

ISBN 978-1-869458-29-4

Decision Series

Project no. 16531

**Public** version

**[Further consultation] Fibre Input Methodologies Determination 2020**

**[2020] NZCC [XX]**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **The Commission:** | Tristan Gilbertson  Elisabeth Welson  John Crawford  Sue Begg |
| **Date of decision:** | [day] [month] 2020 |

[signature]

[name], Commissioner

Dated at Wellington this [day] of [month] 2020

COMMERCE COMMISSION

Wellington, New Zealand

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Determination history | | |
| Determination date | Decision number | Determination name |
| [day] [month] 2020 | [2020] NZCC [XX] | Fibre Input Methodologies Determination 2020 |

FIBRE INPUT METHODOLOGIES DETERMINATION 2020

PART 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS 5

PART 2 INPUT METHODOLOGIES FOR INFORMATION DISCLOSURE 52

SUBPART 1 Cost allocation 52

SUBPART 2 Asset valuation 57

SUBPART 3 Taxation 76

[SUBPART 4 Cost of capital 82](#_Toc46307982)

[SUBPART 5 Quality dimensions 95](#_Toc46307983)

[PART 3 INPUT METHODOLOGIES FOR PRICE-QUALITY PATHS 98](#_Toc46307984)

[SUBPART 1 Specification of Price and Revenues 98](#_Toc46307985)

[SUBPART 2 Cost allocation 99](#_Toc46307986)

[SUBPART 3 Asset valuation 102](#_Toc46307987)

[SUBPART 4 Taxation 106](#_Toc46307988)

[SUBPART 5 Cost of capital 107](#_Toc46307989)

[SUBPART 6 Quality dimensions 116](#_Toc46307990)

[SUBPART 7 Capital expenditure 117](#_Toc46307991)

[SECTION 1 General rules and processes for capital expenditure proposals 117](#_Toc46307992)

[SECTION 2 Base capex 122](#_Toc46307993)

[SECTION 3 Connection capex 126](#_Toc46307994)

[SECTION 4 Individual capex proposals 131](#_Toc46307995)

[SUBPART 8 Capital expenditure evaluation by the Commission 137](#_Toc46307996)

[SECTION 1 General rules for Commission determination processes 137](#_Toc46307997)

[SECTION 2 Evaluation criteria – expenditure objective and assessment factors 139](#_Toc46307998)

[SUBPART 9 Reconsideration of a price-quality path 141](#_Toc46307999)

[SECTION 1 When Commission can reconsider and amend PQ determination 141](#_Toc46308000)

[SECTION 2 Events that may be reopener events 142](#_Toc46308001)

[SECTION 3 Commission consideration of whether and how to amend PQ determination 146](#_Toc46308002)

**SCHEDULE A Minimum levels of specificity to describe assets in RAB** 151

**SCHEDULE B Methodology for determining the financial loss asset**…………………………………………………153

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

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS
2. Title
   * + - 1. This determination is the Fibre Input Methodologies Determination 2020.
3. Application
   * + - 1. The input methodologies in this determination apply to **regulated** FFLAS.
         2. The input methodologies in-

Part 2 of this determination apply to information disclosure regulation under Part 6 Subpart 4 of the **Act**; and

Part 3 of this determination apply to price-quality regulation under Part 6 Subpart 5 of the **Act**.

1. Commencement
   * + - 1. This determination comes into force on the day after the date on which **public notice** of it is given under s 180 of the **Act**.
2. Interpretation
   * + - 1. In this determination-

unless stated otherwise, references to-

'Sections' are to sections within the same subpart in which the reference is made; and

'Subparts' are to Subparts within the same part in which the reference is made;

unless stated otherwise, references to Parts, Subparts and Sections are to named and numbered parts, subparts and sections of the determination;

unless the context otherwise requires, a word which denotes the singular also denotes the plural and vice versa;

unless stated otherwise, any reference to an allowance, amount, cost, sum or value is a reference to an allowance, amount, cost, value or sum calculated or determined in relation to a regulated provider in respect of a disclosure year;

unless stated otherwise, any reference to “includes” means “includes, but is not limited to”;

examples in this determination are for guidance purposes only and do not form part of the determination; and

materials incorporated by reference into this determination, including standards promulgated by other bodies, are incorporated in accordance with section 223 of the **Act** and Schedule 5 of the Commerce Act 1986.

