholesale energy prices, partially offset by higher connection costs; and
- Other operating costs increased \$36.2 million primarily due to higher maintenance costs \$17.1 million and higher operating costs as a result of inflationary pressures and higher external construction costs associated with higher revenue.

Network's 2023-2024 Regulatory Asset Base (RAB) roll-forward is estimated to be \$6.1 billion (including deferred capital and including Access Facilitation Deeds of \$0.3 billion) as at 1 July 2024.

Operational update

During FY2024:

- CQCN volumes increased by 1% to 209.6mt. Volumes in H2FY2024 impacted by planned and unplanned supply chain maintenance, increased supply chain cancellations and a traffic incident at Raglan in the Blackwater system.
- Access and competition for skilled labour and rising sub-contractor costs impacted maintenance and asset renewal expenditure.
- Fair Work Australia approved the Aurizon Infrastructure Enterprise Agreement (QLD) which had been voted in favour of by employees in FY2023.
- Usable Capacity decreased from 83.4% to 80.3% driven by coal terminal outages and increased access requirements for network maintenance and renewal activities.
- Cancellations due to the network rail infrastructure increased from 2.3% to 2.9%.
- Cycle velocity increased from 21.5km/h to 21.9km/h.

Dividends

Details of dividends paid are set out in note 12 of the financial report.

Significant changes in the state of affairs

Funding

During the year, the Company had:

- Established \$150 million in unsecured bilateral bank debt facilities over 5, 6 and 7-year tenor.
- Established \$500 million in Syndicated Institutional Term Facility over 5 and 6-year tenor.
- Issued \$350 million fixed rate Medium-Term Note for a 7.5-year term under the AMTN programme.
- Issued \$68 million equivalent Japanese Yen Medium-Term Note for a 10-year term under the EMTN programme.
- Repaid \$425m fixed rate Medium-Term Note matured in June 2024.

Events since the end of the financial year

No matter or circumstance, other than the matters disclosed in key events and transactions for the reporting period, has occurred subsequent to the financial period that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Group, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Group or economic entity in subsequent financial periods.

Likely developments

Network continues to implement the 2017 Access Undertaking (UT5) which was approved by the QCA on 19 December 2019 and ceases on 30 June 2027.

On 21 September 2023, the QCA published its decision on the remaining Transitional Arrangements to address Existing Capacity Deficits identified in the Initial Capacity Assessment Report (ICAR). The QCA decided that the remaining Transitional Arrangements would benefit from further expansion studies to assess both the costs and potential benefits associated with the projects prior to deciding which Transitional Arrangements should be implemented. On 12 June 2024, Network shared the Newlands and GAPE Transitional Arrangement Concept Study findings and recommends a signalling investment of approximately \$2.0 million to reduce the Existing Capacity Deficit. The recommendation is subject to customer approval and is forecast for delivery in 2026.

Likely developments (continued)

On 16 July 2024, the QCA Published the Annual Capacity Assessment Report 2024 (ACAR). The ACAR identified some differences between it and the findings in the Independent Capacity Assessment Report (ICAR) in relation to the average annual deliverable network capacity of each coal system for the period FY2022 - FY2024, when measured as a percentage of the current contracted capacity of each coal system, which are as follows:

- Goonyella System has improved by ~4% to ~102%.
- Blackwater System has improved by ~4% to ~108%.
- GAPE System has improved by ~16% to 79%.
- Moura System has improved by ~5% to ~104%.
- Newlands System has improved by 18% to 88%.

Environmental and Cultural Heritage regulation and performance

The Company is exposed to a range of environmental regulations as part of the Aurizon Group. The Aurizon Group has a centralised team which monitors compliance with, and performance against these regulations and is committed to managing its operational activities and services in an environmentally responsible manner to meet legal, social and moral obligations. To deliver this commitment the Company seeks to comply with all applicable laws and regulations that have an environmental or cultural heritage focus.

The Company continues to work collaboratively with supply chain partners to minimise coal dust emissions associated with coal haulage on the CQCN. Data from the CQCN opacity monitoring stations indicated FY2024 continues to yield low rates of coal dust loss from tops of wagons.

The *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007 (NGER)* (Cth) requires the Aurizon Group to report its annual greenhouse gas emissions and energy use. The Company is not captured under the NGER Scheme's Safeguard Mechanism.

Environmental and Cultural Heritage prosecutions

The Company did not incur any monetary fines, nor was it subject to any prosecutions related to environment or cultural heritage regulations in FY2024.

Indemnification and insurance of officers

The Company's Constitution provides that the Company may indemnify any person who is, or has been, an officer of the Group, including the Directors and Company Secretary, against liabilities incurred whilst acting as such officers to the maximum extent permitted by law.

The Company's holding company, Aurizon Holdings Limited, has entered into a Deed of Access, Indemnity and Insurance with each of the Company's Directors. No Director or officer of the Company has received benefits under an indemnity from the Company during or since the end of the year.

The Company has paid a premium for insurance for officers of the Group. This insurance is against a liability for costs and expenses incurred by officers in defending civil or criminal proceedings involving them as such officers, with some exceptions. The contract of insurance prohibits disclosure of the nature of the liability insured against and the amount of the premium paid.

Rounding of amounts

The amounts contained in this report and in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest \$100,000, unless otherwise stated (where rounding is applicable) in accordance with *ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191*. The Company is an entity to which the instrument applies.

Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* is set out on page 5.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of Directors.



L Strambi
Chairman

Brisbane
12 August 2024

12 August 2024

Board of Directors
Aurizon Network Pty Ltd
900 Ann Street
Fortitude Valley QLD 4006
Australia

Dear Board Members

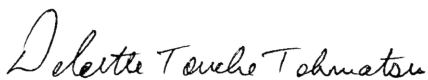
Auditor's Independence Declaration to Aurizon Network Pty Ltd

In accordance with section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001*, I am pleased to provide the following declaration of independence to the Board of Directors of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd.

As lead audit partner for the audit of the financial report of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd for the year ended 30 June 2024, I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of:

- The auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- Any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Yours faithfully



DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU



Matthew Donaldson
Partner
Chartered Accountants

Financial Report

for the year ended 30 June 2024

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Results for the year	Operating assets and liabilities	Capital and financial risk management	Group structure	Other notes	Unrecognised items and events after reporting date
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2. Expenses	5. Inventories	12. Dividends	17. Parent entity disclosures	19. Related party transactions	24. Events occurring after the reporting period
3. Income tax	6. Property, plant and equipment	13. Equity		20. Key Management Personnel	
	7. Intangible assets	14. Borrowings		21. Auditor's remuneration	
	8. Trade and other payables	15. Financial risk management		22. New and amended standards	
	9. Provisions				
	10. Other liabilities				

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Aurizon Network Pty Ltd
Consolidated income statement
For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Notes	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Revenue from continuing operations	1	1,435.3	1,336.7
Employee benefits expense	2	(181.3)	(158.6)
Energy and fuel		(160.0)	(215.0)
Consumables		(165.3)	(146.3)
Depreciation and amortisation	2	(343.2)	(341.1)
Impairment losses		-	(0.2)
Other expenses		(9.1)	(14.4)
Operating profit		576.4	461.1
Finance income		3.6	0.3
Finance expenses	2	(238.4)	(139.4)
Net finance costs		(234.8)	(139.1)
Profit before income tax		341.6	322.0
Income tax expense	3	(104.0)	(101.1)
Profit for the year attributable to the owners of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd		237.6	220.9

The above consolidated income statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Aurizon Network Pty Ltd
Consolidated statement of comprehensive income
For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Notes	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Profit for the year		237.6	220.9
Other comprehensive income/(expense)			
Items that may be reclassified to profit or loss:			
Changes in the fair value of cash flow hedges	13(b)	9.1	(35.0)
Income tax relating to changes in fair value of cash flow hedges	13(b)	(2.7)	10.5
Other comprehensive income/(expense) for the year, net of tax		6.4	(24.5)
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to the owners of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd		244.0	196.4

The above consolidated statement of comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Aurizon Network Pty Ltd
Consolidated statement of financial position
As at 30 June 2024

	Notes	30 June 2024 \$m	30 June 2023 \$m
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		5.4	30.2
Trade and other receivables	4	172.5	272.3
Inventories	5	67.7	70.1
Derivative financial instruments	15(a)	86.9	-
Other assets		2.0	2.8
Total current assets		334.5	375.4
Non-current assets			
Inventories	5	14.3	11.9
Derivative financial instruments	15(a)	18.6	89.3
Property, plant and equipment	6	5,265.3	5,215.6
Intangible assets	7	57.2	69.5
Total non-current assets		5,355.4	5,386.3
Total assets		5,689.9	5,761.7
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	8	155.3	144.2
Borrowings	14	921.2	460.3
Provisions	9	62.3	57.3
Other liabilities	10	85.8	97.5
Total current liabilities		1,224.6	759.3
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	14	2,668.7	3,171.8
Derivative financial instruments	15(a)	173.5	181.5
Deferred tax liabilities	3(c)	726.7	721.0
Provisions	9	4.3	3.5
Other liabilities	10	58.4	81.4
Total non-current liabilities		3,631.6	4,159.2
Total liabilities		4,856.2	4,918.5
Net assets		833.7	843.2
EQUITY			
Contributed equity	13(a)	405.4	404.5
Reserves	13(b)	(0.6)	(7.0)
Retained earnings		428.9	445.7
Total equity		833.7	843.2

The above consolidated statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Aurizon Network Pty Ltd
Consolidated statement of changes in equity
For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Notes	Attributable to the owners of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd			Total equity \$m
		Contributed equity \$m	Reserves \$m	Retained earnings \$m	
Balance at 1 July 2023		404.5	(7.0)	445.7	843.2
Profit for the year		-	-	237.6	237.6
Other comprehensive income		-	6.4	-	6.4
Total comprehensive income/(expense) for the year		-	6.4	237.6	244.0
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Dividends paid	12	-	-	(254.4)	(254.4)
Capital contributions from the parent for share-based payments	13(a)	0.9	-	-	0.9
		0.9	-	(254.4)	(253.5)
Balance at 30 June 2024		405.4	(0.6)	428.9	833.7
Balance at 1 July 2022		1,004.1	17.5	417.8	1,439.4
Profit for the year		-	-	220.9	220.9
Other comprehensive income		-	(24.5)	-	(24.5)
Total comprehensive income/(expense) for the year		-	(24.5)	220.9	196.4
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Dividends paid	12	-	-	(193.0)	(193.0)
Return of capital to the parent	13(a)	(600.0)	-	-	(600.0)
Capital contributions from the parent for share-based payments	13(a)	0.4	-	-	0.4
		(599.6)	-	(193.0)	(792.6)
Balance at 30 June 2023		404.5	(7.0)	445.7	843.2

The above consolidated statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Aurizon Network Pty Ltd
Consolidated statement of cash flows
For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Notes	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from customers (inclusive of GST)		1,658.2	1,403.5
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)		(672.1)	(681.5)
Interest received		3.5	0.2
Income taxes paid		(84.1)	(121.3)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	18	<u>905.5</u>	<u>600.9</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(381.4)	(342.3)
Proceeds from sale of assets		0.8	0.7
Net cash outflow from investing activities		<u>(380.6)</u>	<u>(341.6)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Proceeds from external borrowings		888.3	834.0
Repayment of external borrowings		(990.0)	(60.0)
Payment of transaction costs related to borrowings and derivatives		(9.1)	(4.3)
Proceeds from/(repayment to) related parties under the Intra Group Loan Agreement		53.5	(93.0)
Interest paid		(237.5)	(127.8)
Return of capital to the parent		(0.6)	(600.8)
Dividends paid to Company's shareholder	12	(254.4)	(193.0)
Net cash outflow from financing activities		<u>(549.8)</u>	<u>(244.9)</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		(24.9)	14.4
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		30.2	15.0
Effects of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents		0.1	0.8
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year		<u>5.4</u>	<u>30.2</u>

The above consolidated statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

About this report

Aurizon Network Pty Ltd (the Company) is a for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing this financial report and is a company limited by shares, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. The consolidated financial report comprises the financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively referred to as the Group or Aurizon Network).

