

ISSN 1178-2560 Decision Series Project no. 45866

Public version

Fibre Input Methodologies (Crown Financing and Individual Capex Design Proposal) Amendment Determination 2024

[2024] NZCC 29

The Commission:

Tristan Gilbertson Vhari McWha Nathan Strong

Date of decision:

21 November 2024

Tristan Gilbertson, Telecommunications Commissioner

Dated at Wellington this 21st day of November 2024

COMMERCE COMMISSION

Wellington, New Zealand

| Determination history | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---|
| Determination date | Decision number | Determination name |
| 13 October 2020 | [2020] NZCC 21 | Fibre Input Methodologies Determination 2020 |
| 3 November 2020 | [2020] NZCC 24 | Fibre Input Methodologies (initial value of financial loss asset) Amendment Determination 2020 |
| 29 September 2021 | [2021] NZCC 17 | Fibre Input Methodologies (base capex and connection capex baseline allowance determination dates) Amendment Determination 2021 |
| 29 November 2021 | [2021] NZCC 25 | Fibre Input Methodologies Amendment Determination (No.2) 2021 |
| 28 June 2023 | [2023] NZCC 13 | Fibre Input Methodologies Amendment Determination 2023 |
| 28 May 2024 | [2024] NZCC 11 | Fibre Input Methodologies (tax-adjusted market risk premium) Amendment Determination 2024 |
| 21 November 2024 | [2024] NZCC 29 | Fibre Input Methodologies (Crown Financing and Individual Capex Design Proposal) Amendment Determination 2024 |

[Drafting notes:

- This amendment determination amends the Fibre Input Methodologies Determination 2020, as previously amended ('principal determination').
- The included amendments which are secondary legislation are made under the Legislation Act 2019 and Part 6 of the Telecommunications Act 2001.]

Under Part 6 of the Telecommunications Act 2001, the Commerce Commission makes the following determination:

1. TITLE

1.1 This determination is the Fibre Input Methodologies (Crown Financing and Individual Capex Design Proposal) Amendment Determination 2024.

2. DETERMINATION AMENDED

2.1 This determination amends the *Fibre Input Methodologies Determination 2020* [2020] NZCC 21.

3. INTERPRETATION

- 3.1 In this determination:
 - 3.1.1 **principal determination** means the *Fibre Input Methodologies Determination* 2020 [2020] NZCC 21; and
 - 3.1.2 words or phrases in bold type (other than headings) have the same meanings as in the **principal determination**.

4. COMMENCEMENT AND APPLICATION

- 4.1 This determination comes into force on 21 November 2024, which is the day on which **public notice** of it is given in the New Zealand Gazette under the Legislation Act 2019 in accordance with s 180 of the **Act**.
- 4.2 Despite clause 4.1,—
 - 4.2.1 the amendments to the **principal determination** in clauses 5.1 and 5.2 below apply from the commencement of **disclosure year** 2026; and
 - 4.2.2 the amendments to the **principal determination** in clauses 5.3 and 5.4 below apply to a **PQ determination** that commences on 1 January 2025.
- 4.3 For the avoidance of doubt, if the **Commission** determines that any forecast values must be calculated consistently with Part 3 of the **principal determination** for the determination of a **PQ determination** which commences on 1 January 2025, the provisions in Part 3 of the **principal determination** apply as amended by this determination to the setting of the forecast values.

5. FIBRE IM AMENDMENTS

- 5.1 Replace clause 2.4.10 with:
 - "2.4.10 <u>Annual benefit of Crown financing building block for regulated fibre service</u> providers subject to both information disclosure regulation and pricequality regulation
 - (1) In respect of regulated fibre service providers subject to both information disclosure regulation and price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the Act, 'annual benefit of Crown financing building block' for a disclosure year is the sum of the amounts calculated for each day of the disclosure year in accordance with the following formula:

$$(A \times B) + (C \times D)$$

where:

(a) *A* is the amount determined in accordance with the following formula:

[(proportion of 'B' that is senior debt × **cost of debt** for that **disclosure year**) + (proportion of 'B' that is subordinated debt × (**cost of debt** for that **disclosure year** + 0.41%)] × E;

- (b) B is the amount of Crown financing outstanding in respect of the regulated provider (or related party as referred to in section 164 of the Act) at the start of the day that is debt (whether senior or subordinated);
- (c) *C* is the amount determined in accordance with the following formula:

 $[(0.75 \times cost of equity for that disclosure year) + (0.25 \times cost of debt for that disclosure year)] \times E;$

- (d) *D* is the amount of Crown financing outstanding in respect of the regulated provider (or related party as referred to in section 164 of the Act) at the start of the day that is equity; and
- (e) *E* is determined in accordance with the following formula:

1 ÷ number of days in the disclosure year."

5.2 Replace clause 2.4.11 with:

"2.4.11 <u>Annual benefit of Crown financing building block for regulated providers</u> <u>subject only to information disclosure regulation</u> (1) In respect of regulated providers subject only to information disclosure regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the Act, 'annual benefit of Crown financing building block' for a disclosure year is the sum of the amounts calculated for each day of the disclosure year in accordance with the following formula:

$A \times B$

where:

- (a) *A* is:
 - (i) where **Crown financing** is provided, in substance, by way of a combination of debt and equity, the amount calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$[(C \times D) + ((1 - C) \times E)] \times F$$

where:

- *C* is the proportion of **Crown financing** outstanding at the start of the day which, in substance, is debt;
- *D* is the **cost of debt** for that **disclosure year**;
- *E* is the **cost of equity** for that **disclosure year**; and
- *F* is determined in accordance with the following formula:

1 ÷ number of days in the **disclosure year**,

- (ii) where Crown financing is provided, in substance, by way of debt, the cost of debt for that disclosure year; and
- (iii) where **Crown financing** is provided, in substance, by way of equity, the **cost of equity** for that **disclosure year**; and
- (b) B is the amount of Crown financing outstanding in respect of the regulated provider (or related party as referred to in section 164 of the Act) at the start of the day."
- 5.3 Replace clause 3.5.11 with:

"3.5.11 Annual benefit of Crown financing building block

(1) For the purposes of specifying a price-quality path, "annual benefit of Crown financing building block" for a regulatory year in a regulatory period is the sum of the amounts determined for each day of the regulatory year in accordance with the following formula -

$$(A \times B) + (C \times D)$$

where:

(a) *A* is the amount determined in accordance with the following formula:

[(proportion of 'B' that is forecast to be senior debt × **cost of debt** for that **regulatory period**) + (proportion of 'B' that is forecast to be subordinated debt × (**cost of debt** for that **regulatory period** + 0.41%))] × E;

- (b) B is the forecast amount of Crown financing outstanding in respect of the regulated provider (or related party as referred to in section 164 of the Act) on the start of the day that is debt (whether senior or subordinated);
- (c) *C* is the amount determined in accordance with the following formula:

 $[(0.75 \times cost of equity for that regulatory period) + (0.25 \times cost of debt for that regulatory period)] \times E;$

- (d) *D* is the forecast amount of Crown financing outstanding in respect of the regulated provider (or related party as referred to in section 164 of the Act) at the start of the day that is equity; and
- (e) *E* is determined in accordance with the following formula:

1 ÷ number of days in the **regulatory year**."

5.4 In clause 3.7.24(1) of the **principal determination**, replace "one month" with "two months".