* + - * 1. In this determination, including in the schedules, words or phrases in bold type bear the following meanings:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | | |
| **50th percentile** estimate of WACC | | means, for the purpose of-  Part 2, the 50th percentile estimate of post-tax **WACC**, determined in accordance with clause 2.4.5(1);  Part 2, the 50th percentile estimate of vanilla **WACC**, determined in accordance with clause 2.4.5(1);  Part 3, the 50th percentile estimate of post-tax **WACC**, determined in accordance with clause 3.5.5(2);  Part 3, the 50th percentile estimate of vanilla **WACC**, determined in accordance with clause 3.5.5(1); |
| **A** | | |
| ABAA | means:  for the purpose of Part 2, accounting-based allocation approach, as described in clause 2.1.2; and  for the purposes of Part 3, accounting-based allocation approach, as described in clauses 3.2.1(8)-(9); | |
| access seeker | has the same meaning as defined in s 5(d) of the **Act**; | |
| Act | means the Telecommunications Act 2001; | |
| additional FFLAS class | means any class of **FFLAS** provided by a **regulated provider** as the **Commission** may from time to time specify for the purposes of Part 6 of the **Act**, where that class of **FFLAS** is a subset of and does not encompass all:   * 1. **ID FFLAS**;   2. **PQ FFLAS**; or   3. **ID-only FFLAS**; | |
| additional RAB | any collection of **fibre assets** that are **employed** in the provision of a **FFLAS class** as the **Commission** may from time to time specify for the purposes of Part 6 of the **Act**, where that collection of **fibre assets** is a subset of anddoes not encompass all **fibre assets** in the:  **ID RAB**; or  **PQ RAB**; | |
| adjusted **tax value** | has the same meaning as in the **tax rules**; | |
| allocator type | 1. for the purpose of determining the **financial loss asset**, has the meaning specified in Schedule B; and 2. in all other instances, means the basis for the attribution or allocation of an **operating cost** or **asset value** to **regulated FFLAS** and **services that are not regulated FFLAS**;   *Example: if the* ***allocator type*** *for central office costs is ‘floor area’, and 30 square meters of the floor area of a 120-square metre central office is used for* ***regulated******FFLAS****, then the ‘asset allocator’ is 1/4 (ie, 30/120).* | |
| allocator value | 1. for the purpose of determining the **financial loss asset**, has the meaning specified in Schedule B; and 2. in all other instances, means a value in units for each **cost allocator** or **asset allocator** that isused to calculate the ratio of **operating costs** or **asset values** to be allocated to **regulated FFLAS** or **services that are not regulated FFLAS**;   *Example: if the* **allocator type** *for a central office’s* ***asset value*** *is ‘floor area’, and 30 square metres of the floor area of a 120-square metre central office is used for* ***regulated FFLAS****, then the ‘allocator values’ used to calculate the* ***asset allocator*** *(used for attributing* ***asset values*** *to* ***regulated FFLAS****) would be a numerator of 30 and a denominator of 120.* | |
| allowable revenue | has the meaning specified in clause 3.1.1(2); | |
| approved capex | means capital expenditure that is part of a capex allowance; | |
| approved timeframes | means the proposed timeframe set out in the individual capex design proposal in accordance with clause 3.7.23(2)(d) and approved by the Commission in accordance with clause 3.7.24(1)(a) or (b); | |
| arm’s-length transaction | means a transaction conducted on such terms and conditions as between a willing buyer and a willing seller who are unrelated and who are acting independently of each other and pursuing their own best interests; | |
| assessment factors | means the component or elements of information that need to be considered when evaluating whether **capex** meets the **capital expenditure objective** as set out in clause 3.8.6(1); | |
| asset allocator | means a ratio used to allocate **asset values** whose quantum is-  based on a **causal relationship**; or  equal to a **proxy asset allocator**; | |
| asset life | has the meaning specified in clause 2.2.10(1); | |
| asset value | means:   1. in respect of a **core fibre asset**, the **unallocated opening RAB value**; and 2. in respect of a **UFB asset**, the value determined in accordance with Schedule B; | |
| auditor | means a person who-  is qualified for appointment as auditor of a company under the Companies Act 1993;  is **independent**;  is not an **independent verifier** of the **capex proposal**;  has not assisted with the compilation of the information in the **capex proposal**;  has not provided opinions or advice (other than in relation to audit reports) on the methodologies or processes used or to be used in compiling the information in that proposal; and  is neither professionally associated with nor directed by any person who has provided such assistance, opinions or advice; | |
| availability | means:   1. for the purpose of Part 2, the extent to which **ID FFLAS** is not subject to **downtime**; and 2. for the purpose of Part 3, the extent to which **PQ FFLAS** is not subject to **downtime**; | |
| average debt premium | has the meaning specified in, and is the amount determined in accordance with-  Part 2, clause 2.4.4(2); and  Part 3, clause 3.5.4(2); | |
| **B** | | |
| base capex | means capital expenditure approved by the Commission as part of the base capex allowance and incurred by Chorus in relation to one or more base capex sub-categories; | |
| base capex allowance | means the amount determined by the **Commission** in accordance with clause 3.7.12(1); | |
| base capex information request | means the request made by the **Commission** to **Chorus** in accordance with clause 3.7.8(9); | |
| base capex proposal | means a written application submitted by **Chorus** to the **Commission** for approval of expenditure in relation to one or more base capex sub-categories in accordance with the requirements set out in clauses 3.7.8-3.7.11; | |
| base capex sub-category | means an expenditure category identified and agreed between the **Commission** and **Chorus** for the **base capex proposal** in accordance with clause 3.7.8(3)(a) or (4); | |
| base year | means a disclosure year determined by the Commission; | |
| brownfield | means existing dwellings or premises; | |
| building blocks revenue | means the sum of building blocks components (which may have positive or negative values) as determined by the **Commission** for a **regulatory year**, and, for the avoidance of doubt, includes a component or components that give effect to the smoothing of revenue under s 197 of the **Act**; | |
| business day | means any day on which statistics relating to trading in New Zealand government bonds are published by a financial information service such as Bloomberg or Reuters; | |
| **C** | | |
| capex allowance | means one or more of the following:  base capex allowance;  connection capex allowance; and  individual capex allowance; | |
| capex category | means a category specified in clause 3.7.1(1); | |
| capex proposal | means a base capex proposal, a connection capex baseline proposal, or an individual capex proposal; | |
| capital contribution | means money or the monetary value of other considerations charged to or received in relation to the construction, acquisition or enhancement of a core fibre asset or UFB asset by a regulated provider from 1 or more of the following:  an **access** seeker;  an end-user; or  any other party; but  (b) does not include any Crown financing; | |
| capital expenditure (capex) | means costs that-  have been, or are intended to be, incurred in the acquisition or development of a core fibre asset or UFB asset that is, or is intended to be, commissioned; and  are eligible, or would be eligible, to be included in the value of commissioned asset; | |
| capital expenditure objective | has the meaning in clause 3.8.5(2); | |
| catastrophic event | has the meaning in clause 3.9.3(1); | |
| causal relationship | for the purpose of determining the **financial loss asset**, has the meaning specified in Schedule B; and  in all other instances, means, in relation to-  **operating costs**, a circumstance in which a cost driver leads to an **operating cost** being incurred during the 12-month period terminating on the last day of the **disclosure year** in respect of which the cost allocation is carried out; and  **asset values**, a circumstance in which a factor influences the **employment** of an asset:   1. for information disclosure purposes, during the **disclosure year**  in respect of which the asset allocation is carried out; and 2. for price-quality regulation purposes, in each **regulatory year** in respect of the next **regulatory period** of which the asset allocation is forecast to be carried out,   which in each case is:  consistent with similar circumstances, both within a **disclosure year** and from year to year; and  objectively justifiable and demonstrably reasonable; | |
| CEO | means the Chief Executive Officer of a company or equivalent comparable senior executive; | |
| certification | means the process specified in clause 3.7.3 and in accordance with any specific certification requirements for the relevant capex category related to a capex proposal; | |
| change event | has the meaning in clause 3.9.4(1); | |
| Chorus | means Chorus Limited or any subsidiary of, or successor to, that company; | |
| closing RAB value | means the value-  determined, in respect of a core fibre asset for the purpose of Part 2, in accordance with clause 2.2.5(4);  determined, in respect of the financial loss asset for the purpose of Part 2, in accordance with clause 2.2.6(2);  subject to paragraph (d), determined, in respect of a core fibre asset for the purpose of Part 3, in accordance with clause 3.3.1(2);  determined, in respect of a core fibre asset for the purposes of “D” in clause 3.5.10(1)(d), in accordance with clause 2.2.5(4);  subject to paragraph (f), determined, in respect of the financial loss asset for the purpose of Part 3, in accordance with clause 3.3.1(2); and  determined, in respect of the financial loss asset for the purposes of “D” in clause 3.5.10(1)(d), in accordance with clause 2.2.6(2); | |
| **closing RAB value before deregulation impact** | has the meaning specified in clause 2.2.6(13); | |
| Commission | has the same meaning as defined in s 5 of the Act; | |
| commissioned | means:   1. for the purpose of determining the financial loss asset under clause 2.2.4, has the meaning specified in Schedule B; and 2. in all other instances, employed by the regulated provider in providing regulated FFLAS (whether or not the fibre asset is also employed in providing other services),   and commission has a corresponding meaning; | |
| commissioning date | means the date that a UFB asset or a fibre asset is first commissioned; | |
| communal fibre network | means a fibre network that is independent of any end-user specific infrastructure and that is not located on end-user premises; | |
| connection capex | means capital expenditure approved by the Commission as part of the connection capex baseline allowance or the connection capex variable adjustment and directly incurred by Chorus in relation to connecting new end-user premises, building or other access point where the communal fibre network already exists or will exist at the time of connection, and includes:  UFB initiative brownfield connection expenditure;  UFB initiative greenfield and infill connection expenditure; and  Chorus initiated migration from copper fixed line access services to PQ FFLAS; | |
| connection capex allowance | means the amount determined by the Commission in accordance with clause 3.7.13; | |
| connection capex annual report | means a written statement made by Chorus under clause 3.7.18; | |
| connection capex baseline allowance | means the amount determined by the Commission in accordance with clause 3.7.20(1); | |
| connection capex baseline proposal | means a written application submitted by Chorus to the Commission in accordance with the requirements set out in clauses 3.7.14(1)-(2); | |
| connection capex information request | means the information required by the **Commission** from **Chorus** in accordance with clause 3.7.14(7); | |
| connection capex unit cost | means a per end-user connection average cost for a connection type; | |
| connection capex variable adjustment | means the amount determined by the Commission in accordance with clause 3.7.21; | |
| connection type | means a category or class of end-user connections that are similar in characteristics and cost; | |
| copper fixed line access services | has the same meaning as defined in s 5 of the **Act**; | |
| **core fibre asset** | means a **fibre asset** that is **employed** in the provision of **regulated FFLAS** (whether or not the asset is also **employed** in the provision of other services), and excludes-  the **financial loss asset**;  intangible assets, unless they are-  **finance leases**; or  **identifiable non-monetary assets** whose costs do not include (wholly or partly) **pass-through costs**; and  works under construction; | |
| corporate tax rate | means the rate of income taxation applying to companies as specified in the tax rules; | |
| cost allocator | means a ratio used to allocate operating costs whose quantum is-  based on a **causal relationship**; or  equal to a **proxy cost allocator**; | |
| cost of debt | means:   1. for the purpose of clause 2.3.1(7) and 2.4.11(1), the amount specified for rd in clause 2.4.1(3); 2. for the purpose of determining the **financial loss asset**, has the meaning specified in Schedule B; and 3. for the purpose of Part 3, the amount specified for rd in clause 3.5.1(3); | |
| cost of equity | means, the amount specified for re in clause 2.4.1(3); | |
| CPI | means-  subject to paragraph (b), the consumer price index stipulated for each quarter in the ‘All Groups Index SE9A’ as published by Statistics New Zealand; and  in respect of quarters prior to any quarter in which the rate of **GST** is amended after this determination comes into force, the same index as described in paragraph (a), multiplied by the Reserve Bank of New Zealand’s forecast change in that index (expressed as a decimal) arising from the amendment; | |
| Crown financing | has the same meaning as defined in s 164(1) of the Act; | |
| **current value of initial core fibre asset base** | has the meaning specified in clause 2.2.6(7); | |
| **customer service** | means:   1. for the purpose of Part 2, the way a **regulated provider** interacts with **access seekers** and **end-users** in relation to the supply of **ID FFLAS**; and 2. for the purpose of Part 3, the way a **regulated provider** interacts with **access seekers** and **end-users** in relation to the supply of **PQ FFLAS**; | |
| **D** | | |
| debt issuance costs | means costs associated with the issuance of debt by a regulated provider; | |
| debt premium | for the purpose of determining the financial loss asset, has the meaning specified in accordance with Schedule B;  for all other purposes, has the meaning specified in, and is the amount determined in accordance with, clause 2.4.4(4); | |
| debt premium reference year | means a 12-month period ending on 31 August;  For instance, ‘*debt premium reference year* 2022’means the 12-month period ending 31 August 2022; | |
| **dedicated asset** | means a **core fibre asset** operated solely for the benefit of a particular customer under a fixed term agreement for theprovisionof **regulated** FFLAS between the regulated provider in question and customer, and which is not expected to be **employed** by the regulated provider to provide **regulated** FFLAS beyond the term of the fixed term agreement; | |
| depreciation | means an allowance to account for the diminution in a **fibre asset’s** remaining service life potential in the **disclosure year** in question with respect to its **opening RAB value** and the amount of such allowance is,-  for **regulated providers** subject only to information disclosure regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act**, determined in respect of a **fibre asset** in the **ID RAB**, in accordance with clause 2.2.7(3); and  for **regulated fibre service providers** subject to both information disclosure regulation and price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act**,-  determined, subject to paragraph (b)(ii), in respect of **fibre assets** in the **ID RAB**, in accordance with clause 2.2.8(3); and  determined, in respect of **fibre assets** in the **ID RAB** that are **employed** in the provision of **ID-only FFLAS**, in accordance with clause 2.2.8(6); and  for **regulated providers** subject to price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act**, determined in respect of **fibre assets** in the **PQ RAB**, in accordance with clause 3.3.2(3); | |
| deregulated asset | has the meaning specified in clause 2.2.6(9); | |
| deregulated asset value | has the meaning specified in clause 2.2.6(10); | |
| deregulated shared asset | has the meaning specified in clause 2.2.6(11); | |
| deregulated shared asset value | has the meaning specified in clause 2.2.6(12); | |
| deregulation adjustment | means the amount determined in accordance with clause 2.2.6(3); | |
| directly attributable | means-  in relation to operating costs, where a costis wholly and solely incurred in the provision of a particular service; and  in relation to asset values, where an asset iswhollyand solely **employed** by a regulated provider in the provision of a particular service; | |
| director | means, in the case of a regulated provider that is-  a company (as ‘company’ is defined in s 2 of the Companies Act 1993), an individual occupying the position of director of the regulated provider, by whatever name that position is called;  a partnership (other than a special partnership), a partner;  a special partnership, a general partner; and  any other body corporate or unincorporated body, an individual occupying a position in the body that is comparable with that of director of a company; | |
| disclosure year | means:   * 1. for the purposes of specifying the price-quality path for the **first regulatory period**, a 12-month period ending on 31 December, where if the term “disclosure year” is combined with a year, the 12-month period ending on 31 December of that year (for instance, “**disclosure year** 2019” means the 12-month period ending on 31 December 2019); and   2. in all other instances, a 12-month period ending on the date specified in an **ID determination**; | |
| disposed asset | 1. for the purpose of determining the **financial loss asset**, has the meaning specified in Schedule B; and 2. in all other instances, means a **fibre asset** that, in the disclosure year in question, has been sold or transferred, or has been irrecoverably removed from the regulated provider’s possession without consent; | |
| downtime | means:   1. for the purpose of Part 2, the length of time an **access seeker** or **end-user** experiences a **planned** **outage** or **unplanned outage** to their **ID FFLAS**; and 2. for the purpose of Part 3, the length of time an **access seeker** or **end-user** experiences a **planned** **outage** or **unplanned outage** to their **PQ FFLAS**; | |
| **E** | | |
| easement | means a right to use but not possess land belonging to another person or a right to prevent certain uses of another person’s land; | |
| easement land | means **land** acquired with the intention of-  creating an **easement** in respect of it; and  disposing of the **land** thereafter; | |
| employ | means available for use,  and employed and employment have a corresponding meaning; | |
| end-user | has the same meaning as defined in s 5 of the Act; | |
| error event | has the meaning in clause 3.9.6(1); | |
| **F** | | |
| **fault** | means:   1. for the purpose of Part 2:   an **unplanned outage** in **ID FFLAS**; or  a reduction in the **performance** of **ID FFLAS** below any levels specified in an **ID determination**; and   1. for the purpose of Part 3:   an **unplanned outage in PQ FFLAS**; or  a reduction in th**e performance** of **PQ FFLAS** below any levels specified in a **PQ determination**; | |
| **FFLAS** | has the same meaning as ‘fibre fixed line access service’ defined in s 5 of the **Act**; | |
| **FFLAS class** | means a class of **FFLAS** that is subject to regulations under s 226 of the **Act**, and includes:   1. **ID FFLAS**; 2. **PQ FFLAS**; 3. **ID-only FFLAS**; and 4. any additional FFLAS class;   *Example 1: Where a* ***regulated provider*** *is subject to information disclosure regulation in respect of “all* ***FFLAS****” and price-quality regulation in respect of “certain* ***FFLAS****” in regulations made under s 226 of the* ***Act****:*   * ***FFLAS*** *provided by that* ***regulated provider*** *is “****ID FFLAS****”; and* * *“certain* ***FFLAS****” provided by that* ***regulated provider*** *is “****PQ FFLAS****”.*   *Example 2: Where a* ***regulated provider*** *is subject to information disclosure regulation and price-quality regulation in respect of “all* ***FFLAS****” in regulations made under s 226 of the* ***Act****,* ***FFLAS*** *provided by that* ***regulated provider*** *is both “****ID FFLAS****” and “****PQ FFLAS****”.* | |
| **FFLAS product families** | means a group of **regulated FFLAS** products that differ in configuration but bear essentially the same costs; | |
| fibre asset | has the same meaning as defined in s 177(6) of the **Act**, and is either-  a **core fibre asset**; or  the **financial loss asset**; | |
| fibre network | has the same meaning as defined in s 5 of the **Act**; | |
| **fibre network operator** | means a **network operator** of a **fibre network**; | |
| finance lease | has the same meaning as under GAAP; | |
| **financial loss asset** | means the **fibre** **asset** each **regulated provider** is treated as owning under s 177(2) of the **Act**; | |
| **financial loss period** | means the period starting on 1 December 2011 and ending on the close of the day immediately before the **implementation date**; | |
| financial loss year | means, for the purpose of determining the **financial loss asset** in accordance with clause 2.2.4, a period of 12 months beginning on 1 July in any year within the **financial loss period** and ending on 30 June in the following year, where if the term “financial loss year” is combined with a year, the 12-month period ending on 30 June of that year (for instance, “**financial loss year** 2013” means the 12-month period ending on 30 June 2013), and:  the period from 1 December 2011 to 30 June 2012 is considered “**financial loss year** 2012”; and  the period from 1 July 2021 to the close of the day immediately before the **implementation date** is considered “**financial loss year** 2022”; | |
| first regulatory period | means the regulatory period that starts on the implementation date and lasts for a period of 3 years; | |
| fixed life easement | means an easement that-  is of a fixed duration; or  is of an indefinite duration but is to be held for a fixed period; | |
| **frame delay** | means the time taken for a data frame to transit a **fibre network** between points of ingress and egress; | |
| **frame delay variation** | means the variation in **frame delay** over a time interval; | |
| **frame loss ratio** | means the portion of frames that are lost between the ingress interface and the egress interface of the **fibre** **network**, expressed as a percentage; | |
| **G** | | |
| GAAP | means generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand, save that, where the cost of an asset is being determined in accordance with this determination, only the cost model of recognition is applied insofar as an election may be made between the cost model of recognition and the fair value model of recognition; | |
| GAAP change | has the meaning in clause 3.9.5(1); | |
| good telecommunications industry practice | means the exercise of a degree of skill, diligence, prudence, foresight and economic management, that would reasonably be expected from a skilled and experienced asset owner engaged in the management of a **fibre network** under comparable conditions. A decision on good telecommunications industry practice should take into account domestic and international best practice, including international standards and factors such as the relative size, age and technology of the relevant **fibre network** and domestic regulatory and market conditions, including applicable law; | |
| greenfield | means the establishment of new dwellings or premises on previously undeveloped land; | |
| **GST** | has the same meaning as defined in s YA 1 of the Income Tax Act 2007; | |
| **I** | | |
| ID determination | means an information disclosure determination in relation to a regulated provider made under s 170 of the Act; | |
| identifiable non-monetary asset | has the same meaning as under GAAP (which, for the avoidance of doubt, includes right-of-use assets) except that it excludes goodwill; | |
| ID FFLAS | means, in respect of a **regulated provider**, all **FFLAS** provided by that **regulated provider** that is subject to information disclosure regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act**; | |
| ID-only FFLAS | means, in respect of a **regulated provider**, all **FFLAS** provided by a **regulated provider** that:   1. is subject to information disclosure regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act**;and 2. is not subject to price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act**; | |
| **ID RAB** | means, in respect of a **regulated provider**, all **fibre assets** that are **employed** by that **regulated provider** in the provision of **ID FFLAS**; | |
| **impairment losses** | has the same meaning as under GAAP; | |
| **implementation date** | has the same meaning as defined in s 5 of the **Act**; | |
| independent | means a person having neither a relationship with, nor an interest in, the regulated provider in questionthat is likely to involve them or it in a conflict of interest between their or its duties to the regulated provider and their or its duties to the **Commission**; | |
| independent verification report | means a report prepared by an independent verifier to verify the information provided with a capex proposal according to the verification requirements for that capex category; | |
| independent verifier | means a person who –  is **independent**; and  has been engaged to verify part or all of **Chorus’s capex proposal**; | |
| individual capex | means capital expenditure approved by the Commission as part of the individual capex allowance in accordance with clause 3.7.28(1)(a) or (b) and (2)(a), and incurred by Chorus in relation to a project or programme required for an individual capex proposal under clause 3.7.22(3); | |
| individual capex allowance | means the amount determined by the Commission in accordance with clause 3.7.28(1)(a) or (b); | |
| individual capex design proposal | means a written notification submitted by Chorus to the Commission in accordance with clause 3.7.23; | |
| individual capex programme | means a programme that is the subject of an individual capex proposal specified in clause 3.7.22(3)(c); | |
| individual capex project | means a project that is the subject of an individual capex proposal specified in clause 3.7.22(3)(c); | |
| individual capex proposal | meansa written application submitted by **Chorus** to the **Commission** for approval of an **individual capex project** or **individual capex programme** in accordance with the requirements in clauses 3.7.25; | |
| infill | means the establishment of new dwellings or premises within an existing suburb or developed area; | |
| initial RAB | has the meaning specified in clause 2.2.2; | |
| initial RAB value | means the value-  in respect of a **core fibre asset** in an **initial RAB**, determined in accordance with clause 2.2.3(2);  in respect of the **financial loss asset** in an **initial RAB**, determined in accordance with clause 2.2.4(1); | |
| **initial value of core fibre asset base** | has the meaning specified in clause 2.2.6(8); | |
| input methodology | has the same meaning, as the case may require, as defined in s 164 of the Act or s 52C of the Commerce Act 1986; | |
| integrated fibre plan | means a collection of documents as set out in clause 3.7.7, that provides the Commission with an overview of Chorus’s capital expenditure related to the management of its fibre network and the provision of PQ FFLAS; | |
| investment grade credit rated | means endorsed with a credit rating by an established credit rating agency (such as Standard and Poor's) of "investment grade" on that agency's credit rating scale applicable to long-term investments; | |
| **L** | | |
| land | excludes easements; | |
| **leverage** | means the ratio of debt capital to total capital and is 31%; | |
| local authority | has the same meaning as defined in s 5(1) of the Local Government Act 2002; | |
| **M** | | |
| major transaction | has the meaning in clause 3.9.7(1); | |
| maximum revenues | has the meaning specified in clause 3.1.1(1); | |
| mid-point estimate of WACC | means, for the purpose of-  Part 2, the mid-point estimate of-  vanilla WACC as estimated in accordance with clause 2.4.1(1); or  post-tax WACC as estimated in accordance with clause 2.4.1(2),  as the case may be;  Part 3, the mid-point estimate of-  vanilla WACC as estimated in accordance with clause 3.5.1(1); or  post-tax WACC as estimated in accordance with clause 3.5.1(2),  as the case may be; | |
| multi-rate PIE | has the same meaning as defined in s YA 1 of the Income Tax Act 2007; | |
| **N** | | |
| Nelson-Siegel-Svensson approach | means a method for modelling yield curves and term structures of interest rates which establishes a relationship between terms to maturity and the **debt premium**, where a curve is generated by changing the parameters of a yield curve’s functional form to minimise the squared deviation between estimated and observed values; | |
| **network operator** | has the meaning as defined in s 5 of the **Act**; | |
| network spare | 1. for the purpose of determining the **financial loss asset**, has the meaning specified in Schedule B; and 2. in all other instances, means an asset that is held by a regulated provider to replace any other **core fibre asset** it holds should that other **core fibre asset** be withdrawn from use owing to failure or damage; | |
| non-linear connection costs | means costs for each **connection type** that are directly driven by the demand for new **end-user** connections but do not vary in a linear way with the number of new **end-user** connection**s**; | |
| **notional deductible interest** | has the meaning in clause 2.3.1(7); | |
| **notional tax asset value** | 1. for the purpose of a **fibre asset**, has the meaning in clause 2.3.2(3); and 2. for the purpose of a **UFB asset**, has the meaning in Schedule B; | |
| **NZ IAS 24** | means *New Zealand Equivalent to International Accounting Standard 24, Related Party Disclosures (NZ IAS 24)*, issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board of the External Reporting Board in November 2009, incorporating amendments to 31 December 2015, under s 24(1)(a) of the Financial Reporting Act 1993, as incorporated by reference into this determination; | |
| **O** | | |
| opening RAB value | means the value-  determined, in respect of a **core fibre asset** for the purpose of Part 2, in accordance with clause 2.2.5(3);  determined, in respect of the **financial loss asset** for the purpose of Part 2, in accordance with clause 2.2.6(1);  subject to paragraph (d), determined, in respect of a **core fibre asset** for the purpose of Part 3, in accordance with clause 3.3.1(2);  determined, in respect of a **core fibre asset** for the purposes of:  “*c*” in clauses 3.5.7(2) and 3.5.7(3);  “D” in clause 3.5.10(1)(d); and  clause 3.9.7(1),  in accordance with clause 2.2.5(3);  subject to paragraph (f), determined, in respect of the **financial loss asset** for the purpose of Part 3, in accordance with clause 3.3.1(2); and  determined, in respect of the **financial loss asset** for the purposes of:  “*c*” in clauses 3.5.7(2) and 3.5.7(3);  “D” in clause 3.5.10(1)(d); and  clause 3.9.7(1),  in accordance with clause 2.2.6(1); | |
| operating cost | means:  for the purpose of determining the **financial loss asset**, has the meaning specified in Schedule B  ; and  in all other instances, a cost incurred by a **regulated provider** in the provision of-  **regulated FFLAS** alone;  **services that are not regulated FFLAS** alone; or  **regulated FFLAS** and one or more **services that are not regulated FFLAS**,  and excludes-  a cost that is treated as a cost of an asset by **GAAP**;  amounts that are depreciation, tax, subvention payments, revaluations or an interest expense, in accordance with their meanings under **GAAP**;  **debt issuance costs**;  **pecuniary penalties**; and  the legal costs of any appeals against input methodology determinations under Part 6 of the **Act**; | |
| operating expenditure | means:-  in respect of subparts 7 and 8 of Part 3, means the value of operating costs attributable to PQ FFLAS supplied by Chorus which are incurred in a regulatory period; and  in all other instances, means the value of operating costs attributable to PQ FFLAS supplied by a regulated provider which are incurred in a regulatory period; | |
| **ordering** | means:   1. for the purpose of Part 2, processing and management of a request from an **access seeker** to provide **ID FFLAS**, change **ID FFLAS**, change an **end-user’s ID FFLAS** connection from one **access seeker** to another **access seeker**, and disconnect **ID FFLAS**, including how the request is accepted or rejected; and 2. for the purpose of Part 3, processing and management of a request from an **access seeker** to provide **PQ FFLAS**, change **PQ FFLAS**, change an **end-user’s PQ FFLAS** connection from one **access seeker** to another **access seeker**, and disconnect **PQ FFLAS**,including how the request is accepted or rejected; | |
| **outage** | means:  for the purpose of Part 2, a cessation in the supply of **ID FFLAS**; and  for the purpose of Part 3, a cessation in the supply of **PQ FFLAS**: | |
| **P** | | |
| Part 4 regulated service | means a service that is subject to regulation under Part 4 of the Commerce Act 1986; | |
| Part 4 regulated supplier | means a supplier of regulated goods or services; | |
| pass-through cost | has the meaning specified in clause 3.1.2; | |
| pecuniary penalties | means fines or penalties imposed-  by a court; or  by any other body with a statutory power to impose such fines or penalties; | |
| **performance** | means:   1. for the purpose of Part 2, the technical functioning of **ID** **FFLAS**, including the extent to which this affects theexperience of an **access seeker** or **end-user**; and 2. for the purpose of Part 3, the technical functioning of **PQ FFLAS**, including the extent to which this affects theexperience of an **access seeker** or **end-user**; | |
| **planned outage** | means a scheduled **outage** that a **regulated provider** has notified to **access seekers:**   * 1. in advance; and   2. in accordance with relevant procedures as:   agreed between the **regulated provider** and **access seeker**;  prescribed in regulations made under Part 6 of the **Act**; or  prescribed in a determination made under s 170 of the **Act**; | |
| **port utilisation** | means the amount of traffic on a **fibre** **network** port relative to the port’s capacity over time; | |
| PQ determination | means a price-quality determination made under s 170 of the Act in respect of a regulatory period; | |
| PQ FFLAS | means, in respect of a **regulated provider**, all **FFLAS** provided by that **regulated provider** that is subject to price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act**; | |
| PQ RAB | means, in respect of a **regulated provider**, all **fibre assets** that are **employed** by that **regulated provider** in the provision of **PQ FFLAS**; | |
| prescribed investor rate | has the same meaning as defined in the Income Tax Act 2007; | |
| programme | means a group of related projects with a common purpose; | |
| project | means a temporary endeavour requiring concerted effort, undertaken to create a defined outcome; | |
| proposed capex | means capital expenditure that is part of a capex proposal; | |
| **provisioning** | means:   1. for the purpose of Part 2, the process by which a **regulated provider** installs, activates, changes (including bulk migrations from one type of  **ID** **FFLAS** to another) and disconnects **ID FFLAS**; and 2. for the purpose of Part 3, the process by which a **regulated provider** installs, activates, changes(including bulk migrationsfrom one type of **PQ** **FFLAS** to another) and disconnects **PQ FFLAS**; | |
| proxy asset allocator | 1. for the purpose of determining the **financial loss asset**, has the meaning specified in Schedule B; and 2. in all other instances, means a ratio-   used to allocate **asset values** for which a **causal relationship** cannot be established; and  whose quantum is based on factors in existence during the 12-month period terminating on the last day of the most recent **disclosure year** in respect of which the proxy allocation is carried out,  which in each case-  is consistent with similar measures, both within a **disclosure year** and from year to year; and  is objectively justifiable and demonstrably reasonable; | |
| proxy cost allocator | 1. for the purpose of determining the **financial loss asset**, has the meaning specified in Schedule B; 2. in all other instances, means a ratio -   used to allocate **operating costs** for which a **causal relationship** cannot be established; and  whose quantum is based on factors in existence during the 12-month period terminating on the last day of the most recent **disclosure year** in respect of which the cost allocation is carried out,  which in each case-  is consistent with similar measures, both within a **disclosure year** and from year to year; and  is objectively justifiable and demonstrably reasonable; | |
| **public notice** | has the same meaning as defined in s 6 of the **Act**; | |
| **Q** | | |
| qualifying debt | has, for the purpose of:   * 1. Part 2, the meaning specified in clause 2.4.6(1); and   2. Part 3, the meaning specified in clause 3.5.8(1); | |
| qualifying issuer | means a New Zealand resident limited liability company that-  undertakes the majority of its business activities in Australia and New Zealand; or  is part of a corporate group that undertakes the majority of its business activities in Australia and New Zealand;  and-  does not operate predominantly in the banking or finance industries; or  is part of a corporate group that does not operate predominantly in the banking or finance industries; and  that issues **vanilla NZ$ denominated bonds** that are publicly traded; | |
| qualifying provider | has, for the purpose of:   1. Part 2, the meaning specified in clause 2.4.6(2); and 2. Part 3, the meaning specified in clause 3.5.8(2); | |
| qualifying rating | means-  a Standard and Poor’s long-term credit rating of the specified grade; or  an equivalent long-term credit rating of another internationally recognised rating agency; | |
| **quality dimensions** | has the same meaning as defined in s 164(1) of the **Act**; | |
| **R** | | |
| RAB | means, in respect of a **regulated provider**:  **ID RAB**;  **PQ RAB**; and  any **additional RAB**; | |
| regulated FFLAS | means any and all **FFLAS classes** as the case may be and context requires;  *Example: Where a* ***regulated provider*** *is subject to information disclosure regulation and price-quality regulation in respect of “all* ***FFLAS****” in regulations made under s 226 of the* ***Act*** *and that* ***regulated provider*** *constructs or acquires an asset and* ***employs*** *that asset in the provision of any* ***FFLAS****, that asset will be a “****fibre asset****”.*  *That asset is* ***employed*** *in the provision of “****regulated FFLAS****” because it is* ***employed*** *in the provision of I****D FFLAS*** *and* ***PQ FFLAS****.*  *That asset:*   * *will be in the* ***ID RAB*** *and* ***PQ RAB****; and* * *may also be in an* ***additional RAB*** *(as the* ***Commission*** *may from time to time specify for the purposes of Part 6 of the* ***Act****).* | |
| regulated fibre service provider | has the same meaning as ‘regulated fibre service provider’ as defined in s 5 of the Act; | |
| regulated goods or services | has the same meaning as defined in s 52C of the Commerce Act 1986; | |
| regulated provider | * 1. for the purpose of Part 2, means a person who is prescribed in regulations made under s 226 as being subject to information disclosure regulation; and   2. for the purpose of Part 3, means a person who is prescribed in regulations made under s 226 as being subject to price-quality regulation; | |
| regulatory net taxable income | has the meaning in clause 2.3.1(2); | |
| regulatory period | means the relevant regulatory period for price-quality regulation applicable to a regulated provider as notified in a **PQ determination**; | |
| regulatory period term | means a period of time in years that matches the length of the current **regulatory period**, but which may commence at a different time to the current **regulatory period**; | |
| regulatory profit / (loss) before tax | has, for the purpose of:   1. Part 2, the meaning specified in clause 2.3.1(5); and 2. Part 3, the meaning specified in clause 3.4.1(4); | |
| regulatory tax asset value | 1. for the purpose of a **fibre asset**, has the meaning in clause 2.3.2(1); and 2. for the purpose of a **UFB asset**, has the meaning in Schedule B; | |
| regulatory taxable income | has the meaning in clause 2.3.1(3); | |
| regulatory template | means tables of information requirements regarding **Chorus’** proposed **base capex** and proposed **connection capex** as agreed under clauses 3.7.8(3) and 3.7.14(3) or as specified under clauses 3.7.8(4) and 3.7.14(4); | |
| regulatory year | means a 12-month period ending on 31 December, where if the term “regulatory year” is combined with a year, the 12-month period ending on 31 December of that year (for instance, “**regulatory year** 2022” means the 12-month period ending on 31 December 2022); | |
| related party | 1. for the purpose of determining the **financial loss asset**, has the meaning specified in Schedule B; and 2. in all other instances, means-   a person that is related to the **regulated provider**, where the **regulated provider** would be considered as the ‘reporting entity’ as specified in the definition of ‘related party’ in **NZ IAS 24**; or  any part of the **regulated provider** that does not provide **regulated FFLAS**; | |
| related party transaction | 1. for the purpose of determining the **financial loss asset**, has the meaning specified in Schedule B; and 2. in all other instances, means-   the procurement of a **core fibre asset** or good or service from a **related party** by the part of the **regulated provider** that provides **regulated FFLAS**; or  the sale or supply of a **core fibre asset** or good or service to a **related party** by the part of the **regulated provider** that provides **regulated FFLAS**; | |
| remaining asset life | means the term remaining of the **fibre asset’s** asset life; | |
| reopener event | has the meaning specified in clause 3.9.1(2); | |
| **restore** | means:   1. for the purpose of Part 2, when **ID FFLAS** functions again following a **fault**; and 2. for the purpose of Part 3, when **PQ FFLAS** functions again following a **fault**; | |
| **result of asset allocation ratio** | means-   1. where **regulatory tax asset value** is determined at **implementation date** or thereafter, has the meaning in clause 2.3.2(4); and 2. where **regulatory tax asset value** is determined in the **financial loss period**, has the meaning in Schedule B; | |
| revaluation | means the amount, which may be a negative number-  determined, for the purpose of Part 2, in accordance with clause 2.2.11(2); and  determined, for the purpose of Part 3, in accordance with clause 3.3.1(2); | |
| revaluation rate | means the amount specified in clause 2.2.11(4); | |
| right-of-use asset | has the same meaning as under **GAAP** except that it excludes any part of the cost of that asset that is a **pass-through cost**; | |
| **S** | | |
| sale adjustment | has the meaning specified in clause 2.2.6(4); | |
| sale adjustment value | has the meaning specified in clause 2.2.6(6); | |
| second regulatory period | means the regulatory period that starts on 1 January 2025, where the duration of this regulatory period must be determined by the Commission; | |
| **services that are not regulated FFLAS** | means  **telecommunications services that are not regulated FFLAS**;  any **Part 4 regulated service**; or  any service that is not regulated under Part 6 of the **Act** or Part 4 of the Commerce Act 1986; | |
| sold asset | means a **UFB-related core** **fibre asset** that, in the disclosure year in question, has been sold; | |
| **standard error** | means estimated standard deviation; | |
| **switching** | means:   1. for the purpose of Part 2, the process by which a **regulated provider** changes an **end-user’s ID** **FFLAS** connection from one **access seeker** to another **access seeker**; and 2. for the purpose of Part 3, the process by which a **regulated provider** changes an **end-user’s PQ** **FFLAS** connection from one **access seeker** to another **access seeker**; | |
| **T** | | |
| tax asset value | 1. for the purpose of a fibre asset, has the meaning in clause 2.3.2(2); and 2. for the purpose of a UFB asset, has the meaning in Schedule B; | |
| tax depreciation rules | means:   1. in respect of a **fibre asset**, the tax rules that relate to the determination of **depreciation** allowances for tax purposes; and 2. in respect of a **UFB asset**, the **tax rules** that relate to the determination of depreciation allowances for tax purposes, where ‘depreciation’ has the meaning specified in Schedule B; | |
| tax effect | means the product of multiplication by the corporate tax rate; | |
| tax rules | means the rules applicable to a **regulated provider** for determining income tax payable under the Income Tax Act 2007; | |
| telecommunications service | has the same meaning as defined in s 5 of the Act; | |
| telecommunications service provider | means an entity where a majority of its business relates to providing telecommunications services; | |
| telecommunications services that are not regulated FFLAS | means any **telecommunications service** provided by a **regulated provider** that is not **regulated FFLAS**; | |
| term credit spread difference | means the amount determined:   1. for the purpose of Part 2, in accordance with clause 2.4.7(1); and 2. for the purpose of Part 3, in accordance with clause 3.5.9(1); | |
| term credit spread differential | means the amount determined:   1. for the purpose of Part 2, in accordance with clause 2.4.8(3); 2. for the purpose of Part 3, in accordance with clause 3.5.10(1); | |
| **term credit spread differential allowance** | for the purpose of-   1. Part 2, means the sum of **term credit spread differentials**; 2. Part 3, in respect of the **first regulatory period**, means the amount determined in accordance with clause 3.5.7(2); and 3. Part 3, in respect of the **second regulatory period** and subsequent **regulatory periods**, means the amount determined in accordance with clause 3.5.7(3); | |
| **total FFLAS revenue** | means all revenue derived by a **regulated provider** from:   1. the provisioning of **PQ FFLAS**; 2. in nominal terms, excluding **GST**; and 3. including discounts and rebates taken up by customers, adjusted in accordance with **GAAP**; | |
| **U** | | |
| UFB asset | has the meaning specified in Schedule B; | |
| **UFB FFLAS** | has the meaning specified in Schedule B; | |
| UFB initiative | has the same meaning as defined in s 5 of the Act; | |
| UFB-related core fibre asset | means **core fibre assets** that were **UFB assets** prior to the **implementation date**; | |
| unallocated closing RAB value | means the value determined in respect of a **core fibre asset**, in accordance with clause 2.2.5(2); | |
| unallocated depreciation | means an allowance to account for the diminution in a **fibre asset’s** remaining service life potential in the disclosure year in question with respect to its unallocated opening RAB value and the amount of such allowance is determined in respect of a **fibre asset**:  for **regulated providers** subject only to information disclosure regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act**, in accordance with clause 2.2.7(2);  for **regulated fibre service providers** subject to both information disclosure regulation and price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act**:  subject to paragraph (b)(ii), in accordance with clause 2.2.8(2); and  in respect of **fibre assets** in the **ID RAB** that are **employed** in the provision of **ID-only FFLAS**, in accordance with clause 2.2.8(5); and  for **regulated providers** subject to price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act**, determined in respect of **fibre assets** in the **PQ RAB**, in accordance with clause 3.3.2(2); | |
| unallocated initial RAB value | means the value of a **core fibre asset** in an **initial RAB** determined in accordance with clause 2.2.3(1); | |
| unallocated opening RAB value | means the value determined in respect of a **core fibre asset**, in accordance with clause 2.2.5(1); | |
| unallocated revaluation | means the amount determined in accordance with clause 2.2.11(1); | |
| **unplanned outage** | means an **outage** that is not a **planned outage**; | |
| utilised tax losses | means the amount determined in accordance with clause 2.3.3(1); | |
| **V** | | |
| value of commissioned asset | for the purpose of determining the **financial loss asset**, has the meaning specified in Schedule B;  means the value determined, for the purpose of Part 2, in respect of **core fibre assets** **commissioned** prior to the **implementation date**, in accordance with clause 2.2.13(1);  means the value determined, for the purpose of Part 2, in respect of **core fibre assets commissioned** on or after the **implementation date**, in accordance with clause 2.2.13(2); and  means the value determined, for the purpose of Part 3, in accordance with clause 3.3.1(2); | |
| valuer | means an individual who-  is registered as a valuer under the Valuers Act 1948;  holds a current practising certificate issued by-  the Property Institute of New Zealand; or  the New Zealand Institute of Valuers;  has been engaged to act in their professional capacity as a valuer; and  is **independent**; | |
| vanilla NZ$ denominated bonds | means senior unsecured nominal debt obligations denominated in New Zealand dollars without callable, puttable, conversion, profit participation, credit enhancement or collateral features; | |
| variable connection costs | means costs for each **connection type** that are directly driven by the demand for new **end-user** connections and that vary with each new **end-user** connection; | |
| vested asset | 1. for the purpose of determining the **financial loss asset**, has the meaning specified in Schedule B; and 2. in all other instances, means a **core fibre asset** associated with the provision of **regulated FFLAS**, received by a **regulated provider**-   without provision of consideration; or  with provision of nominal consideration; | |
| **W** | | |
| WACC | means weighted average cost of capital; | |
| wash-up amount | means the amount determined by the Commission as specified in a PQ determination for a regulatory year in relation to the wash-up mechanism referred to in s 196(2) of the Act; | |
| working day | has the same meaning as defined in s 5 of the Act; and | |
| works under construction | means an asset, or a collection ofassets that-  has been, is being or is forecast to be constructed by, or on behalf of, a **regulated provider**;  has not been **commissioned**; and  the **regulated provider** intends to **commission**. | |