The financial report is a general purpose financial report which:

- has been prepared on the going concern basis of accounting;
- has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*, Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and IFRS Accounting Standards issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB);
- has been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of financial assets and liabilities (including derivative instruments) at fair value;
- is presented in Australian dollars, which is the functional currency of the Company, with values rounded to the nearest \$100,000 unless otherwise stated, in accordance with *ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191*;
- presents reclassified comparative information where required for consistency with current year presentation;
- adopts all new and amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the AASB that are relevant to the operations of the Group and effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2023; and
- has applied the Group accounting policies consistently to all periods presented.

The general purpose financial report for the Group for the year ended 30 June 2024 (FY2024) has been authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Directors on 12 August 2024.

Significant judgements and estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to exercise judgement in applying the Group's accounting policies. It also requires the use of estimates and assumptions of assets, liabilities, income and expense.

The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity are set out below and in more detail in the related notes:

	Note
Useful life of infrastructure assets	6

Other material accounting policies

Other material accounting policies that summarise the measurement basis used, and are relevant to an understanding of the financial statements, are provided throughout the notes to the financial statements.

The notes to the financial statements

The following notes include information which is material and relevant to the operations, financial position and performance of the Group. Information is considered material and relevant due to its size and nature or if the information:

- is important for understanding the Group's current period results;
- provides an explanation of significant changes in the Group's business - for example acquisitions or divestments; or
- relates to an aspect of the Group's operations that are important to its future performance.

Key events and transactions for the reporting period

(a) Access revenue

2017 Access Undertaking (UT5)

The 2017 Access Undertaking (UT5) approved by the QCA on 19 December 2019 included a defined process for determining certain components of allowable revenue and the WACC, together the 'Reset Values' to be reset at 1 July 2023 (Preliminary Reset Values) and 1 July 2024 (Final Reset Values). On 25 May 2023, the QCA approved the Preliminary Reset Values, including a WACC of 8.18% (applying a risk-free rate of 3.47% and a debt risk premium of 2.60%), which has been incorporated into reference tariffs for FY2024.

On 19 October 2023, the QCA approved the Final Reset Values, including a WACC of 8.51% (applying a risk-free rate of 3.87% and a debt risk premium of 2.48%), to be incorporated into the reference tariffs for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2027 (the conclusion of the UT5 regulatory period). The difference between the Preliminary Reset Values of 8.18%, used for the FY2024 reference tariffs, and the Final Reset Values of 8.51% will be reconciled through the FY2024 Revenue Adjustment Amount and reflected in the reference tariffs for FY2026.

(b) Debt financing

In December 2023, Network established a \$500.0 million Syndicated Institutional Term Facility. The facility comprised several parts: a \$115.0 million revolving tranche maturing December 2028, a \$145.0 million term loan tranche maturing December 2028 and a \$240.0 million term loan tranche maturing December 2029.

Network settled a \$350.0 million fixed rate Medium-Term Note (referred to as AMTN 8) in March 2024 under its AMTN programme. Network AMTN 8 matures in September 2031. To convert fixed rate debt to floating, interest rate swaps were executed.

In May 2024, Network settled a ¥7.0 billion Private Placement, totalling approximately \$68.0 million (referred to as EMTN 3) under its EMTN programme. The EMTN 3 matures in May 2034. To convert the total ¥7 billion fixed rate debt issued to AUD floating rate debt, cross-currency interest rate swaps were executed.

Additionally, the Network Bilateral Facility limit was increased by \$150.0 million to \$1,240.0 million with three new \$50.0 million tranches added. The new tranches include a term loan tranche maturing October 2028, a revolving tranche maturing October 2029 and another revolving tranche maturing October 2030.

In July 2024, the Company executed a new Intra Group Loan Agreement with Iron Horse Insurance Company Pte Ltd (a related party). Under the arrangement the Company is able to be loaned up to \$150.0 million at floating interest rates over a 9-year term maturing in July 2033. At balance date, the Company had \$53.5 million advanced from Aurizon Operations Limited.

Funding capacity added during the year was utilised to repay the \$425.0 million AMTN 2 which matured in June 2024 and will be subsequently drawn upon, along with other pre-existing funding capacity, to repay the €500.0 million (\$710.6 million equivalent) EMTN 1 maturing September 2024.

Results for the year

IN THIS SECTION

Results for the year provides a breakdown of individual line items in the consolidated income statement that the Directors consider most relevant, including a summary of the accounting policies, judgements and estimates relevant to understanding these line items.

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1 Revenue

Coal access revenue from the provision of access to the CQCN is the primary source of revenue. It is determined based on railed coal volumes and the applicable system reference tariffs approved by the QCA. This regulatory framework permits Aurizon Network to earn an approved return on its RAB and recover its capital expenditure and provides operating allowances over each regulatory period covered by a QCA approved Access Undertaking. Access revenue also includes revenue from non-coal access (freight and passenger trains) and above regulatory returns in certain circumstances, such as in relation to GAPE.

The Group derives the following types of revenue from the provision of services over time:

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Revenue		
Service revenue		
Track access ¹	1,339.5	1,255.1
Other services ²	62.0	43.9
Other revenue ²	33.8	37.7
Total revenue from continuing operations	1,435.3	1,336.7

¹ Track access includes Take-or-Pay revenue of \$4.8 million (2023: \$100.2 million).

² Other services revenue includes maintenance contracts for private infrastructure, external construction works and other services. Other revenue includes the recognition of charges for customer-funded infrastructure.

(a) Disaggregation of revenue from contracts with customers

Operating segments are reported in a manner consistent with the internal reporting provided to the chief operating decision maker. The Group operates in one business and geographical segment (Queensland, Australia).

The nature of the Group's business is that it enters into long-term contracts with key customers. Access contracts with related parties, as disclosed in note 19, represent a significant component of the Group's revenue. Two other customers each contribute more than 10% of the Group's total revenue as detailed below:

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m	2024 Credit Rating	2023 Credit Rating
Customer 1	218.7	206.9	BBB+	BBB+
Customer 2	163.1	203.4	A-	A-
Total	381.8	410.3		

(b) Contract liabilities

The Group has recognised the following revenue-related contract liabilities:

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Current		
Advances for other revenue	26.5	55.0
Non-current		
Advances for other revenue	58.4	81.4

Contract liabilities primarily represent amounts received from customers as advances for external design and construction works and the provision of services under agreements for mine-specific infrastructure. These amounts are recognised in revenue either as volumes are delivered or on a straight line basis over the contract term as performance obligations are satisfied over time.

1 Revenue (continued)

(b) Contract liabilities (continued)

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Within one year	26.5	55.0
Later than one year but not later than five years	43.1	60.8
Later than five years	15.3	20.6
	<u>84.9</u>	<u>136.4</u>

The decrease in contract liabilities represents revenue recognised for external design and construction works and the provision of services under agreements for mine-specific infrastructure.

(i) Revenue recognised in relation to contract liabilities

The following table shows how much of the revenue recognised in the current reporting period relates to carried-forward contract liabilities.

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
<i>Revenue recognised that was included in the contract liability balance at the beginning of the period</i>		
Advances for other revenue	55.0	42.2
	<u>55.0</u>	<u>42.2</u>

(c) Accounting policies

The Group recognises revenue as performance obligations are satisfied.

Track access revenue is generated from the provision of access to, and operation of, the CQCN under an approved Access Undertaking. Track access revenue is recognised over time as access to the rail network is provided and is measured on a number of operating parameters including volumes hauled applied to regulator approved tariffs. The tariffs charged are determined with reference to the total allowable revenue, applied to the regulatory approved annual volume forecast for each rail system.

Where annual volumes railed are less than the regulatory forecast, Take-or-Pay may trigger. Take-or-Pay clauses in the contracts with customers enable Network to recover part of this shortfall where contractual railings were not achieved as a result of above rail operator cause, mine cancellations or port cancellations, rather than below rail cause. Take-or-Pay revenue is collected in the first half of the next reporting period.

Regulated access revenue is subject to a revenue cap mechanism that serves to ensure the rail network recovers its Allowable Revenue over the regulatory period. A revenue adjustment event results in the under or over recovery of regulatory access revenue (net of Take-or-Pay revenue) for a financial year being recognised in the accounting revenues of the second financial year following the financial year in which the event occurred as per the Access Undertaking.

Access revenue for the financial year has been recognised based on the 2017 Access Undertaking applying a WACC rate of 8.18% (2023: 6.30%). Refer to key events and transactions for further information.

2 Expenses

Profit before income tax includes the following specific expenses:

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Employee benefits expense		
Salaries, wages and allowances including on-costs	159.8	139.9
Defined contribution superannuation expense	21.2	18.2
Redundancies	0.3	0.5
	181.3	158.6
Depreciation and amortisation		
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	330.9	328.6
Amortisation of intangibles	12.3	12.5
	343.2	341.1
Finance expenses		
Interest and finance charges paid/payable	237.7	133.5
Amortisation of capitalised borrowing costs	3.1	2.6
Amortisation of AMTN 2 fair value adjustment	(2.3)	(2.4)
Hedge ineffectiveness ¹	(0.1)	5.7
	238.4	139.4

¹ Refer to the accounting policy in note 15.

3 Income tax

Income tax comprises current and deferred tax recognised in profit or loss or directly in equity or other comprehensive income.

(a) Income tax expense

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Current tax	102.9	83.3
Deferred tax	0.9	14.6
Current tax relating to prior periods	(2.2)	2.4
Deferred tax relating to prior periods	2.4	0.8
	104.0	101.1
Deferred income tax expense included in income tax expense comprises:		
Decrease/(increase) in deferred tax assets	5.5	(16.9)
(Decrease)/increase in deferred tax liabilities	(2.2)	32.3
	3.3	15.4

(b) Numerical reconciliation of income tax expense to prima facie tax payable

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Profit before income tax expense	341.6	322.0
Tax at the Australian tax rate of 30% (2023: 30%)	102.5	96.6
Tax effect of amounts which are not deductible (taxable) in calculating taxable income:		
Other	1.3	1.3
Adjustments for tax of prior periods	0.2	3.2
	104.0	101.1

3 Income tax (continued)

(c) Deferred tax balances

The table below outlines the items which comprise the deferred tax balances:

2024	Opening balance \$m	Charged to income \$m	Charged to equity \$m	Total \$m
Deferred tax assets				
Provisions and accruals	20.7	2.3	-	23.0
Contract liabilities	8.8	(8.5)	-	0.3
Financial instruments	25.0	1.0	-	26.0
Other items	-	(0.3)	0.3	-
Total deferred tax assets	54.5	(5.5)	0.3	49.3
Deferred tax liabilities				
Inventories	(1.1)	(0.7)	-	(1.8)
Property, plant and equipment	(718.2)	(12.7)	-	(730.9)
Intangible assets	(17.2)	2.9	-	(14.3)
Financial instruments	(21.3)	(2.1)	(2.7)	(26.1)
Other items	(17.7)	14.8	-	(2.9)
Total deferred tax liabilities	(775.5)	2.2	(2.7)	(776.0)
Net deferred tax liabilities	(721.0)	(3.3)	(2.4)	(726.7)
2023				
Deferred tax assets				
Provisions and accruals	20.8	(0.1)	-	20.7
Contract liabilities	6.0	2.8	-	8.8
Financial instruments	10.8	14.2	-	25.0
Total deferred tax assets	37.6	16.9	-	54.5
Deferred tax liabilities				
Inventories	(0.8)	(0.3)	-	(1.1)
Property, plant and equipment	(716.7)	(1.5)	-	(718.2)
Intangible assets	(19.9)	2.7	-	(17.2)
Financial instruments	(5.9)	(25.8)	10.4	(21.3)
Other items	(10.4)	(7.3)	-	(17.7)
Total deferred tax liabilities	(753.7)	(32.2)	10.4	(775.5)
Net deferred tax liabilities	(716.1)	(15.3)	10.4	(721.0)

3 Income tax (continued)

(d) Accounting policies

The tax position is calculated based on the tax rates and laws enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date, in the relevant operating jurisdiction. The tax laws and accounting standards have different rules in respect of timing and recognition of income and expenses, resulting in temporary differences (which reverse over time) and non-temporary differences (which do not reverse over time or are temporary differences that do not meet the recognition criteria under the accounting standards).

Income tax expense is calculated as the profit or loss before tax, multiplied by the applicable tax rate, and adjusted for non-temporary differences. Income tax expense includes a current tax and deferred tax component and is recognised in the profit or loss, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in equity or in other comprehensive income.

(i) Current tax

Current tax is the expected tax payable for the period, and any adjustment to tax payable in respect of prior periods. Current tax includes both temporary differences and non-temporary differences.

The positions taken in tax returns with respect to situations in which applicable tax regulation is subject to interpretation are periodically evaluated and provisions are provided where appropriate based on amounts expected to be paid to the tax authorities.

Current tax assets and liabilities are offset where the Group has a legally enforceable right to offset and intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the assets and settle the liabilities simultaneously.

(ii) Deferred tax

Deferred tax represents taxes to be paid or deductions available in future income years and any adjustment to deferred tax amounts in respect of prior periods. Deferred tax is recognised on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities, and their carrying amounts in the consolidated financial statements, except:

- when arising on the initial recognition of goodwill;
- when arising from the initial recognition of assets or liabilities in a transaction that is not a business combination and that affects neither accounting or taxable profit; or
- where it is not probable that future amounts will be available to utilise those temporary differences or carried-forward tax losses.

(iii) Offsetting deferred tax balances

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset where there is a legally enforceable right to offset and when the deferred tax balances relate to taxes levied by the same tax authority.

(iv) Tax consolidation legislation

The Company is a member of a tax consolidated group of which Aurizon Holdings Limited is the head entity.

The Company accounts for its own current and deferred tax amounts. These tax amounts are measured as if the Company continues to be a stand-alone taxpayer in its own right. However, the current tax liabilities and deferred tax assets arising from unused tax losses and unused tax credits are subsequently assumed by Aurizon Holdings Limited.

The members of the tax consolidated group have also entered into tax funding and tax sharing agreements. The tax funding agreement sets out the funding obligations of members in respect of income tax amounts and allocates tax liabilities using the standalone taxpayer approach. These tax funding arrangements result in the Company recognising a current inter-entity receivable or payable equal in amount to the tax liability or tax asset assumed by the head entity on behalf of the Company.

The tax sharing agreement limits the joint and several liability of the Company in the case of a default by the head entity.

Operating assets and liabilities

IN THIS SECTION

Operating assets and liabilities provides information about the working capital of the Group and major balance sheet items, including the accounting policies, judgements and estimates relevant to understanding these items.

4	Trade and other receivables	Page 22
5	Inventories	Page 23
6	Property, plant and equipment	Page 24
7	Intangible assets	Page 30
8	Trade and other payables	Page 31
9	Provisions	Page 31
10	Other liabilities	Page 33

4 Trade and other receivables

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Current		
Trade receivables	156.9	134.9
Provision for impairment of receivables	-	(0.1)
Net trade receivables	156.9	134.8
 Other receivables ¹	 15.6	 137.5
	172.5	272.3

¹ Other receivables includes insurance receivables of \$10.4 million (2023: \$nil) and GAPE fees of \$nil (2023: \$32.5 million). A \$4.8 million receivable has been recognised for Take-or-Pay revenue (2023: \$100.2 million).

(a) Accounting policies

(i) Trade receivables

Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. Trade receivables are generally due for settlement within 31 days and are therefore classified as current.

(ii) Provision for impairment

The collectability of trade and other receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Individual debts which are known to be uncollectable are written off when identified.

The Group recognises a provision for impairment based on expected lifetime losses of trade and other receivables. The amount of the provision for impairment is recognised in profit or loss in other expenses.

(b) Credit risks related to receivables

In assessing an appropriate provision for impairment of trade and other receivables, consideration is given to historical experience of bad debts, the aging of receivables, knowledge of debtor insolvency and individual account assessment.

Customer credit risk is managed in accordance with the procedures and controls set out in the Group's credit risk management policy. Credit limits are established for all customers based on external and internal credit rating criteria. For some trade receivables, the Group may also obtain security in the form of guarantees, deeds of undertaking or letter of credit which can be called upon if the counterparty is in default under the terms of the agreement.

5 Inventories

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Current		
Raw materials and stores at cost	67.7	70.1
Non-current		
Raw materials and stores - at cost	23.2	18.8
Provision for inventory obsolescence	(8.9)	(6.9)
	14.3	11.9

(a) Accounting policies

Inventories include infrastructure items held in centralised stores, workshops and depots. Items expected to be consumed after more than 12 months are classified as non-current.

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. The cost of individual items of inventory are determined using weighted average cost.

The Group recognises a provision for inventory obsolescence based on an assessment of damaged stock, slow-moving stock and stock that has become obsolete. The amount of the provision for inventory obsolescence is recognised in profit or loss in other expenses.

6 Property, plant and equipment

	Assets under construction \$m	Land \$m	Buildings \$m	Plant and equipment \$m	Rollingstock \$m	Infrastructure \$m	Total \$m
2024							
Opening net book amount	85.7	28.6	13.9	162.1	18.8	4,906.5	5,215.6
Additions	381.4	-	-	0.3	-	5.2	386.9
Transfers between asset classes	(364.1)	-	0.3	26.0	-	337.8	-
Disposals	-	-	-	(0.8)	-	(5.5)	(6.3)
Depreciation	-	-	(0.7)	(18.8)	(1.3)	(310.1)	(330.9)
Impairment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Closing net book amount	103.0	28.6	13.5	168.8	17.5	4,933.9	5,265.3
At 30 June 2024							
Cost	103.0	28.6	27.3	299.3	28.9	8,402.1	8,889.2
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	-	-	(13.8)	(130.5)	(11.4)	(3,468.2)	(3,623.9)
Net book amount	103.0	28.6	13.5	168.8	17.5	4,933.9	5,265.3
2023							
Opening net book amount	71.2	28.6	15.0	169.6	20.1	4,902.1	5,206.6
Additions	341.0	-	0.1	2.5	-	-	343.6
Transfers between asset classes	(326.5)	-	0.2	7.1	-	319.2	-
Disposals	-	-	-	(0.6)	-	(5.2)	(5.8)
Depreciation	-	-	(1.4)	(16.4)	(1.3)	(309.5)	(328.6)
Impairment	-	-	-	(0.1)	-	(0.1)	(0.2)
Closing net book amount	85.7	28.6	13.9	162.1	18.8	4,906.5	5,215.6
At 30 June 2023							
Cost	85.7	28.6	27.0	278.5	28.9	8,086.7	8,535.4
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	-	-	(13.1)	(116.4)	(10.1)	(3,180.2)	(3,319.8)
Net book amount	85.7	28.6	13.9	162.1	18.8	4,906.5	5,215.6

6 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Significant judgements and estimates

Useful life of infrastructure assets

The Group is the below rail operator and economic owner of the 2,670km CQCN through a long term lease. The Company is responsible for the provision of access to, and operation of the regulated infrastructure assets which connect over 40 coal mines to five export terminals as well as to domestic customers. The useful life of infrastructure assets is determined based on the expected engineering life, capped at the remaining term of the infrastructure lease. In adopting this basis, the Group assumes that the infrastructure assets will remain economically viable throughout the lease term to 2109 which, as explained further below, is dependent on the ongoing future supply and demand for Australian coal.

Around 70% of volume hauled across the CQCN is metallurgical coal which is primarily used to produce steel. Thermal coal which is used as a heat source in energy generation accounts for the remaining 30% of volume hauled. Metallurgical coal is expected to be in demand for longer than thermal coal. The useful life of infrastructure assets will be primarily impacted by the future supply and demand for Australian metallurgical coal rather than thermal coal.

As part of the Group's Strategy in Uncertainty framework, scenario analysis is used to test market drivers and evaluate capital, fleet and haulage opportunities and sustainability in the context of climate change risks. A key component of this analysis is understanding the drivers of supply and demand for commodities transported over the short term as well as risks that emerge over the medium to long term. This analysis is extended over the lease term to 2109 where the timing and magnitude is less certain.

The future supply of Australian metallurgical coal is dependent on, amongst other things, government policies and the ability of customers to gain regulatory approvals and raise funding to support the development of their resource base. Demand for Australian metallurgical coal is dependent on seaborne-traded markets which are increasingly concentrated in Asia and linked to Asian steel production. Future demand is dependent on economic development in Asia including steel intensive growth, alternatives to steel and current steel production methods, technology advancements, competing supply of metallurgical coal and changes in government policies including preference for domestic or imported coal and net-zero emission targets. Major import nations of Australian metallurgical coal with net-zero emissions targets include India (2070), Japan (2050), South Korea (2050) and China (2060).

Regulatory framework considerations

As the CQCN is a regulated asset, the Company earns a Return of Capital as part of Allowable Revenue for each coal system under the QCA approved Access Undertaking. The Return of Capital compensates the Company for depreciation of the RAB over QCA endorsed regulatory lives for individual asset classes which differ to the expected engineering life used for statutory reporting purposes. The QCA has also approved an accelerated depreciation profile for additions to the RAB from FY2010 onwards. As a result, at the commencement of each regulatory period, where an asset class has a remaining regulatory useful life:

- higher than 20 years, RAB depreciation is based on a 20-year rolling life, which resets to 20 years each regulatory period
- lower than 20 years, depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis.

The accelerated depreciation profile adopted by the QCA increases the rate at which the Company recovers the Return of Capital and increases Allowable Revenue in the near term.

The QCA approved economic life of the CQCN can be re-assessed at the commencement of each regulatory period and therefore the QCA approved economic life of the CQCN RAB is not an indicator that useful lives adopted for statutory reporting purposes should be revised.

The Group assumes the regulatory framework continues throughout the lease term.