1. INPUT METHODOLOGIES FOR INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
   1. Cost allocation
      * 1. Allocation between regulated FFLAS and servicesthat are not regulated FFLAS
           1. Any-

**operating costs**; and

**asset values**,

that are **directly attributable** to the provision of **regulated FFLAS** by the **regulated provider** must be allocated to **regulated FFLAS**.

* + - * 1. The following must not be allocated to **regulated FFLAS**:

any **operating cost** that is **directly attributable** to the provision of **services that are not regulated FFLAS**;

any **asset value** that is **directly attributable** to the provision of **services that are not regulated FFLAS**; or

any other cost that is recovered in respect of a **Part 4 regulated service**.

* + - * 1. **ABAA** must be applied in accordance with clause 2.1.2 when any of the following are allocated:

**operating costs** that are not **directly attributable** to **regulated FFLAS** or **services that are not regulated FFLAS**; and

**asset values** that are not **directly attributable** to **regulated** **FFLAS** or **services that are not regulated FFLAS**.

* + - 1. Accounting-based allocation approach (ABAA)
         1. Cost allocators must be used to allocate operating costs not directly attributable to either-

**regulated** FFLAS; or

**services that are not regulated FFLAS**.

* + - * 1. Asset allocators must be used to allocate asset values not directly attributable to either-

**regulated FFLAS**; or

**services that are not regulated FFLAS**.

* + - 1. Allocation between FFLAS classes for regulated fibre service providers subject to both information disclosure regulation and price-quality regulation
         1. If in respect of a **regulated fibre service provider** subject to both information disclosure regulation and price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act**, **operating costs** or **asset values** are allocated to **regulated FFLAS**, the **operating costs** or **asset values** must be further allocated as follows:

**operating costs** or **asset values** that are **directly attributable** to the provision of-

**PQ FFLAS** must be allocated to **PQ FFLAS**; and

**ID-only FFLAS** must be allocated to I**D-only FFLAS**;

in respect of **operating costs** that are not **directly** **attributable** to the provision of **PQ FFLAS** or **ID-only FFLAS**, **cost allocators** must be used to allocate those **operating costs** to either:

**PQ FFLAS**; or

**ID-only FFLAS**; and

in respect of **asset values** that are not **directly** **attributable** to the provision of **PQ FFLAS** or **ID-only FFLAS**, **asset allocators** must be used to allocate those **asset values** to either:

**PQ FFLAS**; or

**ID-only FFLAS**.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (1), the **financial loss asset** must be treated as being **directly attributable** to **PQ FFLAS**.
        2. If the **Commission** specifies an **additional FFLAS class**-

any **operating costs** or **asset values** allocated to **PQ FFLAS** that are-

**directly attributable** to that **additional FFLAS class** must be further allocated to that **additional** **FFLAS class**; and

not **directly attributable** to that **additional** **FFLAS class** must be further allocated using:

1. **cost allocators** to allocate **operating costs**; and
2. **asset allocators** to allocate **asset values**; and

any **operating costs** or **asset values** allocated to **ID-only FFLAS** that are-

**directly attributable** to that **additional** **FFLAS class** must be further allocated to that **additional** **FFLAS class**; and

not **directly attributable** to the **additional** **FFLAS class** must be further allocated using-

1. **cost allocators** to allocate **operating costs**; and
2. **asset allocators** to allocate **asset values**.
   * + 1. Allocation between FFLAS classes for regulated providers subject only to

information disclosure regulation

* + - * 1. If in respect of a **regulated provider** subject only to information disclosure regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act**, **operating costs** or **asset values** are allocated to **regulated FFLAS**, the **operating costs** or **asset values** must be further allocated as follows:

if the **Commission** specifies an **additional** **FFLAS class**-

any **operating costs** or **asset values** allocated to **regulated FFLAS** that are **directly attributable** to that **additional** **FFLAS class** must be allocated to that **additional** **FFLAS class**; and

any **operating costs** or **asset values** allocated to **regulated FFLAS** that are not **directly attributable** to that **additional** **FFLAS class** must be allocated using-

1. **cost allocators** to allocate **operating costs**; and
2. **asset allocators** to allocate **asset values**; and

for the purpose of paragraph (a), the **financial loss asset** must be treated as being **directly attributable** to **regulated FFLAS**.