Indicators

The key drivers for the future supply and demand for Australian metallurgical coal over the short term as well as risks that emerge over the medium to long term where the timing and magnitude is less certain are reviewed annually to assess the appropriateness of useful lives assigned to infrastructure assets. Indicators monitored include the following:

- Australian government policies and the ability of customers to gain regulatory approvals and raise funding to support the development of metallurgical coal reserves in the CQCN
- the average remaining life of metallurgical coal mines in the CQCN

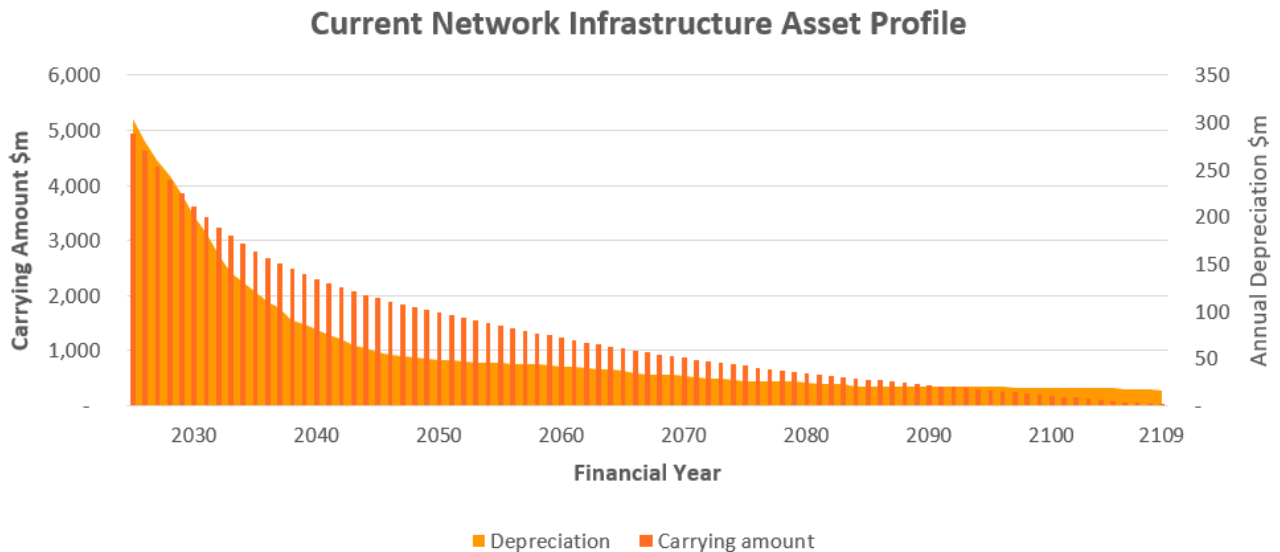
6 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

- global crude steel production and the share of Australian metallurgical coal used in the process
- the viability of new and alternative technologies that are developed to reduce emissions targets such as carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS), and hydrogen-based steel making, that may positively or negatively impact future metallurgical coal demand
- the average age of steel plants for end markets of Australian metallurgical coal
- global supply competitiveness and Australia's share of seaborne metallurgical coal supply
- climate policy targets and how they are intended to be met at both a country and corporate level, including net-zero emissions targets set by major import nations of Australian coal.

Sensitivity

The indicators monitored are extended over the lease term where the timing and magnitude is less certain. Consequently, a change in indicators reviewed may result in a revision of useful lives assigned to the infrastructure assets in the future resulting in a change in depreciation on a prospective basis. The graph below summarises the annual depreciation profile of the current written down value of infrastructure assets of \$4,933.9 million (leased assets of \$4,406.3 million and owned assets of \$527.6 million) over the useful life applied for each class of assets described in note 6(b)(i) and excludes future capital investments.

FIGURE 1 - INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS DEPRECIATION PROFILE



All infrastructure assets have a maximum useful life of 85 years (ending FY2109). As an indication of sensitivity, the table below summarises the increase in annual depreciation if the maximum useful life of current infrastructure assets are reduced by 10, 20, 30 or 40 years.

Reduction in maximum useful life (years):	Increase in annual depreciation (\$m p.a):
10	2
20	6
30	11
40	19

6 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

(a) Leases

Leased assets

The Group is the below rail operator and economic owner of rail infrastructure including the 2,670km CQCN through long term leases. The infrastructure and land leases include corridor land and buildings. The assets associated with the leases are classified in infrastructure, land and buildings.

The following table summarises the infrastructure and land leases:

Leases	Lessee	Lessor	Term	Expiry	Rental Amount	Extension Option ¹
CQCN	Aurizon Network Pty Ltd	State of Queensland (land) and Queensland Treasury Holdings (infrastructure)	99 years	30 June 2109	\$1 if demanded	99 years
Part of the North Coast Line	Aurizon Network Pty Ltd	State of Queensland (land) and Queensland Rail (infrastructure)	99 years	30 June 2109	\$1 if demanded	99 years

¹ The State of Queensland and Queensland Rail have an option to extend the leases by a further 99 years. The extension option is on the same terms as the initial lease period. Notice must be provided at least 20 years prior to the expiry of the existing term. The extension option under the corridor land leases are dependent on the infrastructure lease extension being exercised and granted.

(i) Amounts recognised in the consolidated balance sheet

Property, plant and equipment includes the following amounts relating to leased assets:

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Leased assets		
Infrastructure	4,406.3	4,361.0
Corridor land	27.7	25.8
Buildings	1.3	1.5
	4,435.3	4,388.3

(ii) Amounts recognised in the consolidated income statement

The consolidated income statement includes the following amounts relating to leased assets:

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Depreciation of leased assets		
Infrastructure	279.4	275.4
Buildings	0.1	0.2
	279.5	275.6

6 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

(b) Accounting policies

(i) Property, plant and equipment

Carrying value

Property, plant and equipment (including leased infrastructure, corridor land and buildings) is stated at historical cost, less any accumulated depreciation or impairment. Costs include expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items and borrowing costs that are related to the acquisition or construction of an asset. Costs may also include transfers from equity of any gains or losses on qualifying cash flow hedges of foreign currency purchases of property, plant and equipment.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Group. All repairs and maintenance are charged to profit or loss during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis, except for motor vehicles included in plant and equipment for which depreciation is calculated on a diminishing value method. Straight-line allocates the cost of an item of property, plant and equipment net of residual values over the expected useful life of each asset. Estimates of remaining useful life and residual values are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, on an annual basis.

The useful lives applied for each class of assets are:

	Range of useful lives (years)
• Infrastructure, including:	
Tracks	7 - 50
Track turnouts	20 - 25
Ballast	8 - 20
Civil works	20 - 99
Bridges	30 - 99
Electrification	20 - 50
Field signals	15 - 40
• Buildings	10 - 40
• Rollingstock, including:	
Wagons	25 - 35
Wagon componentisation	10 - 17
• Plant and equipment	3 - 20

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

(ii) Leases

An asset and a corresponding liability, except for where the lease is prepaid, are recognised at the date at which the asset is available for use by the Group. Where the Group is a sub-lessor and the sub-lease is for the duration of the head lease, the asset recognised from the head lease is derecognised and a lease receivable equal to the present value of future lease payments receivable is recognised.

Assets and liabilities arising from a lease are initially measured on a present-value basis. Lease liabilities include the net present value of the following lease payments:

- fixed payments (including in-substance fixed payments), less any lease incentives receivable;
- variable lease payments that are based on an index or a rate; and
- payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the lessee exercising that option.

The lease payments are discounted using the Group's incremental borrowing rate, being the rate that the Group would have to pay to borrow the funds necessary to obtain an asset of similar value in a similar economic environment with similar terms and conditions.

Other leased assets are measured at cost comprising the following:

- the amount of the initial measurement of lease liability;

6 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

(b) Accounting policies (continued)

(ii) Leases (continued)

- any lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received; and
- any initial direct costs.

Other leased assets are generally depreciated over the shorter of the asset's useful life and the lease term on a straight-line basis. If the Group is reasonably certain to exercise a purchase option, the asset is depreciated over the underlying asset's useful life.

(iii) Impairment tests for property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment subject to depreciation is reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable.

In testing for impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated for an individual asset or, if it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount for the individual asset, the recoverable amount for the cash generating unit (CGU) to which the asset belongs. CGUs are the smallest identifiable group of assets that generate cash flows that are largely independent from the cash flows of other assets or group of assets. Each CGU is no larger than a reportable segment.

Assets are impaired if their carrying amount exceeds their recoverable amount. The recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is determined as the higher of its fair value less costs of disposal or value-in-use.

An impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the asset or a CGU exceeds its recoverable amount. Impairment losses recognised in respect of CGUs are allocated first to reduce the carrying amount of any goodwill allocated to the CGU (group of CGUs) and then to reduce the carrying amount of other assets in the CGU (group of CGUs).

Where there is an indicator that previously recognised impairment losses may no longer exist or may have decreased, the asset is tested for impairment. The impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount of the asset and is reversed only to the extent that the carrying amount of the asset does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, had no impairment loss been recognised.

7 Intangible assets

	Software \$m
2024	
Opening net book amount	69.5
Amortisation	<u>(12.3)</u>
Closing net book amount	<u>57.2</u>
At 30 June 2024	
Cost	144.2
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	<u>(87.0)</u>
Net book amount	<u>57.2</u>
2023	
Opening net book amount	82.0
Amortisation	<u>(12.5)</u>
Closing net book amount	<u>69.5</u>
At 30 June 2023	
Cost	144.2
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	<u>(74.7)</u>
Net book amount	<u>69.5</u>

(a) Accounting policies

(i) Software

Costs incurred in developing products or systems, and costs incurred in acquiring software and licences that will contribute to future period financial benefits through revenue generation and/or cost reduction are capitalised to software and systems. Costs capitalised include external direct costs of materials and service, employee costs and an appropriate portion of relevant overheads. Software development costs include only those costs directly attributable to the development phase, and are only recognised following completion of technical feasibility and where the Group has an intention and ability to use the asset.

Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) arrangements are service contracts which provide the right to access the cloud provider's application software over the contract period. Costs incurred to configure or customise, and the ongoing licence fees, are recognised as an expense in profit or loss. Some of these costs incurred are for the development of software code that enhances or creates additional capability to existing systems and are recognised as an intangible asset when the recognition criteria are met.

Software is stated at historical cost, less any accumulated amortisation or impairment. Amortisation is calculated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful life which varies from three to 15 years.

8 Trade and other payables

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Current		
Trade payables	126.0	118.3
Other payables	29.3	25.9
	155.3	144.2

(a) Accounting policies

Trade and other payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Group prior to the end of financial year which are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 45 days or within the terms agreed with the supplier.

9 Provisions

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Current		
Employee benefits (a)	58.0	57.3
Insurance provisions	4.3	-
	62.3	57.3
Non-current		
Employee benefits (a)	4.3	3.5
	66.6	60.8
Total provisions		

(a) Employee benefits

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Annual leave	15.0	14.5
Long service leave	32.3	30.7
Other	15.0	15.6
	62.3	60.8

Long service leave includes all unconditional entitlements where employees have completed the required period of service and a provision for the probability that employees will reach the required period of service. The Group does not expect all employees to take the full amount of employee benefits or require payment within the next 12 months based on past experience. The current provision for employee benefits includes \$29.5 million (2023: \$28.7 million) that is not expected to be taken or paid within the next 12 months.