* + - 1. Allocation requirements for ABAA
         1. A **regulated provider** must:

update the **allocator values** it uses to apply **ABAA** in accordance with clause 2.1.2 no less than once every 12 months; and

review its choice of **allocator types** for **cost allocators**, **proxy cost allocators**, **asset allocators** and **proxy asset allocators** no less than once every 18 months.

* + - * 1. A **regulated provider** or **regulated fibre service provider** (whichever the case may be) must update the **allocator values** it uses to apply **cost allocators** and **asset allocators** in accordance with clause 2.1.3 or 2.1.4 (whichever the case may require) no less than once every 12 months.
        2. Where a regulated provider or **regulated fibre service provider** (whichever the case may be) uses a **proxy cost allocator** for the purposes of clause 2.1.2(1), 2.1.3(1)(b), 2.1.3(3)(a)(ii), 2.1.3(3)(b)(ii), or 2.1.4(1)(a)(ii) or a **proxy asset allocator** for the purposes of clause 2.1.2(2), 2.1.3(1)(c), 2.1.3(3)(a)(ii), 2.1.3(3)(b)(ii), or 2.1.4(1)(a)(ii), it must, in accordance with the requirements in the relevant **ID determination**, explain-

why a **causal relationship** cannot be established; and

the rationale used for the **proxy cost allocator** or **proxy asset allocator**.

* + - * 1. For the purposes of establishing an **initial RAB**, a **regulated provider** must apply the same **allocator types** as those used to determine the **financial loss asset** in accordance with Schedule B.
        2. A **regulated fibre service provider** subject to both information disclosure regulation and price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act** must apply the same cost allocation approach as used in Subpart 2 of Part 3 when the actual expenditure is reported, unless-

there is a demonstrably justifiable reason to use an alternative **allocator type**, where the requirements of satisfying that alternative approach are specified in an **ID determination**; or

it uses an **allocator type** that is comparable, in all material respects, to the **allocator type** used in Subpart 2 of Part 3.

* + - * 1. Subject to subclause (7), when a **regulated provider** allocates either an **asset value** or an **operating cost** that is not **directly attributable** to **regulated FFLAS**, the total **asset values** or **operating costs** allocated to **regulated FFLAS** must not be more than the total **asset values** or total **operating costs** that the **regulated provider** could not have avoided if it ceased supplying **services that are not regulated FFLAS**.
        2. Subclause (6) only applies to an allocation or allocations of an **asset value** or an **operating cost** that would have a material effect on the total **asset values** or total **operating costs** allocated to **regulated FFLAS**.

* + - 1. Costs or values in respect of regulated FFLAS
         1. Subject to subclause (2), a regulated provider must, in accordance with the requirements in the relevant **ID determination**, identify-

**operating costs** that are **directly attributable** to **regulated FFLAS**;

**asset values** that are **directly attributable** to **regulated FFLAS**;

**operating costs** which are not **directly attributable** to **regulated FFLAS**,but are incurred in the provision of such **regulated FFLAS**; and

**asset values** which are not **directly attributable** to **regulated FFLAS** but relate to **fibre assets** that are **employed** in the provision of such **regulated FFLAS**.

* + - * 1. As required under an **ID determination**, a **regulated provider** must specify the **operating costs** and **asset values** in subclause (1) in terms of one or more of:

**FFLAS product families**;

geographic coverage; or

level of **fibre network** functionality or other functionality.

* 1. Asset valuation
     + 1. RAB
          1. The relevant **ID determination** must require the disclosure of information for the **ID RAB** and **PQ RAB**.
          2. The relevant **ID determination** may require the disclosure of information for any **additional RAB**.
       2. Composition of an initial RAB
          1. ‘Initial RAB’, in respect of a **regulated provider**, means the collection of **fibre assets** in a given **RAB** as at:

in respect of the ID RAB, the implementation date;

in respect of the PQ RAB, the implementation date;

in respect of an additional RAB, the date specified by the Commission as the date when that additional RAB is first determined.

* + - 1. Initial RAB values of core fibre assets
         1. The ‘unallocated initial RAB value’ of a **core fibre asset** as at the **implementation date** is calculated in accordance with s 177(1) of the **Act**.
         2. The ‘initial RAB value’ of a **core fibre asset** as at the **implementation date** is the **unallocated** **initial RAB value** allocated to regulated FFLAS as a result of-

adopting its unallocated initial RAB value; and

applying:

in respect of actual values, clause 2.1.1 and either 2.1.3 or 2.1.4 (whichever the case may require) to it; and

in respect of forecast values, clause 3.2.1.

* + - * 1. Where an asset is both a **UFB asset** and a **core fibre asset**, it ceases to be a **UFB asset** at **implementation date**.
      1. Initial RAB value of financial loss asset
         1. The ‘initial RAB value’ of the **financial loss asset** for a **regulated provider** is equal to the financial losses determined by the **Commission** in respect of the **financial loss period** in accordance with s 177(2) and (3) of the **Act**.
         2. For the purposes of subclause (1), financial losses for a **regulated provider** are calculated in accordance with Schedule B.

;

* + - 1. RAB roll forward of core fibre assets
         1. ‘Unallocated opening RAB value’ in respect of a **core fibre asset** in relation to-

the disclosure year 2022, is the **core fibre asset’s** unallocated initial RAB value; and

a disclosure year thereafter, is the **core fibre asset’s** unallocated closing RAB value in the preceding disclosure year.

* + - * 1. ‘Unallocated closing RAB value’ in respect of a **core fibre asset** means, in the case of-

a disposed asset, nil;

a **core fibre asset** with a commissioning date in the disclosure year in question, its value of commissioned asset; and

any other **core fibre asset** with an unallocated opening RAB value, the value determined in accordance with the formula-

*unallocated opening RAB value – unallocated depreciation + unallocated revaluation*.

* + - * 1. ‘Opening RAB value’ in respect of a **core fibre asset** in relation to-

the disclosure year 2022, is the **core fibre asset’s** initial RAB value; and

a disclosure year thereafter, is the **core fibre asset’s** closing RAB value in the preceding disclosure year.

* + - * 1. ‘Closing RAB value’, in respect of a **core fibre asset**, is the value allocated to regulated FFLAS as a result of-

adopting the **core fibre asset’s** unallocated closing RAB value; and

applying:

in respect of actual values, clause 2.1.1 and either 2.1.3 or 2.1.4 (whichever the case may require) to the **core fibre asset**; and

in respect of forecast values, clause 3.2.1.

* + - 1. RAB roll forward of financial loss asset
         1. ‘Opening RAB value’ in respect of the **financial loss asset** in relation to-

the disclosure year 2022, is the **initial RAB value** of the **financial loss asset**; and

a disclosure year thereafter, is the **financial loss asset’s** closing RAB value in the preceding disclosure year multiplied by (1 - deregulation adjustment for the preceding disclosure year - sale adjustment for the preceding disclosure year).

* + - * 1. ‘Closing RAB value’ in respect of the **financial loss asset** means the value determined in accordance with the formula-
        2. The ‘deregulation adjustment’ in subclause (1):

is in respect of the **ID RAB,** nil, where no service has been deregulated from information disclosure regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act** in a **disclosure year**;

is in respect of the **PQ RAB,** nil where no service has been deregulated from price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act** in a **disclosure year**;

is in respect of the **ID RAB**, calculated in accordance with the following formula where a service has been deregulated from information disclosure regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act** in a **disclosure year**-

where:

*DAVsum* is the sum of all **deregulated asset values** and **deregulated shared asset values** for the **disclosure year**, as determined by the **Commission** following deregulation of a service from information disclosure regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act**; and

*CVICFAB* is the **current value of initial core fibre asset base**; and

is in respect of the **PQ RAB**, calculated in accordance with the following formula where a service has been deregulated from price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act** in a **disclosure year**-

where:

*DAVsum* is the sum of all **deregulated asset values** and **deregulated shared asset values** for the **disclosure year**, as determined by the **Commission** following deregulation of a service from price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act**; and

*CVICFAB* is the **current value of initial core fibre asset base**.

* + - * 1. The ‘sale adjustment’ in subclause (1) must be calculated in accordance with the formula-

where:

*SAVsum* is the sum of all **sale adjustment values** for the **disclosure year** for **sold assets**; and

*CVICFAB* is the **current value of initial core fibre asset base**.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (4), where the purchaser is a **regulated provider** or **Part 4 regulated supplier**, it may adjust the value of its regulatory asset base commensurate with the adjustment made to the seller’s **financial loss asset**.
        2. ‘Sale adjustment value’ means the **opening RAB value** for the asset in the **disclosure year** in which the asset was sold.
        3. ‘Current value of initial core fibre asset base’ means the amount determined in accordance with the formula:

**initial value of core fibre asset base**

– the sum of **depreciation** for all current **UFB-related core fibre assets** since the **implementation date**

+the sum of **revaluations** for all current **UFB-related core fibre assets** since the **implementation date**

– the sum of the valuefor all **disposed assets** that were **UFB-related core fibre assets** since the **implementation date**

– the sum of all **deregulated asset values** and **deregulated shared asset values** since the **implementation date**.

* + - * 1. ‘Initial value of core fibre asset base’ means the sum of the **initial RAB values** for each **UFB-related** **core fibre asset** in an **initial RAB**.
        2. ‘Deregulated asset’ means:

for the purposes of the **ID RAB**, an asset, being an asset that:

immediately prior to regulations made under s 226 of the **Act** was a **core fibre asset** **employed** in the provision of **ID FFLAS**; and

immediately after those regulations ceased to be a **core fibre asset** **employed** in the provision of **ID FFLAS**; and

for the purposes of the **PQ RAB**, an asset, being an asset that:

immediately prior to regulations made under s 226 of the **Act** was a **core fibre asset** **employed** in the provision of **PQ FFLAS**; and

immediately after those regulations ceased to be a **core fibre asset** **employed** in the provision of **PQ FFLAS**.

* + - * 1. ‘Deregulated asset value’ means, in respect of a deregulated asset that was a UFB-related core fibre asset, the value of that asset immediately prior to it becoming a deregulated asset.
        2. ‘Deregulated shared asset’ means:

for the purposes of the ID RAB, a core fibre asset with an asset value that is not directly attributable to the provision of regulated FFLAS, where either:

a service for which that core fibre asset is employed is no longer subject to information disclosure regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the Act; or

the circumstances in which a service which that core fibre asset has been employed in supplying is no longer subject to information disclosure regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the Act; and

for the purposes of the PQ RAB, a core fibre asset with an asset value that is not directly attributable to the provision of regulated FFLAS, where either:

a service for which that core fibre asset is employed is no longer subject to price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the Act; or

the circumstances in which a service which that core fibre asset has been employed in supplying is no longer subject to price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the Act.

* + - * 1. ‘Deregulated shared asset value” means in respect of a **deregulated shared asset** that is a **UFB-related core fibre asset**, the valueof that asset calculated in accordance with the following formula:

where:

= the **closing RAB value before deregulation impact** of that asset for the most recent **disclosure year**;

= the **closing RAB value** of that assetfor the most recent **disclosure year** in which any of the following occurred:

a service for which that asset is employed is no longer subject to information disclosure regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the Act;

the circumstances in which a service which that asset has been employed in supplying is no longer subject to information disclosure regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the Act;

a service for which that asset is employed is no longer subject to price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the Act; or

the circumstances in which a service which that asset has been employed in supplying is no longer subject to price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the Act.

* + - * 1. ‘Closing RAB value before deregulation impact’ means:

for the purposes of the **ID RAB**, in respect of a **deregulated shared asset** that is a **UFB-related core fibre asset**, its **closing RAB value** for the most recent **disclosure year** as if no service had been deregulated from information disclosure regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the Act in that disclosure year; and

for the purposes of the **PQ RAB**, in respect of a **deregulated shared asset** that is a **UFB-related core fibre asset**, its **closing RAB value** for the most recent **disclosure year** as if no service had been deregulated from price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the Act in that disclosure year.

* + - 1. Depreciation for regulated providers subject only to information disclosure regulation
         1. **Regulated providers** subject only to information disclosure regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act** must apply a depreciation method consistent with the expected time profile of revenue recovery it applies for the **disclosure year**.
         2. For the purpose of subclause (1), and subject to clause 2.2.9, in the case of a **fibre asset** with an unallocated opening RAB value, ‘unallocated depreciation’ must be determined consistently with the expected time profile of revenue recovery that the **regulated provider** applies for the **disclosure year** in accordance with an **ID determination**, and use:

a depreciation method consistent with **GAAP**; or

any other method.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (1), in the case of a **fibre asset** with an opening RAB value, ‘depreciation’ must be determined consistently with the expected time profile of revenue recovery that the **regulated provider** applies for the **disclosure year**, and use:

a depreciation method consistent with **GAAP**; or

any other method.

* + - * 1. For the purposes of subclauses (2) and (3)-

‘unallocated depreciation’ and ‘depreciation’ are nil in the case of-

land; and

an easement other than a fixed life easement; and

in all other cases, where the **fibre asset’s** remaining asset life at the end of the disclosure year is nil-

‘unallocateddepreciation’ is the **fibre asset’s** unallocated opening RAB value; and

‘depreciation’ is the **fibre** **asset’s** opening RAB value.

* + - 1. Depreciation for regulated fibre service providers subject to both information disclosure regulation and price-quality regulation
         1. Subject to subclause (4), 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,** ‘unallocated depreciation’ and ‘depreciation’ are determined in accordance with subclauses (2)-(3).
         2. For the purpose of subclause (1), in the case of a **fibre asset** with an unallocated opening RAB value, a **regulated fibre service provider** must determine ‘unallocated depreciation’ using a depreciation method consistent with **GAAP**, unless:

an alternative depreciation method is applied for some or all **fibre assets** in accordance with clause 3.3.2(5); or

a different depreciation method is applied for some or all **fibre assets** in accordance with clause 3.3.2(6).

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (1), in the case of a **fibre asset** with an opening RAB value, a **regulated fibre service provider** must determine ‘depreciation’ using a depreciation method consistent with **GAAP**, unless:

an alternative depreciation method is applied for some or all **fibre assets** in accordance with clause 3.3.2(5); or

a different depreciation method is applied for some or all **fibre assets** in accordance with clause 3.3.2(6).

* + - * 1. Where a **regulated fibre service provider** subject to both information disclosure regulation and price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act** provides **ID-only FFLAS**, it must apply a depreciation method for that **ID-only FFLAS** consistent with the expected time profile of revenue recovery it applies for the **disclosure year**.
        2. For the purpose of subclause (4), and subject to clause 2.2.9, in respect of **fibre assets** that are **employed** in the provision of **ID-only FFLAS**, where one of those **fibre assets** has an **unallocated opening RAB value**, ‘unallocated depreciation’ in respect of that **ID-only FFLAS** must be determined consistently with the expected time profile of revenue recovery that the **regulated provider** applies for the **disclosure year** in accordance with an **ID determination**, and use:

a depreciation method consistent with **GAAP**; or

any other method.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (4), and subject to clause 2.2.9, in respect of **fibre assets** that are **employed** in the provision of **ID-only FFLAS**, where one of those **fibre assets** has an **opening RAB value**, ‘depreciation’ in respect of that **ID-only FFLAS** must be determined consistently with the expected time profile of revenue recovery that the **regulated provider** applies for the **disclosure year** in accordance with an **ID determination**, and use:

a depreciation method consistent with **GAAP**; or

any other method.

* + - * 1. For the purposes of subclauses (2), (3), (5), and (6)-

‘unallocated depreciation’ and ‘depreciation’ are nil in the case of-

land; and

an easement other than a fixed life easement; and

in all other cases, where the **fibre asset’s** remaining asset life at the end of the disclosure year is nil-

‘unallocated depreciation’ is the **fibre asset’s** unallocated opening RAB value; and

‘depreciation’ is the **fibre** **asset’s** opening RAB value.

* + - * 1. Subject to clause (4), a **regulated fibre service provider** subject to both information disclosure regulation and price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act** must apply the following depreciation methods when disclosing information in accordance with an **ID determination**:

for the final **disclosure year** in a **regulatory period**, the depreciation method applicable for that **regulatory period** under a **PQ determination**; and

for any other **disclosure year** in a **regulatory period**, the depreciation method applicable to the corresponding **regulatory period** under a **PQ determination**.

* + - 1. Unallocated depreciation constraint
         1. For the purposes of clause 2.2.7(1) and 2.2.8(4), the sum of unallocated depreciation calculated for a **fibre asset** over its asset life must not exceed the sum of-

all unallocated revaluations applying to that asset in all disclosure years; and

in the case of a **fibre asset**-

in an initial RAB, the **fibre asset’s** unallocated initial RAB value; or

not in an initial RAB, the **fibre asset’s** value of commissioned asset,

less-

the **fibre asset’s** **unallocated opening RAB value** in the **disclosure year** in which it becomes a **deregulated asset**.

* + - 1. Asset life
         1. ‘Asset life’ means, in the case of-

a fixed life easement, the fixed duration or fixed period (as the case may be) referred to in the definition of fixed life easement;

a dedicated asset, the duration of the fixed term agreement for the provision of regulated FFLAS between the regulated provider and customer;

a **right-of-use asset**, its asset life determined under **GAAP**;

the **financial loss asset**, either:

the period equivalent to the weighted average life of the **UFB-related core fibre assets** in an **initial RAB** as at the **implementation date**, where the weights used are the **initial RAB values** of those **UFB-related core fibre assets**; or

a period adopted by the **regulated provider** under an alternative method; and

all other **fibre assets**, the asset life adopted by the **regulated provider** under **GAAP**.

* + - 1. Revaluation
         1. Subject to subclause (3), ‘unallocated revaluation’ in respect of a fibre asset is the amount determined in accordance with the formula-
         2. Subject to subclause (3), ‘revaluation’ in respect of a fibre asset is the amount determined in accordance with the formula-
         3. For the purposes of subclauses (1) and (2), **unallocated revaluation** and **revaluation** for that **fibre asset** are nil if a **fibre asset’s** asset life at the end of the disclosure year is nil.
         4. ‘Revaluation rate’ means, in respect of a disclosure year, the amount determined in accordance with the formula-

where-

CPIt means CPI for the quarter that coincides with the end of the disclosure year; and

CPIt-1 means CPI for the quarter that coincides with the end of the preceding disclosure year.

* + - 1. Revaluation treated as income
         1. For the purposes of determining profitability, **revaluation** must be treated as income.
      2. Value of commissionedassets
         1. Subject to subclause (3) and (4), ‘value of commissioned asset’, in relation to a **core fibre asset** with a **commissioning date** prior to the **implementation date** (including a **core fibre asset** in respect of which capital contributions were received, or a vested asset), means-

the cost as of the **commissioning date**-

incurred by a **regulated provider** under **GAAP** in constructing or acquiring the **core fibre asset**, net of **capital contributions**; or

if **Chorus** owned the **core fibre asset** before 1 December 2011, recorded by **Chorus** for the **core fibre asset** in its published general purpose financial statements as of 1 December 2011; and

adjusting that cost for accumulated depreciation and **impairment losses** (if any) recognised by the **regulated provider** (ignoring any accounting adjustment for **Crown financing**), as at the **implementation date**, under **GAAP**.

* + - * 1. Subject to subclause (3) and (4), ‘value of commissioned asset’, in relation to a **core fibre asset** with a **commissioning date** on or after the **implementation date** (including a **core fibre asset** in respect of which capital contributions were received, or a vested asset), means-

the cost as of the **commissioning date**-

incurred by a **regulated provider** under **GAAP** in constructing or acquiring the **core fibre asset**, net of **capital contributions**; or

if **Chorus** owned the **core fibre asset** before 1 December 2011, recorded by **Chorus** for the **core fibre asset** in its published general purpose financial statements as of 1 December 2011; and

adjusting that cost for accumulated depreciation and **impairment losses** (if any) recognised by the **regulated provider** (ignoring any accounting adjustment for **Crown financing**), as at the **commissioning date**, under **GAAP**.

* + - * 1. For the purposes of subclauses (1)-(2), the **value of commissioned asset** of-

an **easement**, is limited to its market value as on its **commissioning date** as determined by a **valuer**;

**easement land** is nil;

a network spare is nil, where it is not held in accordance with **good telecommunications industry practice**;

a **network spare** whose cost is not treated wholly as or part of the cost of a **core fibre asset** under GAAP, is nil;

a **core fibre asset** acquired from another regulated provider and **employed** by that regulated provider in theprovision of regulated FFLAS, is limited to the **unallocated closing RAB value** of the **core fibre asset** that would have applied for the other regulated provider in the **disclosure year** when the **core fibre asset** was transferred;

a **core fibre asset** that was previously **employed** by a **regulated provider** or another entity in the supplyof **Part 4** regulated services, is limited to the ‘unallocated opening RAB value’ of the **core fibre asset** in relation to those **Part 4** regulated services as on the day before the commissioning date (as ‘unallocated opening RAB value’ is defined in the input methodologies as applying to the supply of **Part 4 regulated services** supplied by the regulated provider or other entity);

a **core fibre asset** or a component of a **core fibre asset** acquired in a related party transaction, is the cost specified in clause 2.2.15; and

a vested asset, in respect of which the **vested asset’s** fair value is treated as its cost under GAAP, must exclude any amount of the fair value of the **vested asset** determined under GAAP that exceeds the amount of consideration provided by the regulated provider.

* + - * 1. When applying GAAP for the purposes of subclauses (1)-(2), the cost of financing is-

applicable only in respect of the period commencing on the date an assetbecomes a works under construction and terminating on its commissioning date; and

for each applicable **disclosure year**, calculated using a rate not greater than the **regulated provider’s** weighted average of borrowing costs for each applicable **disclosure year**.

* + - * 1. For the purposes of subclause (4)(b), the ‘weighted average of borrowing costs’ is calculated for a **disclosure year** using principles set out in **GAAP**, where:

the cost of financing rate is the weighted average of the costs applicable to borrowings in respect of **capital expenditure** that are outstanding during the **disclosure year**;

the total costs applicable to borrowings outstanding, as used in calculating the weighted average, must include costs of borrowings made specifically for the purpose of any particular **capital expenditure projects** or **capital expenditure programmes**;

the amount of borrowing costs capitalised during the **disclosure year** must not exceed the amount of borrowing costs incurred during the **disclosure year**;

if a **regulated provider** receives a **capital contribution**, the relevant asset becomes **works under construction** for the purposes of calculating the cost of financing;

subject to paragraph (i), a **capital contribution** will reduce the cost of **works** **under construction** for the purpose of the calculation of the finance cost, even if the resulting value of **works under construction** is negative;

subject to paragraph (g), if the value of **works under construction** is negative in accordance with paragraph (e), the cost of financing for the period ending on the **commissioning date** will be negative;

if the cost of financing an asset which is **works under construction** is negative under paragraph (f), the value of the relevant asset or assets will reduce by that negative amount if such a reduction is not otherwise made under **GAAP**;

for the purpose of paragraph (d), **works under construction** includes assets that are forecast to be enhanced or acquired; and

if the cost of financing is derived as income in relation to **works under** **construction** and is both negative and included in regulatory income under an **ID determination**, the value of the relevant asset or assets will not reduce if such a reduction is not otherwise made under **GAAP**.

* + - * 1. For the avoidance of doubt-

revenue derived in relation to works under construction that is not included in regulatory income under an ID determination or preceding regulatory information disclosure requirements reduces the cost of an asset by the amount of the revenue if such a reduction is not otherwise made under GAAP; and

if, after a **core fibre asset** is **commissioned**, a **regulated provider** incurs expenditure on the **core fibre asset** that forms part of the cost of that **core fibre asset** under GAAP, such expenditure is treated as relating to a separate asset.

* + - 1. Minimum levels of specificity required to describe assets in RAB
         1. A **regulated provider** must ensure it maintains adequate records, recording the regulatory characteristics of assets that make up the **fibre assets** in an **initial RAB** and any subsequent **closing RAB value** and **opening RAB value**,to satisfy the following minimum levels of specificity-

in respect of the **financial loss period**:

the level of specificity required under **GAAP**; and

with such additional records as are necessary to satisfy the minimum level of asset specificity consistent with **good telecommunications industry practice**;

on or after the **implementation date**, as set out in Table A.1 of Schedule A.

* + - 1. Related party transactions
         1. For the purposes of clause 2.2.13(3)(g), the cost of a **core fibre asset**, or a component of a **core fibre asset**, acquired in a **related party transaction**, must be determined on the basis that–

it must be given a value not greater than if that transaction had the terms of an **arm’s-length transaction**;

an objective and independent measure must be used in determining the terms of an **arm’s-length transaction**; and

the value that qualifies for recognition as the cost of the **core fibre asset** or the component of a **core fibre asset** must not exceed the actual amount charged to the **regulated provider** by the **related party**.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (1)(a), a **related party transaction** will be treated as if it had the terms of an **arm’s-length transaction** if the **core fibre asset**, or component of the **core fibre asset**, acquired from a **related party** is valued at the cost incurred by the **related party**, provided that this is-

fair and reasonable to the **regulated provider**; and

substantially the same as the cost that has been incurred or would be incurred by the **related party** in providing the same type of **core fibre asset** to third parties.

* 1. Taxation
     + 1. Regulatory tax allowance
          1. Regulatory tax allowance is, where **regulatory net taxable income** is-

nil or a positive number, the **tax effect** of **regulatory net taxable income**; and

a negative number, nil.

* + - * 1. ‘Regulatory net taxable income’ is **regulatory taxable income** less **utilised tax losses**.
        2. Subject to subclause (4), ‘regulatory taxable income’ is the amount determined after applying the **tax rules**, excluding the **tax rules** that apply to the effect of any tax losses, to **regulatory profit / (loss) before tax**.
        3. For the purposes of determining **regulatory taxable income**, if the **tax rules** allow for a choice of methods in calculating taxable income, the same method as that elected to be used by the **regulated provider** must also be used to determine the **regulatory taxable income**.
        4. ‘Regulatory profit / (loss) before tax’ means the amount of regulatory profit / (loss) before tax as determined in accordance with an **ID determination**.
        5. For the purpose of subclause (3), in applying the tax rules in respect of particular items of income and expenses included in **regulatory profit / (loss) before tax**-

in respect of **fibre assets**, any tax deduction for interest incurred in relation to debt must be substituted with a tax deduction for **notional deductible interest**;

any tax deduction for depreciation is only available in respect of a **fibre asset** or **UFB asset** and must be calculated by applying the tax depreciation rules to the regulatory tax asset value of the fibre asset or UFB asset in question; and

the following must be ignored:

any revaluation included in **regulatory profit / (loss) before tax**; and

the effect of any tax losses (other than those produced from the provision of **regulated** **FFLAS** in respect of **fibre assets** and the provision of **UFB FFLAS** in respect of **UFB assets**) made by a **regulated provider**.

* + - * 1. ‘Notional deductible interest’ means the value determined in accordance with the following formula:

(*sum of all* ***opening RAB values*** *– Crown financing outstanding*) x ***leverage*** *x* ***cost of debt***

where:

“Crown financing outstanding” is the amount of Crown financing outstanding as of the last day of the preceding disclosure year.

* + - 1. Regulatory tax asset value
         1. ‘Regulatory tax asset value’, in relation to a **fibre asset**, means the value determined in accordance with the formula-

* + - * 1. ‘Tax asset value’ means-

in respect of the following **fibre assets**, the value of the **fibre asset** determined by applying the tax depreciation rules to its **notional tax asset value**:

a **fibre asset** in an initial RAB where, as of the date when the ‘regulatory tax asset value’ is determined at **implementation date**, the sum of unallocated initial RAB values is less than the sum of the adjusted tax values of all **fibre assets** in an initial RAB;

a **fibre asset** acquired from a regulated provider who used it to provide **regulated** **FFLAS**;

a **fibre asset** acquired from a Part 4 regulated supplier who used it to supplyPart 4 regulated services;

a **core fibre asset** acquired or transferred from a related party; and

in respect of any other **fibre asset**, its adjusted tax value.

* + - * 1. ‘Notional tax asset value’ means-

for the purpose of subclause (2)(a)(i), adjusted tax value of the **fibre asset** as of the **implementation date** adjusted to account proportionately for the difference between:

the sum of the unallocated initial RAB values for all core fibre assets and the opening RAB value of the financial loss asset; and

sum of the adjusted tax values of all **fibre assets** in an initial RAB;

for the purpose of subclause (2)(a)(ii), value after applying the tax depreciation rules to the ‘tax asset value’ in respect of the **regulated provider** from which the **fibre asset** was acquired in respect of the disclosure year in which the **fibre asset** was acquired;

for the purpose of subclause (2)(a)(iii), value after applying the tax depreciation rules to the tax asset value (as 'tax asset value' is defined in the input methodologies applying to the Part 4 regulated service in question) in respect of the disclosure year in which the **fibre asset** was acquired; and

for the purpose of subclause (2)(a)(iv), value in respect of the disclosure year in which the **core** **fibre asset** was acquired or transferred that is-

consistent with the tax rules; and

limited to its value of commissioned asset or, if relevant capital **contributions** are treated for tax purposes in accordance with section CG 8 of the Income Tax Act 2007 (or subsequent equivalent provisions), limited to the value of commissioned asset plus any taxed capital contributions applicable to the core fibre asset and does not include any Crown financing.

* + - * 1. Where ‘regulatory tax asset value’ is determined at **implementation date** or thereafter, ‘result of asset allocation ratio’ means-

where a **core fibre asset** or group of **core fibre assets** maintained under the tax rules has a matching **core fibre asset** or group of **core fibre assets** maintained for the purposes of an **ID determination**, the value obtained in accordance with the formula-

applying the formula in respect of the **core fibre asset** or smallest group of **core fibre assets** maintained for the purposes of an **ID determination** that has a matching **core fibre asset** or group of **core fibre assets** maintained under the tax rules; and

where a **core fibre asset** or group of **core fibre assets** maintained under the tax rules does not have a matching **core fibre asset** or group of **core fibre assets** maintained for the purposes of an **ID determination**, the value of the **core fibre asset** allocated to the provision of **regulated** FFLAS were Subpart 1 to apply to the **core fibre asset** or group of **fibre assets**; and

in respect of the **financial loss asset**, nil.

* + - 1. Tax losses
         1. ‘Utilised tax losses’ means opening tax losses, subject to subclause (2).
         2. For the purpose of subclause (1), utilised tax losses may not exceed **regulatory taxable income**.
         3. In this clause, ‘opening tax losses’-

on 1 December 2011, are nil;

for **disclosure year** 2012, are closing tax losses on the last day of **disclosure year** 2012; and

for a **disclosure year** that commenced after **disclosure year** 2012, are closing tax losses for the preceding **disclosure year**.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclauses (3)(b)-(c), ‘closing tax losses’ means the amount determined in accordance with the following formula, in which each term is an absolute value:
        2. For the purpose of subclause (4), ‘current period tax losses’ is, where **regulatory taxable income** is-

nil or a positive number, nil; and

a negative number, **regulatory taxable income**.

* 1. Cost of capital
     + 1. Methodology for estimating the weighted average cost of capital
          1. The Commission will determine a mid-point estimate of vanilla WACC for each disclosure year-

in respect of the **regulatory period term** commencing on the first day of the disclosure year in question;

within 1 month of the start of the disclosure year in question; and

in accordance with the formula-

rd L + re(1 - L).

* + - * 1. The Commission will determine a mid-point estimate of post-tax WACC for each disclosure year-

in respect of the **regulatory period term** commencing on the first day of the disclosure year in question;

within 1 month of the start of the disclosure year in question; and

in accordance with the formula-

rd (1 - Tc)L + re (1 - L).

* + - * 1. In this clause-

L is leverage;

rd is the cost of debt and is estimated in accordance with the formula:

rf + p + d;

re is the cost of equity and is estimated in accordance with the formula:

rf(1 - Ti) + βeTAMRP;

Tc is the average corporate tax rate;

rf is the risk-free rate;

p is the **average** debt premium;

d is the debt issuance costs;

Ti is the average investor tax rate;

βe is the equity beta; and

TAMRP is the tax-adjusted market risk premium.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of this clause-

the average investor tax rate, the equity beta, the debt issuance costs, the leverage, the average **corporate tax rate** and the tax-adjusted market risk premium are the amounts specified in or determined in accordance with clause 2.4.2; and

the risk-free rate must be estimated in accordance with clause 2.4.3.

* + - 1. Fixed WACC parameters
         1. ‘Leverage’ means the ratio of debt capital to total capital and is 31%.
         2. ’Average investor tax rate’ is the average of the investor tax rates that, as at the date that the estimation is made, will apply to each of the disclosure years in the **regulatory period term** commencing on the first day of the disclosure year in question.
         3. For the purpose of subclause (2), 'investor tax rate' is, for each **disclosure year**, the maximum **prescribed investor rate** applicable at the start of that **disclosure year** to an individual who is-

a resident in New Zealand; and

an investor in a multi-rate PIE.

* + - * 1. The ‘average corporate tax rate’ is the average of the corporate tax rates that, as at the date that the estimation is made, will apply during the **regulatory period term** commencing on the first day of the disclosure year in question.
        2. The ’Equity beta’ is 0.71.
        3. ’Debt issuance costs’ are costs associated with the issuance of debt by a **regulated provider** and are determined by the term of the **regulatory period**, where-

for a five year **regulatory period**, this is 0.2%;

for a four year **regulatory period**, this is 0.25%; and

for a three year **regulatory period**, this is 0.33%.

* + - * 1. ‘Tax-adjusted market risk premium’ is 7.5%.
      1. Methodology for estimating risk-free rate
         1. The Commission will estimate a risk-free rate-

for each disclosure year; and

within 1 month of the start of the disclosure year in question,

by-

obtaining, for notional benchmark New Zealand government New Zealand dollar denominated nominal bonds, the wholesale market linearly-interpolated bid yield to maturity for a residual period to maturity equal to the **regulatory period term** on each business day in the 3 months preceding the start of the disclosure year;

calculating the annualised interpolated bid yield to maturity for each business day; and

calculating the unweighted arithmetic average of the daily annualised interpolated bid yields to maturity.