9 Provisions (continued)

(b) Accounting policies

A provision is recognised when the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation and the amount has been reliably estimated. Provisions are measured at the present value of the best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date.

(i) Employee benefits

The provision for employee benefits includes accrued annual leave, leave loading, retirement allowances, long service leave, short-term incentive plans and termination benefits.

Liabilities for wages and salaries and accumulating non-monetary benefits expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date, are recognised in respect of employees' services up to the end of the reporting date. They are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

Liabilities for annual leave and long service leave are measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting date. Expected future payments that are not expected to be settled within 12 months are discounted using market yield at the reporting date of Australian corporate bond rates and reflects the terms to maturity. Remeasurements as a result of adjustments and changes in actuarial assumptions are recognised in profit or loss.

A liability for short-term incentive plans is recognised based on a formula that takes into consideration the Group and individual key performance indicators. The Group recognises a provision where contractually obliged or where there is a past practice that has created a constructive obligation.

A termination benefit is payable when the Group decides to terminate the employment, or when an employee accepts redundancy in exchange for these benefits. A provision is recognised at the earlier of when the Group can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits or when the Group recognises costs for restructuring and is measured using the present value of the expected amounts to be paid to settle the obligation.

Employee benefits are presented as current liabilities in the balance sheet if the Group does not have any unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting period, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur.

(ii) Superannuation

Aurizon Network Pty Ltd is a member of the State Public Sector Superannuation Scheme (QSuper) multi-employer defined benefit superannuation plan and is required to contribute a specific percentage of employee benefits expense to fund the retirement benefits of 97 employees (2023: 109).

In accordance with the requirements of AASB 119 *Employee Benefits*, given the lack of sufficient information available, the plan is accounted for as if it were a defined contribution plan. Defined contribution superannuation expense in note 2 includes \$1.9 million (2023: \$1.9 million) relating to the QSuper defined benefit plan.

(iii) Insurance provision

The Aurizon Group Insurance Program includes certain placements with a related party captive insurance company, Iron Horse Insurance Company Pte Ltd (incorporated in the Republic of Singapore). The captive insurance company only underwrites the Aurizon Group and its subsidiaries for property and liability insurance. A provision is recognised for the estimated liability of known claims and an allowance for Incurred But Not Reported claims for property and liability insurance. Estimates are based on expected claim costs.

(iv) Land rehabilitation

A provision is recognised for the present value of estimated costs of land rehabilitation and make good where the Group has a legal or constructive obligation to restore a site.

The Group is the below rail operator and economic owner of the 2,670km CQCN under long-term infrastructure and land leases as described in note 6. The CQCN is required to be managed and maintained in accordance with good operating practice. At expiry of the long-term leases, the Group has the right, but not the obligation, to remove the infrastructure (or parts of it) by agreement with the lessor or to be paid the fair market value of the infrastructure that is not removed. Therefore, no land rehabilitation provision is recognised in respect of the CQCN.

10 Other liabilities

	2024	2023
	\$m	\$m
Current		
Contract liabilities	26.5	55.0
Tax loan payable to parent entity	59.2	42.5
Other current liabilities	0.1	-
	85.8	97.5
Non-current		
Contract liabilities	58.4	81.4
	58.4	81.4

Refer to note 1(b) for further information relating to contract liabilities.

Capital and financial risk management

IN THIS SECTION

Capital and financial risk management provides information about the capital management practices of the Group and shareholder returns for the year, and discusses the Group's exposure to various financial risks, explains how these affect the Group's financial position and performance, and what the Group does to manage these risks.

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11 Capital risk management

The Group's objective is to maintain a strong capital base so as to maintain investor, creditor and market confidence, and to sustain future development of the business. The Group monitors its capital structure by reference to gearing ratio, ability to generate free cash flows and credit rating.

Net debt consists of borrowings (both current and non-current) less cash and cash equivalents. Net gearing ratio is defined as Net debt divided by Net debt plus Equity. Net debt and Net gearing ratio are measures of the Group's indebtedness and provides an indicator of the balance sheet strength. The gearing ratio excludes derivative financial instruments used to hedge market risk on borrowings.

	Notes	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Total borrowings	14	3,589.9	3,632.1
Less: cash and cash equivalents		(5.4)	(30.2)
Net debt		3,584.5	3,601.9
Total equity		833.7	843.2
Total capital		4,418.2	4,445.1
Net gearing ratio		81.1%	81.0%

12 Dividends

	\$m
Declared and paid during the period	
For the year ended 30 June 2024	
Final dividend for 2023 (unfranked)	114.0
Interim dividend for 2024 (unfranked)	140.4
	254.4
For the year ended 30 June 2023	
Final dividend for 2022 (unfranked)	109.0
Interim dividend for 2023 (unfranked)	84.0
	193.0

Proposed and unrecognised at period end

For the year ended 30 June 2024	
Final dividend for 2024 (unfranked)	117.8
For the year ended 30 June 2023	
Final dividend for 2023 (unfranked)	113.9

13 Equity

(a) Contributed equity

(i) Issued capital

	Number of shares	\$m
At 1 July 2022	130	999.8
Return of capital to the parent	-	(350.0)
Return of capital to the parent	-	(250.0)
Return of capital to the parent for share-based payments	-	(0.1)
At 30 June 2023	130	399.7
At 30 June 2024	130	399.7

Ordinary shares are classified as equity. The Company does not have authorised capital or par value in respect of its issued shares. All issued shares are fully paid. Ordinary shares entitle the holder to participate in dividends. Contributed equity is reduced for payments made to the parent entity.

(ii) Other contributed equity

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Capital contribution from the parent for share-based payments	4.4	3.9
Aggregate deferred tax on related share-based payments	1.3	0.9
Total other contributed equity	5.7	4.8

The grant by Aurizon Holdings Limited of rights over its equity instruments to the employees of subsidiary companies in the Aurizon Group is treated as a capital contribution to that subsidiary company. The fair value of employee services received, measured by reference to the grant date fair value, is recognised over the vesting period by the Company as an employee benefits expense with a corresponding credit to equity. The difference between the market value of Aurizon Holdings Limited shares acquired by a subsidiary to settle vested share based payments schemes and the fair value expensed by the Company is treated as a distribution to the parent through a reduction in issued capital.

(b) Reserves

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Cash flow hedges		
Balance 1 July	(7.0)	17.5
Fair value gains/(losses) taken to equity	9.0	7.1
Fair value (gains)/losses taken to profit or loss	-	(42.3)
Fair value gains/(losses) transferred to property, plant and equipment	0.1	0.2
Tax expense/(benefit) relating to items of other comprehensive income	(2.7)	10.5
Balance 30 June	(0.6)	(7.0)

(i) Cash flow hedge reserve

The cash flow hedge reserve comprises the effective portion of the cumulative net change in the fair value of cash flow hedging instruments related to hedge transactions that have not yet occurred.

14 Borrowings

The Group borrows money through bank debt facilities, the issuance of debt securities in capital markets and from time to time advances from related parties.

The carrying amount of the Group's borrowings is as follows:

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Current - Unsecured		
Medium-Term Notes	798.7	427.3
Bank debt facilities	69.0	33.0
Loans from related parties	53.5	-
	<u>921.2</u>	<u>460.3</u>
Non-current - Unsecured		
Medium-Term Notes	1,807.8	2,164.9
US Private Placement Notes	292.4	303.2
Syndicated Institutional Term Facility	385.0	-
Bank debt facilities	195.0	710.0
Capitalised borrowing costs	(11.5)	(6.3)
	<u>2,668.7</u>	<u>3,171.8</u>
Total borrowings	<u>3,589.9</u>	<u>3,632.1</u>

The Group's bank debt facilities and USPP contain financial covenants. The bank debt facilities, Medium-Term Notes and USPP contain general undertakings including negative pledge clauses which restrict the amount of security that the Group can provide over assets in certain circumstances. The Group has complied with all required covenants and undertakings throughout the reporting period. At reporting date, the Group has a net current liability position of \$890.1 million due to the classification of the Euro denominated Medium-Term Note (EMTN 1) with a notional amount of \$710.6 million maturing September 2024 as a current liability. Pre-existing funding capacity, together with capacity added during the year will be used to repay the \$710.6 million EMTN 1 maturing in September 2024.

The Group may also draw upon funds pursuant to the Intra Group Loan Agreement (refer to note 19).

The Group manages its exposure to interest rate risk as set out in note 15(a). Details of the Group's financing arrangements and exposure to risks arising from borrowings are set out in note 15(b)(i).

(a) Accounting policies

Borrowings are initially recognised at fair value of the consideration received, less directly attributable borrowing costs. Borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Directly attributable borrowing costs are capitalised and amortised over the expected term of the bank debt facilities, Medium-Term Notes and Private Placement Notes.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities, except for those liabilities where the Group has an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting period which are classified as non-current liabilities.

15 Financial risk management

Financial risks, including market risk, liquidity and funding risk and credit risk, are managed through policies that have been approved by the Board. The policies outline principles and procedures with respect to risk tolerance, delegated levels of authority on the type and use of derivative financial instruments and the reporting of these exposures. The policies are subject to periodic reviews. The Group typically uses derivative financial instruments to hedge underlying exposures arising from operational activities relating to changes in foreign exchange rates and interest rates.

Under the QCA approved regulatory regime, the Company receives compensation for its cost of debt through the WACC. The risk-free rate and debt risk premium used to determine WACC are based on observed market data in the 20 business days prior to a WACC reset date. This interest rate risk is managed through the establishment of financial derivatives to fix the underlying interest rate of forecast debt over this period.

The Group's overall financial risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the Group's financial performance as set out in the table below:

Risk	Exposure	Mitigation
Market risk		
- Interest rate risk	The Group is exposed to interest rate risk in respect to short and long-term borrowings where interest is charged at variable rates and to fair value interest rate risk on fixed rate borrowings.	The Group mitigates interest rate risk primarily by maintaining an appropriate mix of fixed and floating rate borrowings. Where necessary, the Group hedges interest rates using derivative financial instruments - interest rate swaps to manage cash flows and interest rate exposure.
- Interest rate and foreign exchange risk	The Group is exposed to interest rate and foreign currency exchange risk in respect of the Euro (€) and Japanese Yen (¥) denominated Medium-Term Notes (EMTNs) and US dollar (US\$) denominated Private Placement Notes (USPP).	To mitigate the risk of adverse movements in interest rates and foreign exchange in respect of foreign currency denominated borrowings, the Group enters into cross-currency interest rate swaps (CCIRS) to replace foreign currency principal and interest payments with Australian dollar repayments.
- Foreign exchange risk	The Group is exposed to foreign exchange risk in respect of purchases of inventory and property, plant and equipment denominated in a foreign currency.	The Group manages foreign currency risk on contractual commitments by entering into forward exchange contracts.
Liquidity and funding risk	The Group is exposed to liquidity and funding risk from operations and borrowings, where the risk is that the Group may not be able to refinance debt obligations or meet other cash outflow obligations when required.	The Group mitigates liquidity and funding risk by ensuring a sufficient range of funds are available to meet its cash flow obligations when due under both normal and stressed conditions without incurring unacceptable losses or damage to the Group's reputation.
Credit risk	The Group is exposed to credit risk from financial instrument contracts and trade and other receivables. The maximum exposure to credit risk at reporting date is the carrying amount, net of any provisions for impairment.	The Group enters into financial instrument contracts with high credit quality financial institutions with a minimum long-term credit rating of A- or better by Standard & Poor's. The Board approved policies set maximum individual counterparty credit limits based on long-term credit ratings. The Group manages counterparty risk through approval, granting and renewal of credit limits, regularly monitoring exposures against credit limits, and assessing overall financial stability and strength of counterparties on an ongoing basis. Refer to note 4 for credit risk exposures relating to trade and other receivables.