* + - 1. Methodology for estimating average debt premium
         1. The **Commission** will determine an estimate of an amount for the **average debt premium**-

for each **disclosure year**; and

within 1 month of each **disclosure year**.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (1), ‘average debt premium’ means the unweighted arithmetic average of the five **debt premium** values estimated in accordance with subclauses (4) and (5) for:

the current **debt premium reference year**; and

the four previous **debt premium reference years**.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (2)(a), ‘current debt premium reference year’ refers to the **debt premium reference year** that contains the start of the **disclosure year**.
        2. ‘Debt premium’ means the spread between-

the bid yield to maturity on vanilla NZ$ denominated bonds that-

are issued by a regulated fibre service provider;

are publicly traded;

have a qualifying rating of grade BBB+; and

have a remaining term to maturity of 5 years; and

the contemporaneous interpolated bid yield to maturity of notional benchmark New Zealand government New Zealand dollar denominated nominal bonds having a remaining term to maturity of 5 years.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (2), the amount of the **debt premium** will be estimated by-

identifying publicly traded vanilla NZ$ denominated bonds issued by a qualifying issuer that are-

investment grade credit rated; and

of a type described in the paragraphs of subclause (6);

for each **business day** in the 12 months preceding the start of the **debt premium reference year**, in respect of each bond identified in accordance with paragraph (a)-

obtaining its wholesale market annualised bid yield to maturity;

calculating by linear interpolation with respect to maturity, the contemporaneous wholesale market annualised bid yield to maturity for a notional benchmark New Zealand government New Zealand dollar denominated nominal bond with the same remaining term to maturity; and

calculating its contemporaneous interpolated bid to bid spread over notional benchmark New Zealand government New Zealand dollar denominated nominal bonds with the same remaining term to maturity, by deducting the yield calculated in accordance with sub-paragraph (ii) from the yield obtained in accordance with sub-paragraph (i).

calculating, for each bond identified in accordance with paragraph (a), the un-weighted arithmetic average of the daily spreads identified in accordance with paragraph (b)(iii); and

subject to subclause (6), estimating, by taking account of the average spreads identified in accordance with paragraph (c) and having regard to the debt premium estimated from applying the **Nelson-Siegel-Svensson approach**, the average spread that would reasonably be expected to apply to a vanilla NZ$ denominated bond that-

is issued by a regulated fibre service provider that is not 100% owned by:

1. the Crown; or
2. a local authority;

is publicly traded;

has a qualifying rating of grade BBB+; and

has a remaining term to maturity of 5 years.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclauses (5)(a) and (5)(d), the Commission will have regard, subject to subclause (7), to the spreads observed on the following types of vanilla NZ$ denominated bonds issued by a qualifying issuer:

those that-

have a qualifying rating of grade BBB+; and

are issued by a regulated fibre service provider that is not 100% owned by:

1. the Crown; or
2. a local authority;

those that-

have a qualifying rating of grade BBB+; and

are issued by a **telecommunications service provider** other than a regulated fibre service provider that is not 100% owned by:

1. the Crown; or
2. a local authority;

those that-

have a qualifying rating of grade BBB+; and

are issued by an entity other than a regulated fibre service provider or **telecommunications service provider** that is not 100% owned by:

1. the Crown; or
2. a local authority;

those that-

have a qualifying rating of a grade different to BBB+; and

are issued by a regulated fibre service provider that is not 100% owned by:

1. the Crown; or
2. a local authority;

those that-

have a qualifying rating of a grade different to BBB+; and

are issued by an entity other than a regulated fibre service provider that is not 100% owned by:

1. the Crown; or
2. a local authority; and

those that are-

investment grade credit rated; and

issued by an entity that is 100% owned by:

1. the Crown; or
2. a local authority.
   * + - 1. For the purpose of subclause (6)-

progressively lesser regard will ordinarily be given to the spreads observed on the bond types described in accordance with the order in which the bond types are described in subclause (6);

the spread on any bond of the type described in subclause (6) that has a remaining term to maturity of less than 5 years will ordinarily be considered to be the minimum spread that would reasonably be expected to apply on an equivalently credit-rated bond issued by the same entity with a remaining term to maturity of 5 years; and

the Commission will adjust spreads observed on bonds described under subclauses (6)(b) to (6)(f) to approximate the spread that is likely to have been observed had the bonds in question been of the type described in subclause (6)(a).

* + - 1. Methodology for estimating the 50th percentile of WACC
         1. The Commission will determine a WACC for each mid-point estimate of WACC-

for each disclosure year; and

within 1 month of the start of the disclosure year in question.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (1), the mid-point estimate of WACC must be treated as the 50th percentile, where the standard error of the relevant mid-point estimate of WACC is 0.0124.
      1. Interpretation of terms relating to term credit spread differential
         1. ‘Qualifying debt’ means a line of debt-

with an original tenor greater than 5 years; and

issued by a qualifying provider.

* + - * 1. ‘Qualifying provider’ means a regulated provider whose debt portfolio, as at the date of that provider's most recently published audited financial statements, has a weighted average original tenor greater than 5 years.
      1. Term credit spread difference
         1. ‘Term credit spread difference’ is determined in accordance with the formula-

T × U,

where-

'T' is whichever is the lesser of the amount determined in accordance with the formula-

0.00075 × (original tenor of the **qualifying debt** – 5); or

0.00075 × 5;

'U' is the book value in New Zealand dollars of the qualifying debt at its date of issue.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of this clause, if the qualifying debt is issued to a related party, 'original tenor of the qualifying debt' means whichever is the shorter of the-

tenor of the qualifying debt; or

period from the qualifying debt's date of issue to the earliest date on which its repayment is or may be required.

* + - 1. Methodology for estimating term credit spread differential
         1. This clause applies to the determination of the amount of any term credit spread differential in respect of a qualifying debt for the purpose of disclosure under an ID determination of a-

term credit spread differential allowance; or

term credit spread differential.

* + - * 1. Disclosure to which this clause applies may only be made by a qualifying provider.
        2. ‘Term credit spread differential’ is the amount determined in accordance with the formula-

(A ÷ B) × C ×D,

where-

'A' is the sum of the term credit spread difference and debt issuance cost re-adjustment;

'B' is the book value of the qualifying provider's total interest-bearing debt as at the balance date of the provider's financial statements audited and published in the disclosure year in question;

'C' is leverage; and

'D' is, in relation to the qualifying provider, the average of-

the sum of opening RAB values for all core fibre assets and the opening RAB value for the financial loss asset; and

the sum of closing RAB values for all core fibre assets and the closing RAB value for the financial loss asset.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (3)(a), 'debt issuance cost re-adjustment' is the amount determined in accordance with the formula (which, for the avoidance of doubt, will be a negative number)-

(0.01 ÷ original tenor of the qualifying debt - 0.002) × book value in New Zealand dollars of the qualifying debt at its date of issue.

* + - 1. Publication of estimates
         1. The Commission will publish all determinations and estimates that it is required to make under clauses 2.4.1-2.4.8-

on the **Commission’s** website; and

no later than 1 month after having made them.

-

s

* + - 1. Annual benefit of Crown financing building block for regulated fibre service providers subject to both information disclosure regulation and price-quality 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 calculated in accordance with the following formula:

A ×B

where:

‘*A*’ subject to subclause (2), is the mid-point estimate of vanilla **WACC** for that **disclosure year**, determined in accordance with clause 2.4.1(1) less 0.0025; and

‘*B*’ is the amount of **Crown financing** outstanding as of the last day of that **disclosure year**.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (1), where the **Commission** has determined a different value for ‘*A*’ under clause 3.5.11(2) for a **regulatory period**, ‘*A*’ is:

for the final **disclosure year** in a **regulatory period**, the value applicable for ‘*A*’ for that **regulatory period** under a **PQ determination**; and

for any other **disclosure year** in a **regulatory period**, the value applicable for ‘*A*’ for the corresponding **regulatory period** under a **PQ determination**.

* + - 1. Annual benefit of Crown financing building block for regulated providers subject only to information disclosure regulation
         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 calculated in accordance with the following formula:

A ×B

where:

‘*A*’ is:

where **Crown financing** is provided by way of a combination of debt and equity, the mid-point estimate of vanilla **WACC** for that **disclosure year**, determined in accordance with clause 2.4.1(1);

where **Crown financing** is provided by way of debt, the **cost of debt** for that **disclosure year**; and

where **Crown financing** is provided by way of equity, the **cost of equity** for that **disclosure year**; and

‘*B*’ is the amount of **Crown financing** outstanding as of the last day of that **disclosure year**.

* 1. Quality dimensions
     + 1. Mandatory quality dimensions
          1. In setting information relating to quality that a **regulated provider** is required to disclose in an **ID determination**, the **Commission** must specify quality performance measures and statistics for the following **quality dimensions**:

**availability**, which may include:

maximum **downtime**;

average **downtime**; and

notification to **access seekers** of **outages**;

**performance**, which may include:

**frame delay**;

**frame loss ratio**;

**frame delay variation**;

**port utilisation**;

**faults**, which may include:

incidence of faults, where “incidence of faults” is defined in an **ID determination**; and

time to **restore ID FFLAS**; and

**customer service**, which may include:

**end-user** connection satisfaction, where “end-user connection satisfaction” is defined in an **ID determination**;

missed appointments, where “missed appointments” is defined in an **ID determination**; and

the time to establish an **access seeker**, where “time to establish an **access seeker**” is defined in an **ID determination**.

* + - 1. Optional quality dimensions
         1. The **Commission** may also specify quality performance measures and statistics for one or more of the following **quality** **dimensions**:

**ordering**, which may include the time to accept or reject a request;

**provisioning**, which may include:

the time to provision **ID FFLAS**; and

the time to disconnect from one type of **ID FFLAS** and connect to another; and

**switching**, which may include the time to disconnect **ID FFLAS** from a losing **access seeker** and connect to a gaining **access seeker**.

* + - 1. Quality performance measures and statistics
         1. An **ID determination** may include requirements to disclose information on quality performance measures and statistics that are differentiated by:

**regulated providers**;

geography;

**fibre network** architecture;

**ID FFLAS**, such as layer 1 and layer 2; and

classes of **end-users**, such as rural, urban, business or residential.

1. INPUT METHODOLOGIES FOR PRICE-QUALITY PATHS
   1. Specification of Price and Revenues
      * 1. Price and revenues
           1. For the purpose of s 194(2)(b) and s 195 of the **Act**, the ‘maximum revenues’ that may be recovered by a **regulated provider** for a **regulatory year** in a **regulatory period** will be specified in a **PQ determination** as a revenue cap, whereby the **total FFLAS revenue** derived by a **regulated provider** must not exceed **allowable revenue** specified in the **PQ determination** for that **regulatory year**.
           2. For the purpose of this subpart, ‘allowable revenue’ means the sum of—

**building blocks revenue**;

**pass-through costs** for that **regulatory year**; and

the **wash-up amount** available for that **regulatory year**.

* + - * 1. For the avoidance of doubt, the components listed in subclause (2) can be positive or negative amounts.
      1. Pass-through costs
         1. Subject to subclause (2), a ‘pass-through cost’ is an **operating cost** payable by a **regulated provider** on or after the **implementation date**, being:

an amount levied by regulations made under sections 11 or 12 of the **Act**;

the telecommunications development levy, as determined by the **Commission** under sections 87 and 88 of the **Act**;

rates on **fibre assets** paid or payable by a **regulated provider** to a **local authority** under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002; and

a fixed membership fee relating to, or a fixed amount payable as a member of:

Utilities Disputes Limited’s dispute resolution scheme;

the Telecommunications Dispute Resolution Scheme; and

any other dispute resolution scheme specified in a **PQ determination**.

* + - * 1. If the **operating cost** under subclause (1) relates to both **regulated FFLAS** and **services that are not regulated FFLAS** suppliedby the **regulated provider**, only the proportion of the **operating cost** allocated to **regulated FFLAS** and **PQ FFLAS** (where applicable)according to the following requirements is a ‘pass-through cost’:

if the cost is an actual **operating cost**, itmust be allocated according to clauses 2.1.1 and 2.1.3 (where applicable); and

if the cost is a forecast **operating cost**, it must be allocated according to clause 3.2.1(1), (2) (where applicable), and (4).

* 1. Cost allocation
     + 1. Calculation of price-quality path forecast values
          1. For the purposes of specifying a price-quality path any:

**operating costs**; and

**asset values**,

that are forecast as **directly attributable** to the provision of **regulated FFLAS** by the **regulated provider** must be allocated to **regulated FFLAS**.

* + - * 1. Subject to subclauses (6) and (7), for the purposes of specifying a price-quality path, any **operating cost** and **asset value** must be, where applicable,:

determined by applying subclauses (10)(a), (11)(a), (12), (13)(a) and (14)(a); and

calculated by applying forecasts.

* + - * 1. The following must not be allocated to **regulated FFLAS**:

any **operating cost** that is forecast as **directly attributable** to the provision of **services that are not regulated FFLAS**;

any **asset value** that is forecast as **directly attributable** to the provision of **services that are not regulated FFLAS**; or

any other cost that is forecast to be recovered in respect of a **Part 4 regulated service**.

* + - * 1. Subject to subclauses (1)-(2), for the purposes of specifying a price-quality path, any **operating cost** must be:

determined by applying, as required:

**cost allocators** in accordance with subclause (8), and, where applicable:

A. subclause (10)(b); and

B. subclause (13)(b); or

**proxy cost allocators** (whichever the case may require); and

calculated by applying forecasts, subject to subclauses (6) and (7).

* + - * 1. Subject to subclauses (1)-(2), for the purposes of specifying a price-quality path, any **asset value** must be:

determined by applying, as required:

**asset allocators** in accordance with subclause (9), and, where applicable:

A. subclause (11)(b); and

B. subclause (14)(b); or

**proxy asset allocators** (whichever the case may require); and

calculated by applying forecasts, subject to subclauses (6) and (7).

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclauses (1), (2), (4) and (5), all forecasts must be:

based on relevant and demonstrably reasonable assumptions, data, methods and judgements; or

if the **Commission** has approved the forecast values in accordance with an **input methodology** or other process relating to an **ID determination** or **PQ determination**, consistent with those forecast values.

* + - * 1. For the avoidance of doubt, subclause (6) relates to, but is not limited to, forecasts of **operating costs**, **capital expenditure**, revenue, or any of the **allocator types** and **allocator values** that may be used in forecasting an **asset allocator** or **cost allocator**.
        2. For the purpose of subclause (4), cost allocators must be used to allocate operating costs forecast as not directly attributable to either-

**regulated** FFLAS; or

**services that are not regulated FFLAS**.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (5), asset allocators must be used to allocate asset values forecast as not directly attributable to either-

**regulated FFLAS**; or

**services that are not regulated FFLAS**.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclauses (1), (2) and (4), if a **regulated fibre service provider** is subject to both information disclosure regulation and price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act**, any **operating costs** that are allocated to **regulated FFLAS** must be further allocated as follows:

**operating costs** that are forecast as **directly attributable** to the provision of-

**PQ FFLAS** must be allocated to **PQ FFLAS**;

**ID-only FFLAS** must be allocated to **ID-only FFLAS**; and

in respect of **operating costs** that are forecast as not **directly attributable** to the provision of **PQ FFLAS** or **ID-only FFLAS**, **cost allocators** must be used to allocate those **operating costs** to either-

**PQ FFLAS**; or

**ID-only FFLAS**.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclauses (1), (2) and (5), if a **regulated fibre service provider** is subject to both information disclosure regulation and price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act**, any **asset values** that are allocated to **regulated FFLAS** must be further allocated as follows:

**asset values** that are forecast as **directly attributable** to the provision of-

**PQ FFLAS** must be allocated to **PQ FFLAS**;

**ID-only FFLAS** must be allocated to **ID-only FFLAS**; and

in respect of **asset values** that are forecast as not **directly attributable** to the provision of **PQ FFLAS** or **ID-only FFLAS**, **asset allocators** must be used to allocate those **asset values** to either-

**PQ FFLAS**; or

**ID-only FFLAS**.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (11), if a **regulated fibre service provider** is subject to both information disclosure regulation and price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act**,the **financial loss asset** must be treated as being **directly attributable** to **PQ FFLAS**.
        2. For the purpose of subclause (10), if a **regulated fibre service provider** is subject to both information disclosure regulation and price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act** and the **Commission** specifies an **additional FFLAS class**, any **operating costs** that are allocated to **regulated FFLAS** must be further allocated as follows:

**operating costs** that are forecast as **directly attributable** to the provision of that **additional FFLAS class** must be allocated to that **additional FFLAS class**; and

**operating costs** that are forecast as not **directly attributable** to the provision of that **additional FFLAS class** must be allocated using **cost allocators**.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (11), if a **regulated fibre service provider** is subject to both information disclosure regulation and price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act** and the **Commission** specifies an **additional FFLAS class**, any **asset values** that are allocated to **regulated FFLAS** must be further allocated as follows:

**asset values** that are forecast as **directly attributable** to the provision of that **additional FFLAS class** must be allocated to that **additional FFLAS class**; and

**asset values** that are forecast as not **directly attributable** to the provision of that **additional FFLAS class** must be allocated using **asset allocators**.

* + - * 1. Subject to subclause (16), when either a forecast **asset value** or a forecast **operating cost** that is not **directly attributable** to **regulated FFLAS** is allocated to **regulated FFLAS**, the total forecast **asset values** or forecast **operating costs** allocated to **regulated FFLAS** must not be more than the total forecast **asset values** or total forecast **operating costs** that the **regulated provider** could not have avoided if it ceased supplying **services that are not regulated FFLAS**.
        2. Subclause (15) only applies to an allocation or allocations of a forecast **asset value** or a forecast **operating cost** that would have a material effect on the total forecast **asset values** or total forecast **operating costs** allocated to **regulated FFLAS**.
  1. Asset valuation
     + 1. Calculation of price-quality path forecast values
          1. For the purposes of specifying a price-quality path, any of the following values must be determined in accordance with the input methodologies specified in Subpart 2 of Part 2 and determined in accordance with subclause (2):

**opening RAB value**;

**value of commissioned asset**;

**disposed asset**;

**revaluation**;

**closing RAB value**; and

any other allowance, amount, cost or sum referred to in Subpart 2 of Part 2.

* + - * 1. Subject to subclause (6), the values referred to in subclause (1) must be determined by:

subject to clauses 3.3.2-3.3.4, adopting any relevant value calculated under Subpart 2 of Part 2 for the **PQ RAB** in respect of the **base year** of a **regulated provider**-

in respect of a disclosure made by a **regulated provider** for that **base year** under an **ID determination**; or

if disclosure under an **ID determination** has not been required or made by the **regulated provider**, obtained by the **Commission**; and

subject to subclauses (3), (4) and (5), applying forecasts of all values required to determine the values referred to in paragraphs (a) to (f) of subclause (1) by applying the **input methodologies** specified in Subpart 2 of Part 2.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (1), all forecasts, subject to subclause (4), must be:

based on relevant and demonstrably reasonable assumptions, data, methods and judgements; or

if the **Commission** has approved the forecast values in accordance with an **input methodology** or other process relating to an **ID determination** or **PQ determination**, consistent with those forecast values.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (2), where **CPI** is required to be forecast, it must be determined as follows:

for a quarter prior to the quarter for which the vanilla **WACC** applicable to the relevant **regulatory period** was determined, **CPI** as per paragraph (a) of the **CPI** definition and excluding any adjustments made under paragraph (b) of the **CPI** definition arising as a result of an event that occurs after the issue of the Monetary Policy Statement referred to in paragraph (b) below;

for each subsequent quarter for which a forecast of the change in headline **CPI** is included in the Monetary Policy Statement last issued by the Reserve Bank of New Zealand prior to the date for which the vanilla **WACC** applicable to the relevant **regulatory period** was determined, the **CPI** last applying under paragraph (a) extended by the forecast change; and

in respect of subsequent quarters, the forecast last applying under paragraph (b) adjusted such that an equal increment or decrement made to that forecast for each of the following three years results in the forecast for the last of those years being equal to the target midpoint for the change in headline **CPI** set out in the Monetary Policy Statement referred to in paragraph (b).

* + - * 1. For the purposes of subclause (2)(b), a **regulated provider** is not required to maintain the minimum levels of specificity prescribed in clause 2.2.14 for any forecasts of the values referred to in paragraphs (a)-(f) of subclause (1).
        2. For the purposes of specifying the price-quality path for the **first regulatory period**, the values referred to in subclause (1) must be determined by:

subject to clauses 3.3.2-3.3.4, adopting any relevant value calculated under Subpart 2 of Part 2 for the **PQ RAB** in respect of the **base year** of a **regulated provider** and obtained by the **Commission**;

subject to subclauses (3), (4) and (5), applying forecasts of all values required to determine the values referred to in paragraphs (a) to (f) of subclause (1) by applying the **input methodologies** specified in Subpart 2 of Part 2,

where

for the purposes of **fibre asset** values adopted under paragraphs (a)-(b):

any references to “the **implementation date**” in clauses 2.2.2 and 2.2.3(1)-(2), mean “1 January 2019”;

any references to “the **disclosure year** 2022” in clauses 2.2.5(1), 2.2.5(3) and 2.2.6(1)(a) mean “**regulatory year** 2019”; and

the “opening RAB value” of the **financial loss asset** adopted under paragraphs (a)-(b) is determined in accordance with Schedule B; and

for the purposes of values adopted under paragraphs (a)-(b) for the **PQ RAB** in respect of the **base year** of a **regulated provider**, in respect of that **regulated provider**, all **FFLAS** provided by that **regulated provider**, except to the extent that a service is provided in a geographical area where a **regulated fibre service provider** (other than **Chorus**) has installed a **fibre network** as part of the **UFB initiative**, is treated for **regulatory year** 2019 as if it were subject to price-quality regulation in regulations made under s 226 of the **Act**.

* + - 1. Depreciation
         1. ‘Unallocated depreciation’ and ‘depreciation’ are determined in accordance with subclauses (2)-(3).
         2. For the purpose of subclause (1), subject to subclause (7), in the case of a **fibre asset** with an unallocated opening RAB value, ‘unallocated depreciation’ must be determined using a depreciation method consistent with **GAAP**, unless:

an alternative depreciation method is applied for some or all **fibre assets** in accordance with subclause (5); or

a different depreciation method is applied for some or all **fibre assets** in accordance with subclause (6).

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (1), subject to subclause (7), in the case of a **fibre asset** with an opening RAB value, ‘depreciation’ must be determined using a depreciation method consistent with **GAAP**, unless:

an alternative depreciation method is applied for some or all **fibre assets** in accordance with subclause (5); or

a different depreciation method is applied for some or all **fibre assets** in accordance with subclause (6).

* + - * 1. For the purposes of subclauses (2) and (3)-

‘unallocated depreciation’ and ‘depreciation’ are nil in the case of-

land; and

an easement other than a fixed life easement; and

in all other cases, where the **fibre asset’s** remaining asset life at the end of the **regulatory** year is nil-

‘unallocated depreciation’ is the **fibre asset’s** unallocated opening RAB value; and

‘depreciation’ is the **fibre** **asset’s** opening RAB value.

* + - * 1. For the purposes of subclauses (2)-(3), an alternative depreciation method may be applied for some or all **fibre assets** if the **Commission** is satisfied that the result of applying the alternative method-

better promotes the purpose of Part 6 of the **Act**;

where relevant, best gives, or is likely to best give, effect to s 166(2)(b) of the **Act**; and

where relevant, is consistent with the **Commission’s** smoothing of prices or revenue under s 197 of the **Act**.

* + - * 1. After the **first** **regulatory period**, a different depreciation method may be applied for a **regulatory period** to that applied in the previous **regulatory period** if the **Commission** is satisfied, for the purposes of a price-quality path, that the new depreciation method-

better promotes the purpose of Part 6 of the **Act**;

where relevant, best gives, or is likely to best give, effect to s 166(2)(b) of the **Act**; and

where relevant, is consistent with the **Commission’s** smoothing of prices or revenue under s 197 of the **Act**.

* + - * 1. Where an alternative depreciation method has been applied under subclause (5), a different depreciation method has been adopted under subclause (6), or the **Commission** has altered depreciation under clause 3.3.3, ‘unallocated depreciation’ and ‘depreciation’ must be applied using that method for subsequent **regulatory periods** unless:

the **Commission** is satisfied that a different depreciation method may be applied for that **regulatory period** in accordance with subclause (6); or

the **Commission** alters depreciation for that **regulatory** **period** in accordance with clause 3.3.3.

* + - 1. Altering depreciation to smooth revenues and prices
         1. For the purposes of clause 3.3.2, unallocated depreciation and depreciation calculated for any **core fibre asset** or the **financial loss asset** for any **regulatory period** may instead be calculated by the **Commission** in a manner it thinks fit under s 197 of the **Act**.
      2. Revaluation treated as income
         1. For the purposes of specifying a price-quality path, **revaluation** must be treated as income.
      3. Ex-ante allowance for asset stranding
         1. This clause applies to the determination of the amount of the annual ex-ante allowance for asset stranding for the purpose of specifying a price-quality path.
         2. The annual ex-ante allowance for asset stranding is the amount determined in accordance with the formula-

*A x B*

where –

‘A’ is 0.001; and

‘B’ is the average of –

the sum of **opening RAB values** for each **regulatory year** of the **regulatory period** for all **core fibre assets** and the **opening RAB value** for the **financial loss asset**; and

the sum of **closing RAB values** for each **regulatory year** of the **regulatory period** for all **core fibre assets** and the **closing RAB value** for the **financial loss asset**.

* 1. Taxation
     + 1. Regulatory tax allowance
          1. For the purposes of specifying a price-quality path, any value of regulatory tax allowance for any **regulatory year** within a **regulatory period** must be determined in accordance with the input methodologies specified in Subpart 3 of Part 2, and determined, subject to subclauses (2) and (3), by applying forecasts in respect of **PQ FFLAS** for all **regulatory years** after the **base year** of-

**notional deductible interest**;

tax deductions for depreciationusing **tax depreciation rules**; and

any other amount, determined after applying the **tax rules**, where the following must be ignored:

any **revaluation** included in **regulatory profit / loss before tax**; and

the effect of any tax losses (other than those incurred in the provision of **regulated FFLAS**) made by a **regulated provider**.

* + - * 1. For the purposes of determining ‘regulatory tax allowance’, if the **tax rules** allow for a choice of methods in calculating taxable income, the same methods used by the **regulated provider** must be used to determine the ‘regulatory tax allowance’.
        2. For the purposes of subclause (1), all forecasts must be:

based on relevant and demonstrably reasonable:

assumptions;

data;

methods; and

judgements; or

if the **Commission** has approved the forecast values in accordance with an **input methodology** or other process relating to an **ID determination** or **PQ determination**, consistent with those forecast values.

* + - * 1. For the purposes of subclause (1), ‘regulatory profit / loss before tax’ means ‘regulatory profit / loss before tax’ as determined by the **Commission** when specifying a price-quality path.
  1. Cost of capital
     + 1. Methodology for estimating the weighted average cost of capital
          1. The Commission will determine a mid-point estimate of vanilla WACC-

as of the first business day of the month 7 months prior to the start of each regulatory period;

in respect of the **regulatory period**;

no later than 6 months prior to the start of each regulatory period; and

in accordance with the formula-

rd L + re(1 - L).

* + - * 1. The Commission will determine a mid-point estimate of post-tax WACC-

as of the first business day of the month 7 months prior to the start of each regulatory period;

in respect of the **regulatory period**;

no later than 6 months prior to the start of each regulatory period; and

in accordance with the formula-

rd (1 - Tc)L + re (1 - L).

* + - * 1. In this clause-

L is leverage;

rd is the cost of debt and is estimated in accordance with the formula:

rf + p + d;

re is the cost of equity and is estimated in accordance with the formula:

rf(1 - Ti) + βeTAMRP;

Tc is the average corporate tax rate;

rf is the risk-free rate;

p is the **average** debt premium;

d is the debt issuance costs;

Ti is the average investor tax rate;

βe is the equity beta; and

TAMRP is the tax-adjusted market risk premium.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of this clause-

the average investor tax rate, the average corporate tax rate, the equity beta, the debt issuance costs, the leverage and the tax-adjusted market risk premium are the amounts specified in or determined in accordance with clause 3.5.2; and

the risk-free rate must be estimated in accordance with clause 3.5.3.

* + - 1. Fixed WACC parameters
         1. ‘Leverage’ means the ratio of debt capital to total capital and is 31%.
         2. ‘Average investor tax rate’ is the average of the investor tax rates that, as at the date that the estimation is made, will apply to each of the regulatory years in the **regulatory period** commencing on the first day of the regulatory period in question.
         3. For the purpose of subclause (2), 'investor tax rate' is, for each **regulatory year**, the maximum **prescribed investor** **rate** applicable at the start of the **regulatory period** to an individual who is-

resident in New Zealand; and

an investor in a multi-rate PIE.

* + - * 1. The ‘average corporate tax rate’ is the average of the corporate tax rates that, as at the date that the estimation is made, will apply during the **regulatory period term** commencing on the first day of the regulatory period.
        2. ‘Equity beta’ is 0.71.
        3. ‘Debt issuance costs’ are costs associated with the issuance of debt by a **regulated provider** and are determined by the term of the **regulatory period**, where-

for a five year **regulatory period,** this is0.2%;

For a four year **regulatory period,** this is 0.25%; and

For a three year **regulatory period,** this is 0.33%.

* + - * 1. ‘Tax-adjusted market risk premium’ is 7.5%.
      1. Methodology for estimating risk-free rate
         1. The Commission will estimate a risk-free rate-

as of the first business day of the month 7 months prior to the start of each regulatory period;

in respect of a period equal to the **regulatory period**; and

no later than 6 months prior to the start of each regulatory period,

by-

obtaining, for notional benchmark New Zealand government New Zealand dollar denominated nominal bonds, the wholesale market linearly interpolated bid yield to maturity for a residual period to maturity equal to the **regulatory period term** on each business day in the 3-month period of 8 to 10 months prior to the start of the regulatory period;

calculating the annualised interpolated bid yield to maturity for each business day; and

calculating the unweighted arithmetic average of the daily annualised interpolated bid yields to maturity.

* + - 1. Methodology for estimating average debt premium
         1. The Commission will determine an estimate of an amount for the **average debt premium**-

for each regulatory period; and

no later than 6 months prior to the start of each regulatory period.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (1), ‘average debt premium’ means the unweighted arithmetic average of the five **debt premium** values estimated in accordance with subclauses (4) and (5) for:

the current **debt premium reference year**; and

the four previous **debt premium reference years**.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (2)(a), ‘current debt premium reference year’ refers to the **debt premium reference year** that contains the start of the **regulatory year**.
        2. Debt premium means the spread between-

the bid yield to maturity on vanilla NZ$ denominated bonds that-

are issued by a regulated fibre service provider;

are publicly traded;

have a **qualifying rating** of grade BBB+; and

have a remaining term to maturity of 5 years; and

the contemporaneous interpolated bid yield to maturity of notional benchmark New Zealand government New Zealand dollar denominated nominal bonds having a remaining term to maturity of 5 years.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (2), the amount of the debt premium will be estimated by-

identifying publicly traded vanilla NZ$ denominated bonds issued by a qualifying issuer that are-

investment grade credit rated; and

of a type described in the paragraphs of subclause (6);

for each business day in the 12 months preceding the start of the **debt premium reference year**, in respect of each bond identified in accordance with paragraph (a)-

obtaining its wholesale market annualised bid yield to maturity;

calculating by linear interpolation with respect to maturity, the contemporaneous wholesale market annualised bid yield to maturity for a notional benchmark New Zealand government New Zealand dollar denominated nominal bond with the same remaining term to maturity; and

calculating its contemporaneous interpolated bid to bid spread over notional benchmark New Zealand government New Zealand dollar denominated nominal bonds with the same remaining term to maturity, by deducting the yield calculated in accordance with sub-paragraph (ii) from the yield obtained in accordance with sub-paragraph (i);

calculating, for each bond identified in accordance with paragraph (a), the un-weighted arithmetic average of the daily spreads identified in accordance with paragraph (b)(iii); and

subject to subclause (6), estimating, by taking account of the average spreads identified in accordance with paragraph (c) and having regard to the debt premium estimated from applying the **Nelson-Siegel-Svensson approach**, the average spread that would reasonably be expected to apply to a vanilla NZ$ denominated bond that-

is issued by a regulated fibre service provider that is not 100% owned by:

1. the Crown; or
2. a local authority;

is publicly traded;

hasa **qualifying rating** of grade BBB+; and

has a remaining term to maturity of 5 years.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclauses (5)(a) and (5)(d), the Commission will have regard, subject to subclause (7), to the spreads observed on the following types of vanilla NZ$ denominated bonds issued by a qualifying issuer:

those that-

have a qualifying rating of grade BBB+; and

are issuedby a regulated fibre service provider that is not 100% owned by:

1. the Crown; or
2. a local authority;

those that-

have a **qualifying rating** of grade BBB+; and

are issued by a **telecommunications service provider** other than a regulated fibre service provider that is not 100% owned by:

1. the Crown; or
2. a **local a**uthority;

those that-

have a **qualifying rating** of grade BBB+; and

are issued by an entity other than a **regulated fibre service provider** or **telecommunications service provider** thatis not100% owned by:

1. the Crown; or
2. a local authority;

those that-

have a **qualifying rating** of a grade different to BBB+;and

are issued by a **regulated fibre service provider** that is not 100% owned by:

1. the Crown; or
2. a **local** authority;

those that-

have a **qualifying rating** of a grade different to BBB+;and

are issued by an entity other than a regulated fibre service provider that is not 100% owned by:

1. the Crown; or
2. a **lo**cal authority; and

those that are-

**investment** grade credit rated; and

issued by an entity that is 100% owned by:

1. the Crown; or
2. a local authority.
   * + - 1. For the purpose of subclause (6)-

progressively lesser regard will ordinarily be given to the spreads observed on the bond types described in accordance with the order in which the bond types are described in subclause (6);

the spread on any bond of the type described in subclause (6) that has a remaining term to maturity of less than 5 years will ordinarily be considered to be the minimum spread that would reasonably be expected to apply on an equivalently credit-rated bond issued by the same entity with a remaining term to maturity of 5 years; and

the Commission will adjust spreads observed on bonds described under subclauses (6)(b) to (6)(f) to approximate the spread that is likely to have been observed had the bonds in question been of the type described in subclause (6)(a).