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk

(i) Foreign exchange risk

The Group is exposed to foreign currency risk through foreign denominated borrowings and capital purchases. The exposure is mitigated through hedging 100% of foreign denominated borrowings for both principal and interest for the life of the debt. As at 30 June 2024 and 2023, these foreign currency risk exposures were 100% hedged through cross-currency interest rate swaps. The Group's exposure to foreign currency risk for capital purchases is not considered to have a material impact.

The following sensitivity illustrates how a reasonable possible change in the US dollar, Euro or Japanese Yen would impact the financial results and position of the Group as at 30 June:

- If the Australian dollar had changed by 10% against the US dollar, with all other variables held constant, the impact on equity would have been \$5.3 million (2023: \$5.8 million) and no impact on profit or loss.
- If the Australian dollar had changed by 10% against the Euro, with all other variables held constant, the impact on equity would have been \$4.7 million (2023: \$7.9 million) and no impact on profit or loss.
- If the Australian dollar had changed by 10% against the Japanese Yen, with all other variables held constant, the impact on equity would have been \$0.7 million (2023: \$nil) and no impact on profit or loss.

(ii) Interest rate risk

The Group is exposed to interest rate risk through variable bank debt and fixed rate debt that has been swapped to variable through interest rates swaps, refer to note 15(b)(i) for details on the Group's financing arrangements. The table below represents the Group's total variable rate exposure notional amount and the interest rate swaps outstanding at 30 June to convert variable interest payments to fixed:

	Balance \$m
2024	
Variable rate exposure	3,619.5
Interest rate swaps (notional amount)	<u>(3,150.0)</u>
Net exposure to interest rate risk	<u>469.5</u>
2023	
Variable rate exposure	3,295.5
Interest rate swaps (notional amount)	<u>(2,475.0)</u>
Net exposure to interest rate risk	<u>820.5</u>

The Group's weighted average interest rate is 6.4% (2023: 3.8%) on its variable rate exposure. The Group currently has interest rate swaps in place to cover 87% (2023: 75%) of the variable rate exposure at a weighted average interest rate of 4.0% (2023: 1.0%). The weighted average maturity of interest rate swaps is 2.9 years (2023: 3.4 years).

The following sensitivity illustrates the gain/(loss) impact of a 100 basis points (bps) increase or decrease in interest rates with all other variables held constant:

- Net profit would decrease by \$4.7 million (2023: decrease by \$4.0 million) with a 100-bps increase in interest rate or increase by \$4.7 million (2023: increase by \$4.0 million) with a 100 bps decrease in interest rates; and
- Equity reserves would increase by \$83.1 million (2023: increase by \$80.3 million) with a 100-bps increase in interest rate or decrease by \$85.2 million (2023: decrease by \$85.8 million) with a 100 bps decrease in interest rates.

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(iii) Effects of hedge accounting

The table below summarises the hedging instruments used to manage market risk:

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Current assets		
CCIRS	86.9	-
	86.9	-
Non-current assets		
Interest rate swaps	18.6	11.5
CCIRS	-	77.8
	18.6	89.3
Total derivative financial instrument assets	105.5	89.3
Non-current liabilities		
Interest rate swaps	128.0	137.5
CCIRS	45.5	44.0
Total derivative financial instrument liabilities	173.5	181.5

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(iii) Effects of hedge accounting (continued)

The following table summarises the impact of hedging instruments designated in hedging relationships, recognised as derivative financial instruments in the consolidated balance sheet:

	Cash flow hedge			Fair value hedge		Total \$m
	Foreign exchange contracts	Pay Fixed AUD interest rate swaps ¹	CCIRS ³ EUR, USD & JPY Fixed rate debt \$m	Receive Fixed AUD interest rate swaps ² AUD Fixed rate debt \$m	CCIRS ³ EUR, USD & JPY Fixed rate debt \$m	
2024						
Notional amount	-	3,150.0	1,752.4	1,218.0	1,752.4	-
Carrying amount assets/(liabilities) of hedging instrument	-	18.6	(21.8)	(128.0)	63.2	(68.0)
At 30 June 2024						
Cumulative fair value adjustment on hedged item ⁴	-	-	-	129.1	(60.5)	68.6
Carrying amount of borrowings subject to fair value hedges	-	-	-	(1,088.9)	(1,812.9)	(2,901.8)
Cumulative balance deferred in cash flow hedge reserve (before tax) ⁵	-	(17.6)	18.5	-	-	0.9
During the year recognised						
Gain/(loss) on change in fair value of the hedging instrument for effectiveness testing	-	7.0	1.7	8.9	5.9	23.5
Gain/(loss) on change in fair value of the hedged item	-	(7.3)	(1.8)	(8.2)	(6.1)	(23.4)
(Gain)/loss on change in the value of the hedged instrument recognised in other comprehensive income (before tax)	-	7.3	1.8	-	-	9.1
Hedged ineffectiveness recognised in profit or loss	-	0.3	0.1	(0.7)	0.2	(0.1)

¹ Interest rate swaps are designated in a hedge relationship against a portion of the outstanding debt balances up to the notional amount of the swaps. The interest rate swaps have a weighted average pay fixed leg of 3.95% and a receive floating leg of BBSW.

² Interest rate swaps are designated to be in a 100% hedge relationship against the identified fixed rate borrowings. The interest rate swaps have a weighted average pay floating leg of BBSW + 2.19% spread and a receive fixed leg of 4.57%.

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(iii) Effects of hedge accounting (continued)

³ CCIRS are split designated in cash flow hedge and fair value hedge relationships. CCIRS have a weighted average receive fixed EUR rate leg of 2.56% and pay floating AUD leg of BBSW + 2.93%, a weighted average receive fixed USD rate leg of 6.56% and pay floating AUD leg of BBSW + 3.68% spread and a weighted average receive fixed JPY rate leg of 2.00% and pay floating AUD leg of BBSW + 2.05% spread.

⁴ The cumulative fair value adjustment is included in borrowings.

⁵ Cash flow hedge reserve includes the cumulative impact of cross-currency basis recognised as cost of hedging of \$12.8 million.

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(iii) Effects of hedge accounting (continued)

	Cash flow hedge		Fair value hedge			Total \$m
	Foreign exchange contracts ¹ Capital purchases \$m	Pay Fixed AUD interest rate swaps ² AUD Floating rate debt \$m	CCIRS ⁴ EUR & USD Fixed rate debt \$m	Receive Fixed AUD interest rate swaps ³ AUD Fixed rate debt \$m	CCIRS ⁴ EUR & USD Fixed rate debt \$m	
2023						
Notional amount	3.7	2,900.0 ⁷	1,684.4	868.0	1,684.4	-
Carrying amount assets/(liabilities) of hedging instrument	-	10.9	(23.5)	(136.9)	57.3	(92.2)
At 30 June 2023						
Cumulative fair value adjustment on hedged item	-	-	-	137.3	(56.5)	80.8
Carrying amount of borrowings subject to fair value hedges	-	-	-	(730.7)	(1,740.9)	(2,471.6)
Cumulative balance deferred in cash flow hedge reserve (before tax)	-	(10.3)	20.4	-	-	10.1
During the year recognised						
Gain/(loss) on change in fair value of the hedging instrument for effectiveness testing	-	(31.4)	(2.7)	(8.0)	69.9	27.8
Gain/(loss) on change in fair value of the hedged item	-	32.0	3.0	2.8	(70.0)	(32.2)
(Gain)/loss on change in the value of the hedged instrument recognised in other comprehensive income (before tax)	-	(32.0)	(3.0)	-	-	(35.0)
Hedged ineffectiveness recognised in profit or loss	-	(0.6)	(0.3)	5.2	0.1	4.4

¹ Foreign exchange contracts are designated in cash flow hedges that are hedging anticipated purchases of property, plant and equipment. The weighted average exchange rate of outstanding foreign exchange contracts are AUD:EUR 0.6175.

² Interest rate swaps are designated in a hedge relationship against a portion of the outstanding debt balances up to the notional amount of the swaps. The interest rate swaps have a weighted average pay fixed leg of 3.97% and a receive floating leg of BBSW.

³ Interest rate swaps are designated to be in a 100% hedge relationship against the identified fixed rate borrowings. The interest rate swaps have a weighted average pay floating leg of BBSW + 1.99% spread and a receive fixed leg of 3.40%.

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(iii) Effects of hedge accounting (continued)

⁴ CCIRS are split designated in cash flow hedge and fair value hedge relationships. CCIRS have a weighted average receive fixed EUR rate leg of 2.56% and pay floating AUD leg of BBSW + 2.93% and a weighted average receive fixed USD rate leg of 6.72% and pay floating AUD leg of BBSW + 3.61% spread.

⁵ The cumulative fair value adjustment is included in borrowings.

⁶ Cash flow hedge reserve includes the cumulative impact of cross-currency basis recognised as cost of hedging of \$8.8 million.

⁷ Notional amount includes \$425.0 million of forward dated interest rate swaps commencing in June 2024.

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(b) Liquidity and funding risk

(i) Financing arrangements

The table below summarises the financing arrangements the Group had access to at the end of the period. The facilities are unsecured.

Under limited circumstances, the Group may also draw upon funds pursuant to the Intra Group Loan Agreement (refer note 19).

	Maturity	Utilised ¹		Facility limit	
		2024 \$m	2023 \$m	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Working capital facility	Jun-25	72.5	36.5	75.0	75.0
Bilateral facility	Jan-26	105.0	575.0	575.0	575.0
Bilateral facility	Jan-27	40.0	135.0	310.0	310.0
Bilateral facility	Jan-28	-	-	205.0	205.0
Bilateral facility	Oct-28	50.0	-	50.0	-
Bilateral facility	Oct-29	-	-	50.0	-
Bilateral facility	Oct-30	-	-	50.0	-
Revolver loan facility	Dec-28	-	-	115.0	-
Term loan facility	Dec-28	145.0	-	145.0	-
Term loan facility	Dec-29	240.0	-	240.0	-
AMTN 2 ²	Jun-24	-	425.0	-	425.0
AMTN 3 ²	Mar-30	82.0	82.0	82.0	82.0
AMTN 4 ²	Sep-30	500.0	500.0	500.0	500.0
AMTN 5 ²	Dec-31	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0
AMTN 6 ²	Dec-32	80.0	80.0	80.0	80.0
AMTN 7 ²	Dec-34	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
AMTN 8 ²	Sep-31	350.0	-	350.0	-
EMTN 1 ²	Sep-24	710.6	710.6	710.6	710.6
EMTN 2 ²	Jun-26	778.2	778.2	778.2	778.2
EMTN 3 ²	May-34	68.0	-	68.0	-
USPP ²	Jun-33	184.4	184.4	184.4	184.4
USPP ²	Jun-35	122.2	122.2	122.2	122.2
		3,622.9	3,723.9	4,785.4	4,142.4

¹ Amount utilised includes bank guarantees included in the working capital facility of \$3.5 million (2023: \$3.5 million) and excludes capitalised borrowing costs of \$11.5 million (2023: \$6.3 million) and discounts on Medium Term Notes of \$2.9 million (2023: \$3.7 million).

² Amounts utilised on EMTNs, AMTNs and USPPs excludes accumulated fair value adjustments of \$68.6 million (2023: \$78.5 million) including \$2.3 million on discontinuation of hedge accounting on AMTN 2). EMTN 1 and EMTN 2 have a notional amount of €500.0 million converted to AUD at an exchange rate of 0.7036 and 0.6425 respectively. The USD tranches of the USPP have a notional amount of US\$132.0 million, converted to AUD at an exchange rate of 0.6748. The EMTN 3 has a total notional amount of ¥7.0 billion, converted to AUD at an exchange rate of 102.94.

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(b) Liquidity and funding risk (continued)

(ii) Maturities of financial liabilities

The table below analyses the Group's financial liabilities, including derivatives, into relevant maturity groupings based on the period remaining until the contractual maturity date. The amounts disclosed in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows (including interest) so will not reconcile with the amounts disclosed in the consolidated balance sheet:

	1 year or less \$m	1 - 5 years \$m	More than 5 years \$m	Total contractual cash flows \$m	Carrying amount (assets)/ liabilities \$m
2024					
Non-derivative financial instruments					
Trade and other payables	155.3	-	-	155.3	155.3
Other liabilities	59.2	-	-	59.2	59.2
Borrowings (excluding the effect of CCIRS) ¹	1,004.6	1,549.4	1,947.3	4,501.3	3,589.9
Financial guarantees	3.5	-	-	3.5	-
Total non-derivative financial instruments	1,222.6	1,549.4	1,947.3	4,719.3	3,804.4
Derivatives					
Interest rate swaps	11.7	78.6	29.8	120.1	109.4
CCIRS	(51.5)	33.7	31.4	13.6	(41.4)
Total derivatives	(39.8)	112.3	61.2	133.7	68.0
2023					
Non-derivative financial instruments					
Trade and other payables	144.2	-	-	144.2	144.2
Other liabilities	42.5	-	-	42.5	42.5
Borrowings (excluding the effect of CCIRS) ¹	606.2	2,676.1	1,272.3	4,554.6	3,632.1
Financial guarantees	3.5	-	-	3.5	-
Total non-derivative financial instruments	796.4	2,676.1	1,272.3	4,744.8	3,818.8
Derivatives					
Interest rate swaps	15.3	93.7	59.4	168.4	126.0
CCIRS	72.0	(73.7)	12.6	10.9	(33.8)
Total derivatives	87.3	20.0	72.0	179.3	92.2

¹ Includes loans from related parties of \$53.5 million (2023: \$nil million).

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(c) Hedging instruments

(i) Accounting policies

Derivative financial instruments are recognised initially at fair value on the date the instrument is entered into and are subsequently remeasured at fair value or 'mark-to-market' at each reporting date. The gain or loss on remeasurement is recognised immediately in profit or loss unless the derivative is designated as a hedging instrument, in which case the remeasurement is recognised in equity.

A derivative is presented as a non-current asset or a non-current liability if the remaining maturity of the instrument is more than 12 months and it is not due to be realised or settled within 12 months. Other derivatives are presented as current assets or current liabilities.

Hedge accounting

At inception of the hedge relationship, the Group formally designated the relationship between hedging instruments and hedged items, as well as its risk management objective for undertaking various hedge transactions. The Group also documents its assessment at hedge inception date and on an ongoing basis as to whether the derivatives that are used in hedging transactions have been and will continue to be highly effective in offsetting changes in fair values or cash flows of hedged items.

The Group enters into hedge relationships where the critical terms of the hedging instrument match exactly with the terms of the hedged item and a qualitative assessment is performed to assess effectiveness. If changes in circumstances affect the terms of the hedged item, such as the terms no longer match exactly with the critical terms of the hedged instrument, a hypothetical derivative method is used to assess effectiveness.

The main source of hedge ineffectiveness is the effect of the credit risk differential between the Group and its respective counterparties (i.e. credit curves) on the fair value of interest rate swaps and CCIRS, which is not reflected in the fair value of the hedged item. Ineffectiveness may be due to differences in the critical terms between the interest rate swaps and loans, in the timing of forecast transactions or any off-market derivatives. Hedge ineffectiveness is recognised against the mark-to-market position of the derivative financial instrument and in profit or loss in finance expenses.

Rebalancing

If the hedge ratio for risk management purposes is no longer optimal but the risk management objective remains unchanged and the hedge continues to qualify for hedge accounting, the hedge relationship will be rebalanced by adjusting either the volume of the hedging instrument or the volume of the hedged item so that the hedge ratio aligns with the ratio used for risk management purposes. Any hedge ineffectiveness is calculated and accounted for at the time of the hedge relationship rebalancing.

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(c) Hedging instruments (continued)

(i) Accounting policies (continued)

For the purpose of hedge accounting, hedges are classified as fair value hedges or cash flow hedges and are accounted for as set out in the table below.

	Fair value hedge	Cash flow hedge
What is it?	A derivative or financial instrument designated as hedging the changes in fair value of a recognised asset or liability or firm commitment. A fair value hedge is used to swap fixed interest payments to variable interest payments in order to manage the Group's exposure to interest rate risk.	A derivative or financial instrument hedging the exposure to variability in cash flow attributable to a particular risk associated with an asset, liability or forecasted transaction. A cash flow hedge is used to swap variable interest rate payments to fixed interest rate payments, or to lock in foreign currency rates in order to manage the Group's exposure to interest rate risk and foreign exchange risk.
Movement in fair value	<p>Changes in the fair value of the derivative are recognised in profit or loss, together with the changes in fair value of the hedged asset or liability attributable to the hedged risk.</p> <p>The gain or loss relating to the effective portion of interest rate swaps hedging fixed rate borrowings are recognised in profit or loss within finance expenses, together with the changes in fair value of the hedged fixed rate borrowing attributable to interest rate risk.</p> <p>The gain or loss relating to the ineffective portion is recognised separately to the effective portion in profit or loss within finance expenses.</p>	<p>The effective part of any gain or loss on the derivative financial instrument is recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity in the cash flow hedge reserve. The change in the fair value that is identified as ineffective is recognised immediately in profit or loss within finance income or finance expenses.</p> <p>Amounts accumulated in equity are transferred to profit or loss when the hedged item affects profit or loss. When the forecast transaction results in the recognition of a non-financial asset (property, plant and equipment), the gains or losses previously deferred in equity are transferred from equity and included in the measurement of the initial cost or carrying amount of the asset.</p>
Discontinuation of hedge accounting	If the hedge no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting, the adjustment to the carrying amount of a hedged item for which the effective interest method is used is amortised to the profit or loss in finance income over the period to maturity using a recalculated effective interest rate.	When a hedging instrument expires or is sold or terminated, or when a hedge no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting, any cumulative gain or loss existing in equity at that time remains in equity and is recognised when the forecast transaction is ultimately recognised in profit or loss. When a forecast transaction is no longer expected to occur, the cumulative gain or loss that was reported in equity is immediately transferred to profit or loss.

(d) Fair value measurements

The carrying value of cash and cash equivalents and non-interest bearing financial assets and liabilities approximates the carrying amount. The fair value of borrowings carried at amortised cost is \$3,562.6 million (2023: \$3,663.1 million).

The fair value of borrowings is estimated by discounting future contractual cash flows at the current market interest rates that are available to the Group for similar financial instruments. The market interest rates were determined to be between 4.80% and 8.21% (2023: 5.1% and 7.1%) depending on the type of facility.

The Group measures the fair value of financial instruments using market observable data where possible. Fair values are categorised into three levels with each of these levels indicating the reliability of the inputs used in determining fair value. The levels of the fair value hierarchy are:

- Level 1: Quoted prices for an identical asset or liability in an active market
- Level 2: Directly or indirectly observable market data
- Level 3: Unobservable market data

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(d) Fair value measurements (continued)

The fair value of forward foreign exchange contracts is determined as the unrealised gain/(loss) with reference to market rates. The fair value of interest rate swaps is determined as the net present value of contracted cash flows. The existing exposure method, which estimates future cash flows to present value using credit adjusted discount factors after counterparty netting arrangements, has been adopted for both forward foreign exchange contracts and interest rate swaps.

The fair value of CCIRS is determined as the net present value of contract cash flows. The future probable exposure method is applied to the estimated future cash flows to reflect the credit risk of the Group and relevant counterparties.

The Group's derivative financial instruments and fair value of borrowings are classified as Level 2 (2023: Level 2). During the period, there were no transfers between Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy (2023: nil).

Group structure

IN THIS SECTION

Group structure provides information about particular subsidiaries and associates, and how changes have affected the financial position and performance of the Group.

16	Subsidiaries	Page 51
17	Parent entity disclosures	Page 52

16 Subsidiaries

The ultimate parent of this consolidated Group is Aurizon Network Pty Ltd. The companies listed below are those whose results, in addition to the Company, principally affect the amounts shown in the financial report:

Controlled entities	Country of incorporation	Ownership interest	
		2024	2023
		%	%
Aurizon Surat Basin Pty Ltd	Australia	100	100

Principles of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the assets and liabilities of all subsidiaries of the Group as at reporting date and the results of all subsidiaries for the financial year.

Subsidiaries are all entities over which the Group has control. The Group controls an entity when the Group is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power to direct the activities of the entity. Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the Group and de-consolidated from the date that control ceases.

Inter-company transactions and balances are eliminated on consolidation.

17 Parent entity disclosures

The financial information for the parent entity Aurizon Network Pty Ltd has been prepared on the same basis as the consolidated financial statements, except for investments in subsidiaries which are carried at cost less accumulated impairment losses.

(a) Summary financial information

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Current assets	334.5	375.4
Non-current assets	5,355.4	5,386.3
Total assets	5,689.9	5,761.7
Current liabilities	1,224.6	759.3
Non-current liabilities	3,631.6	4,159.2
Total liabilities	4,856.2	4,918.5
Net assets	833.7	843.2
Equity		
Contributed equity	405.4	404.5
Reserves	(0.6)	(7.0)
Retained earnings	428.9	445.7
Total equity	833.7	843.2
Profit for the year	237.6	220.9
Other comprehensive income	6.4	(24.5)
Total comprehensive income	244.0	196.4

(b) Guarantees entered into by the parent entity

Financial guarantees and contingent liabilities of the parent entity are the same as those disclosed in note 15 and note 23 respectively.

Other notes

IN THIS SECTION

Other notes provides information on other items which require disclosure to comply with Australian Accounting Standards and other regulatory pronouncements, however are not considered critical in understanding the financial performance or position of the Group.

18	Notes to the consolidated statement of cash flows	Page 54
19	Related party transactions	Page 55
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21	Auditor's remuneration	Page 56
22	New and amended standards	Page 56

18 Notes to the consolidated statement of cash flows

(a) Reconciliation of profit after income tax to net cash inflow from operating activities

	2024 \$m	2023 \$m
Profit for the year	237.6	220.9
Depreciation and amortisation	343.2	341.1
Impairment of non-current assets	-	0.2
Finance expenses	238.4	139.4
Share-based payment expense	1.1	1.3
Net loss on disposal of assets	5.7	5.0
Net exchange differences	(0.2)	(0.7)
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
(Increase)/Decrease in trade and other receivables	99.8	(77.6)
(Increase)/Decrease in inventories	0.1	(3.1)
(Increase)/Decrease in other operating assets	0.8	0.1
Increase/(Decrease) in trade and other payables	4.7	1.6
Increase/(Decrease) in other liabilities	(51.5)	(6.2)
Increase/(Decrease) in other operating liabilities	16.8	(35.6)
Increase/(Decrease) in deferred tax liabilities	3.3	15.4
Increase/(Decrease) in provisions	5.7	(0.9)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	905.5	600.9

(b) Reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities to financing cash flows

	Current borrowings \$m	Non-current borrowings \$m	Liabilities held to hedge borrowings ¹ \$m	Assets held to hedge borrowings ¹ \$m	Total \$m
Balance as at 1 July 2023	(460.3)	(3,171.8)	(181.5)	89.3	(3,724.3)
Reclassification	(793.2)	793.2	-	-	-
Financing cash flows ²	335.6	(279.0)	-	0.7	57.3
Changes in fair value (including foreign exchange rates)	-	(6.7)	8.0	15.5	16.8
Other non-cash movements ³	(3.3)	(4.4)	-	-	(7.7)
Balance as at 30 June 2024	(921.2)	(2,668.7)	(173.5)	105.5	(3,657.9)
Balance as at 1 July 2022	(348.0)	(2,537.8)	(200.2)	80.2	(3,005.8)
Reclassification	(172.3)	172.3	-	-	-
Financing cash flows ²	60.0	(736.7)	-	-	(676.7)
Changes in fair value (including foreign exchange rates)	-	(67.5)	18.7	9.1	(39.7)
Other non-cash movements ³	-	(2.1)	-	-	(2.1)
Balance as at 30 June 2023	(460.3)	(3,171.8)	(181.5)	89.3	(3,724.3)

¹ Assets and liabilities held to hedge borrowings exclude foreign exchange contracts included in note 15(a).

² Financing cash flows includes the net amount of proceeds from borrowings, repayment of borrowings, payments of transaction costs related to borrowings and derivatives, and repayment to related parties under the Intra Group Loan Agreement.

³ Other non-cash movements includes the amortisation of the AMTN 2 fair value adjustments, amortisation of borrowing costs and amortisation of discounts on the face value of the AMTNs and EMTNs issued.

19 Related party transactions

Related parties include other entities in the Aurizon Group and Key Management Personnel. There were no Key Management Personnel related party transactions during the financial year (2023: \$nil). The following transactions occurred and balances are recognised with other entities in the Aurizon Group:

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Trade and other receivables from related parties	53,229	86,472
Trade and other payables to related parties	20,148	15,357
Tax loan payable to the parent entity	59,188	42,523
Loans payable to related parties	53,500	-
Access revenue received from related parties	472,708	405,504
Other revenue received from related parties	9,882	9,534
Interest revenue received from related parties	432	102
Expense paid to related parties	91,150	81,701
Interest expense paid to related parties	542	1,386

Expenses paid to other entities in the Aurizon Group include maintenance, facilities charges and general corporate overhead.

For details on dividends paid and changes in contributed equity, refer to notes 12 and 13 respectively.

Terms and conditions of transactions with related parties other than Key Management Personnel or entities related to them and intragroup transactions

A number of service agreements are in place between the Company and other entities within the Aurizon Group for the provision of services. These costs include shared services such as payroll, IT, accounts payable and HR operations. All other transactions are made on normal commercial terms and conditions and at market rates.

The Company enters into unsecured loans and advances with Aurizon Operations Limited (subsidiary of Aurizon Holdings Limited) at floating rates of interest pursuant to an Intra Group Loan Agreement maturing in August 2024, which allows up to \$100.0 million to be advanced or loaned subject to certain limited conditions. Hence, the Company incurs interest expense and earns interest income on these loans and advances.

The Company has executed an unsecured loan with Iron Horse Insurance Company Pte Ltd (subsidiary of Aurizon Operations Limited) at floating rates pursuant to an Intra Group Loan Agreement maturing in July 2033, which allows up to \$150.0 million to be advanced or loaned subject to certain limit conditions.

For details on tax loans, refer to note 3.

Economic dependency

The Company is dependent on other entities in the Aurizon Group for approximately 35% (2023: 32%) of access revenue derived.

20 Key Management Personnel

Key Management Personnel (KMP) include the Directors and those Executives who have the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Group.

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Short-term employee benefits	5,690	5,121
Long-term employee benefits	137	134
Post-employment benefits	139	141
Share-based payment expense	2,284	3,566
	8,250	8,962

KMP of the Company are employed by other entities in the Aurizon Group. Compensation of KMP is also determined by related parties. It is not practical to allocate KMP compensation paid by related parties, therefore the full amount of compensation paid to KMP by related parties is included in the disclosure above.

21 Auditor's remuneration

During the year, the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by the auditor of the parent entity and its related practices.

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu		
Audit and review of financial statements	302	302
Other assurance services	6	6
Total remuneration of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu	308	308

22 New and amended standards

(a) New and amended standards adopted by the Group

AASB 17 *Insurance Contracts* (AASB 17) became effective for the Group from 1 July 2023. The Aurizon Group Insurance Program includes certain placements with a related party captive insurance company, Iron Horse Insurance Company Pte Ltd (incorporated in the Republic of Singapore). The captive insurance company only underwrites the Aurizon Group and its subsidiaries for property and liability insurance. As the Group does not have any contracts that meet the definition of an insurance contract under AASB 17, the new standard does not have a material impact on the Group. A provision is recognised for the estimated liability of known claims and an allowance for Incurred But Not Reported claims for property and liability insurance. Estimates are based on expected claim costs.

The Group has also applied the following amendments for the first time for the reporting period commencing 1 July 2023:

- AASB 2021-2 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Disclosure of Accounting Policies and Definition of Accounting Estimates*; and
- AASB 2021-5 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction*.

The amendments listed above did not have any impact on the amounts recognised in prior periods and are not expected to materially affect the current or future reporting periods.

(b) New standards and interpretations not yet adopted

Certain new accounting standards and amendments to standards have been published that are not mandatory for reporting periods commencing 1 July 2023 and have not been early adopted by the Group. These standards are not expected to have a material recognition and measurement impact on the Group in the current or future reporting periods and on foreseeable future transactions.

22 New and amended standards (continued)

(b) New standards and interpretations not yet adopted (continued)

AASB 18 *Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements* will be effective for the Group from 1 July 2027. The standard will affect the presentation and disclosure in the financial statements, including introducing new categories and subtotals in the statement of profit or loss, requiring the disclosure of management-defined performance measures, and changing the grouping of information in the financial statements.

Unrecognised items and events after reporting date

IN THIS SECTION

Unrecognised items provides information about items that are not recognised in the financial statements but could potentially have a significant impact on the Group's financial position and performance. This section also includes events occurring after the reporting period.

23	Commitments and contingencies	Page 59
24	Events occurring after the reporting period	Page 59

23 Commitments and contingencies

(a) Contingent liabilities

Issues relating to common law claims, product warranties and regulatory breaches are dealt with as they arise. There were no material contingent liabilities requiring disclosure in the financial statements.

(b) Capital commitments

As at 30 June 2024, the Group has capital commitments contracted but not provided for in respect of the acquisition of property, plant and equipment of \$60.2 million (2023: \$83.8 million) which are due within one year and \$16.6 million (2023: \$1.1 million) which are due between one and five years.

24 Events occurring after the reporting period

No matter or circumstance, other than the matters disclosed in key events and transactions for the reporting period, has occurred subsequent to the financial period that has materially affected, or may materially affect, the operations of the Group, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Group or economic entity in subsequent financial periods.

Directors' Declaration

In accordance with a resolution of the Directors of the Company, I state that:

In the opinion of the Directors of the Company:

- (a) the consolidated financial statements and notes set out on pages 7 to 59 are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
 - (i) complying with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements as detailed above, and the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and
 - (ii) giving a true and fair view of the consolidated entity's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date, and
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Page 12 confirms that the consolidated financial statements also comply with IFRS Accounting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.



L Strambi
Chairman

Brisbane
12 August 2024

Independent Auditor’s Report to the Members of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd (the “Company”) and its subsidiaries (the “Group”) which comprises the consolidated balance sheet as at 30 June 2024, the consolidated income statement, the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, the consolidated statement of changes in equity and the consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information and other explanatory information, and the directors’ declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Group is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- Giving a true and fair view of the Group’s financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- Complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board’s *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the “Code”) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, which has been given to the directors of the Company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor’s report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the financial report for the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial report as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

Key Audit Matter	How the scope of our audit responded to the Key Audit Matter
<p><i>Useful life of Network infrastructure assets</i></p> <p>At 30 June 2024, the carrying amount of the Central Queensland Coal Network infrastructure assets (Network infrastructure assets) was \$4,933.9m.</p>	<p>To evaluate the useful economic lives adopted by the Group for the Network infrastructure assets, we performed the following procedures amongst others:</p>

Key Audit Matter	How the scope of our audit responded to the Key Audit Matter
<p>As disclosed in note 6, the Group estimates the useful lives of the Network infrastructure assets based on the expected engineering life of these assets, capped at the remaining term of the applicable leases. In adopting this basis, the Group assumes that the Network infrastructure assets will remain economically viable throughout the lease term.</p> <p>The Network infrastructure assets are primarily used to transport coal from mines to port for subsequent export. There is uncertainty as to the long term future demand for coal with climate change widely considered to be one of the key issues facing the global community and increasing pressure on governments and industry to seek lower carbon solutions.</p> <p>Any change in the export market demand for Queensland coal or restrictions on the supply of that coal may indicate that the useful lives of the Network infrastructure assets should be reduced resulting in an increase in the future depreciation expense.</p> <p>Given the significant carrying amount of the Network infrastructure assets and the uncertainty associated with the long term impact of climate change, the estimate of useful economic lives of the Network infrastructure assets is considered to be a key audit matter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtained and evaluated relevant information which estimates the future demand for, and supply of, coal from Queensland. This included publicly available global and regional energy and coal forecasts and outlooks from industry specialists • As metallurgical coal is expected to be in demand longer than thermal coal, evaluated the period over which metallurgical coal demand could be supplied by Queensland mines, with reference to publicly available metallurgical coal reserves and production estimates • Obtained publicly available information on the current regulatory environment of the coal industry in Queensland including mine approvals and government policy statements to assess future supply of coal • As most publicly available information does not forecast coal demand beyond 2050, management undertook an analysis to assess the economic viability of the Network infrastructure assets beyond 2050. Our procedures on management’s analysis included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the methodology adopted • Testing the integrity and mechanical accuracy of management’s calculations • Comparing key assumptions used by management to existing benchmarks and publicly available information. <p>Evaluated the disclosures in the financial statements including the sensitivity analysis outlining the impact on depreciation expense of changes in the useful lives of assets (see note 6).</p>

Other Information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Group’s annual report for the year ended 30 June 2024, but does not include the financial report and our auditor’s report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible:

- For the preparation of the financial report in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Group in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards; and
- For such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Group, and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the ability of the Group to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.


As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the financial report. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the Group's audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the directors with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, actions taken to eliminate threats or safeguards applied.

From the matters communicated with the directors, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial report of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.



DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU



Matthew Donaldson
Partner
Chartered Accountants
Brisbane, 12 August 2024