* + - 1. Methodology for estimating the 50th percentile estimate of WACC
         1. The Commission will determine a 50th percentile estimate of vanilla WACC-

for each regulatory period; and

no later than 6 months prior to the start of each regulatory period.

* + - * 1. The **Commission** will determine a 50th percentile estimate of post-tax **WACC**-

for each regulatory period; and

no later than 6 months prior to the start of each regulatory period.

* + - * 1. For the purposes of subclause (1) or (2), the mid-point estimate of WACC must be treated as the 50th percentile, where the standard error of the mid-point estimate of WACC is 0.0124.
      1. Publication of estimates
         1. The Commission will publish all determinations and estimates that it is required to make by this subpart-

on its website; and

no later than 1 month after having made them.

* + - 1. Application of cost of capital methodology
         1. Where the Commission takes into account the cost of capital in making a **PQ** determination, the **Commission** will use the **50th percentile** estimate of WACC determined in accordance with clause 3.5.5(1) and most recently published in accordance with clause 3.5.6.
         2. ‘Term credit spread differential allowance’ for a regulatory year in respect of the first regulatory period and a regulated provider is the maximum of nil and the amount determined in accordance with the formula-

a × b ÷ c,

where-

a means the sum of the **term credit spread differentials** calculated in accordance with clause 3.5.10(1) for the base year;

b means:

the sum of forecast **opening RAB values** for all **core fibre assets** and the forecast **opening RAB value** for the **financial loss asset** for the regulatory year in question; and

the sum of forecast **value of commissioned assets** for all **core fibre assets** for the regulatory year in question;

c means the sum of the opening RAB values for core fibre assets and the opening RAB value for the financial loss asset for the base year.

* + - * 1. ‘Term credit spread differential allowance’ for a regulatory year in respect of the **second regulatory period** and subsequent **regulatory periods** and a regulated provider is the maximum of nil and the amount determined in accordance with the formula-

a × b ÷ c,

where-

a means the 'term credit spread differential allowance' calculated in accordance with Part 2 for the base year;

b means:

the sum of forecast **opening RAB values** for all **core fibre assets** and the forecast **opening RAB value** for the **financial loss asset** for the regulatory year in question; and

the sum of forecast **value of commissioned assets** for all **core fibre assets** for the regulatory year in question;

c means the sum of the opening RAB values for core fibre assets and the opening RAB value for the financial loss asset for the base year.

* + - * 1. Where a qualifying provider discloses a term credit spread differential allowance under an ID determination, the Commission, for the purpose of assessing the qualifying provider's profitability, will treat such an allowance as an expense in the disclosure year in respect of which that allowance was disclosed.
      1. Interpretation of terms relating to term credit spread differential
         1. ‘Qualifying debt’ means a line of debt-

with an original tenor greater than 5 years; and

issued by a qualifying provider.

* + - * 1. ‘Qualifying provider’ means a regulated provider whose debt portfolio, as at the date of that provider's most recently published audited financial statements, has a weighted average original tenor greater than 5 years.
      1. Term credit spread difference
         1. ‘Term credit spread difference’ is determined in accordance with the formula-

T × U,

where-

'T' is whichever is the lesser of the amount determined in accordance with the formula-

0.00075 × (original tenor of the **qualifying debt** – 5); or

0.00075 × 5;

'U' is the book value in New Zealand dollars of the qualifying debt at its date of issue.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of this clause, if the qualifying debt is issued to a related party, 'original tenor of the qualifying debt' means whichever is the shorter of the-

tenor of the qualifying debt; or

period from the qualifying debt's date of issue to the earliest date on which its repayment is or may be required.

* + - 1. Methodology for estimating term credit spread differential
         1. ‘Term credit spread differential’ is the amount determined in accordance with the formula-

(A ÷ B) × C × D,

where-

'A' is the sum of the term credit spread difference and debt issuance cost re-adjustment;

'B' is the book value of the qualifying provider's total interest-bearing debt as at the balance date of the provider's financial statements audited and published in the year in question;

'C' is leverage; and

'D' is, in relation to the qualifying provider, the average of-

the sum of opening RAB values for all core fibre assets and the opening RAB value for the financial loss asset; and

the sum of closing RAB values for all core fibre assets and the closing RAB value for the financial loss asset.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (1)(a), 'debt issuance cost re-adjustment' is the amount determined in accordance with the formula (which, for the avoidance of doubt, will be a negative number)-

(0.01 ÷ original tenor of the qualifying debt - 0.002) × book value in New Zealand dollars of the qualifying debt at its date of issue.

* + - 1. 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 determined in accordance with the following formula:

A ×B

where:

‘*A*’ subject to subclauses (2) and (4), is the mid-point estimate of vanilla **WACC** for that **regulatory period**, determined in accordance with clause 3.5.1(1) less 0.0025; and

‘*B*’ is the forecast amount of **Crown financing** outstanding for that **regulatory year** reflecting therepayment schedule agreed between the **regulated provider** and the Crown.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (1), the Commission may determine a different value for ‘*A*’ in a PQ determination which applies for each regulatory year in that regulatory period where the Commission is satisfied that a different value for ‘*A*’ should apply, after having regard to the matters specified in subclause (3).
        2. In deciding under subclause (2) whether to determine a different value for ‘*A*’ for a **regulatory period**, the **Commission** must have regard to the extent to which the **regulatory provider** has changed or is expected to change the structure of the **Crown financing** outstanding.
        3. Where the **Commission** has determined a different value for ‘*A*’ under subclause (2), the value for ‘*A*’ determined under subclause (2) must be applied for subsequent **regulatory periods** unless the **Commission** is satisfied that a different value for ‘*A*’ should apply for that **regulatory period** in accordance with subclause (2).
  1. Quality dimensions
     + 1. Mandatory quality dimensions
          1. In specifying quality standards for a **PQ determination**, the **Commission** must specify quality standards for the following **quality dimensions**:

**availability**, which may include:

maximum **downtime**;

average **downtime**; and

notification to **access seekers** of **outages**; and

**performance**, which may include:

**frame delay**;

**frame loss ratio**;

**frame delay variation**; and

**port utilisation**.

* + - 1. Optional quality dimensions
         1. The **Commission** may also specify quality standards for one or more of the following **quality** **dimensions**:

**ordering**, which may include the time to accept or reject a request;

**provisioning**, which may include:

the time to provision **PQ FFLAS**; and

the time to disconnect from one type of **PQ FFLAS** and connect to another;

**switching**, which may include the time to disconnect **PQ FFLAS** from a losing **access seeker** and connect to a gaining **access seeker**;

**faults**, which may include:

incidence of faults, where “incidence of faults” is defined in an **ID** or **PQ determination**; and

time to **restore PQ** **FFLAS**; and

**customer service**, which may include:

**end-user** connection satisfaction, where “end-user connection satisfaction” is defined in a **PQ determination**;

missed appointments, where “missed appointments” is defined in a **PQ determination**; and

the time to establish an **access seeker**, where “time to establish an **access seeker**” is defined in a **PQ determination**.

* + - 1. Quality standards
         1. When specifying quality standards in a **PQ determination**, the **Commission** may include quality standards that are differentiated by:

**regulated providers**;

geography;

**fibre network** architecture;

**PQ FFLAS**, such as layer 1 and layer 2; and

classes of **end-users**, such as rural, urban, business or residential.

* 1. Capital expenditure
     1. General rules and processes for capital expenditure proposals
        1. Overview of capex
           1. The **Commission** will determine a **capex allowance**, after **Chorus** submits a **capex proposal** that relates to one of the following **capital expenditure** categories:

a **base capex proposal** meeting the specific requirementsset out in section 2;

a **connection capex baseline proposal** meeting the specific requirements set out in section 3; and

an **individual capex proposal** meeting the specific requirements set out in section 4.

* + - * 1. **Chorus** will submit one or more **capex proposals** to the **Commission** as follows:

**Chorus** will submit a **base** **capex proposal** and a **connection capex baseline proposal** for a **regulatory period** before the start of that **regulatory period**; and

**Chorus** may submit one or more **individual capex proposals** before orduring a **regulatory period**.

* + - * 1. After receiving a **capex proposal**, the **Commission** will determine the **capex allowance** for each **regulatory year** of a **regulatory period** in accordance with the general evaluation requirements in Subpart 8 and any specific requirements set out for each category of **capex proposal** in sections 2, 3 and 4.
        2. When the **Commission** determines a **capex allowance** or a **connection capex variable adjustment** in respect of a **regulatory period**:

any **capex allowance** determined before that **regulatory period** commences will be used to calculate the **building blocks revenue** for that **regulatory period**; and

any **capex allowance** determined after that **regulatory period** commences, or any **connection capex variable adjustment** in respect of that **regulatory period**, will be used to calculate a **wash-up amount**.

* + - 1. General rule for capital contributions
         1. All **proposed** **capex** and **capex allowances** must be net of **capital contributions**.
      2. General certification requirements for capex proposals
         1. If a **director** or **CEO** of **Chorus** is required to provide **certification** in relation to a **capex proposal** or other document, the **director** or **CEO** must certify in writing, that having made all reasonable enquiries, it is their belief that:

the proposal or document being certified is derived fromand accurately represents, in all material respects, the operations of Chorus; and

the capex proposal being certified complies, in all material respects, with the requirements set out in this part.

* + - * 1. A **director** or **CEO** of **Chorus** must notify the **Commission** as soon as reasonably practicable where:

the director or **CEO** provided a **certification** involving confirmation of a matter in accordance with subclause (1); and

their belief, as certified , has changed before the Commission’s determination in relation to the **capex proposal** in question.

* + - 1. General audit requirements for capex proposals
         1. If an audit is required for a **capex proposal**, it must include a report by an **auditor** that states whether:

the historical financial information used in the preparation of the **capex proposal** has been:

audited in accordance with applicable auditing standards issued by the External Reporting Board in accordance with its functions under the Financial Reporting Act 2013 or any equivalent standards that replace these standards; or

properly extracted from **Chorus’** financial records sourced from its financial systems;

the historical non-financial information used in the preparation of the **capex proposal** has been properly compiled on the basis of relevant underlying source information;

the forecast financial information provided in the **capex proposal** has been:

properly compiled on the basis of relevant and reasonable disclosed assumptions; and

examined in accordance with applicable assurance engagement standards issued by the External Reporting Board in accordance with its functions under the Financial Reporting Act 2013 or any equivalent standards that replace these standards or other appropriate assurance standards; and

the forecast non-financial information provided in the **capex proposal** has been properly compiled on the basis of relevant and reasonable disclosed assumptions.

* + - 1. General rule for information required for more than one purpose
         1. Where **Chorus** must provide information under this subpart,an information requirement may be met by **Chorus** providing a reference to information in another document, provided that:

where the information is required to be certified, audited or independently verified, the information is covered by a relevant **certification**, audit report, or independent verification;

the reference provides the required information without the need for additional analysis, explanation or interpretation;

the referenced information is provided under this subpart and available to the **Commission** when the information is required; and

in respect of each reference relied on, **Chorus** provides an index specifying:

the relevant requirement being met; and

the precise location of the referenced information within the document relied on.

* + - 1. General rule for information claimed to be confidential
         1. Where **Chorus** considers that it has a right to confidentiality in any information it provides the **Commission** in relation to this subpart and it does not waive the right, it must:

include that information in an appendix; and

clearly mark the information as confidential.

* + - * 1. For the avoidance of doubt:

nothing in subclause (1) prevents the **Commission** publishing such information if it considers **Chorus** has no right to confidentiality; and

nothing in paragraph (a) affects **Chorus’** rights or remedies for breach of any right to confidentiality.

* + - 1. Information requirements for integrated fibre plan
         1. At the same time as **Chorus** provides its **base capex proposal**, **Chorus** must provide an **integrated fibre plan** that includes the following component reports:

An overview of the **integrated fibre plan**: a summary and commentary on forecast expenditure for the five **regulatory years** after the start of the **regulatory period** (commencing with the **regulatory year** that starts on the same day as the **regulatory period**), including past expenditure and linkages with **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes, **operating costs** and delivery performance.

Quality report: a report on the forecast **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes and the linkages between forecast expenditure and **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes for the five **regulatory years** after the start of the **regulatory period** (commencing with the **regulatory year** that starts on the same day as the **regulatory period**), including sensitivity of forecast **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes to varying levels of forecast expenditure and the demonstration of past performance.

Governance report: a report describing **Chorus’** organisational governance, risk management and high-level asset management approach.

Demand report: a report describing anticipated **PQ** **FFLAS** demand for the five **regulatory years** after the start of the **regulatory period** (commencing with the **regulatory year** that starts on the same day as the **regulatory period**), including linkages between **PQ FFLAS** uptake, data growth, and types of **PQ FFLAS**, including by reference to historic demand and past trends.

Investment report: a report on investment plans and forecast **capital expenditure** for the five **regulatory** **years** after the start of the **regulatory period** (commencing with the **regulatory year** that starts on the same day as the **regulatory period**), including categories of investment and **capex** set out in the **regulatory templates** and the investment approach to each.

Delivery report: a report on anticipated and actual past delivery of **capital expenditure**, including **capex projects** and **programmes**. The report must include any linkages with **operating costs** and network performance (such as **fault** rates).

Engagement plan: a report outlining the engagement and consultation on **capital expenditure** undertaken and planned by **Chorus**.This includes consultation and engagement prior to submitting the **base capex proposal** and **connection capex baseline proposal** and planned consultation on any aspect of **capex** for the **regulatory period** relevant to the **capex proposal** or subsequent **regulatory periods**. The report is to identify consultation objectives, processes, stakeholders consulted, and any other aspect of engagement that is relevant to **proposed capex** and **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes.

* + - * 1. The **integrated fibre plan** may be one or more documents if the component reports are separate reports and clearly identified.
        2. The **integrated fibre plan** must include following detail for the relevant reports:

in relation to subclauses (1)(a)-(b), (1)(d)-(e) and (1)(f), the assumptions relied on for the forecasts and uncertainties associated with the forecasts;

in relation to subclause (1)(e), a description of synergies between **projects** and **programmes** and **capital expenditure** and **operating expenditure** trade-offs; and

in relation to subclauses (1)(a), (1)(d) and (1)(e), activity volumes and trendsas relevant to each report.

* + - * 1. For the **second regulatory period** and subsequent **regulatory periods**, the **integrated fibre plan** component reports must include updates and changes from the **integrated fibre plan** for the previous **regulatory period**.
    1. Base capex
       1. Base capex proposal process and timeframes
          1. Chorus must submit a base capex proposal to the Commission:

for the first regulatory period, as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than 31 December 2020; and

for the **second regulatory period** and subsequent **regulatory periods**, at least 14 months before the start of the regulatory period.

* + - * 1. The base capex proposal must:

state any proposed base capex that Chorus considers should be included in the base capex allowance for each regulatory year of the regulatory period;

provide enough information to enable the Commission to evaluate the base capex proposal in accordance with Subpart 8, including:

**regulatory templates** agreed under subclause (3) or specified under subclause (4); and

information required by the **Commission’s** **base capex information request**; and

be accompanied by the required assurance reports, including an **independent verification** **report**, **certification**, and **auditor** report in accordance with clauses 3.7.10-3.7.11.

* + - * 1. The Commission and Chorus must use reasonable endeavours to agree the information required in the **regulatory templates** for the relevant regulatory period, including;

a list of base capex sub-categories and a description of each; and

the form and content of the regulatory templates.

* + - * 1. If no agreement is reached on one or more of the matters in subclause (3)(a)-(b), subject to subclause (6), the Commission must specify those matters and notifyChorus.
        2. The **regulatory templates** must be agreed in accordance with subclause (3) or specified in accordance with subclause (4):

for the **first** **regulatory period**, as soon as it is reasonably practicable; and

for the **second regulatory period** and subsequent **regulatory periods**; before the first working day in March which is at least 22 months before the start of the **regulatory period**.

* + - * 1. The **Commission** must have regard to the views Chorus expressed during discussion on the **regulatory templates** when specifying the matters in subclause (4).
        2. For each **base** capex sub-category identified in the **regulatory template** as requiring geographic information, **Chorus** must provide a breakdown of its **capital expenditure** for the **base** capex sub-category by one or more geographical locations including:

urban areas;

rural areas; and

any further or other geographical breakdown set out in the **regulatory templates**.

* + - * 1. For **capital expenditure** identified in the **regulatory templates** as relating to both **PQ FFLAS** and **services that are not regulated FFLAS**, **Chorus** must provide information specified in the **base capex information request** on the **asset allocator** used and on **regulated FFLAS** and **services that are not regulated FFLAS** to enable the **Commission** to assess the expenditure proposal as a whole.
        2. The **Commission** must issue a **base capex information request** to **Chorus** related to the **base capex proposal** in accordance with information requirements set out in clause 3.7.9:

for the first **regulatory period**, as soon as it is reasonably practicable; and

for the **second regulatory period** and subsequent **regulatory periods**, at least 22 months before the start of the **regulatory period**.

* + - 1. Base capex information request - information requirements
         1. The **base capex information request** may include information relating to any or all of the following areas:

governance relating to proposed **capital expenditure**,including evidence that appropriate policies and processes have been applied;

historic **capital expenditure** and consideration of historic rates of investment;

approach to forecasting **capital expenditure**, including models used to develop the **capital expenditure** forecasts;

the extent of the uncertainty related to:

the need for the proposed **base capex**;

the economic case justifying the proposed **base capex**;

the timing of the proposed **base capex**;

the extent that a risk-based approach has been applied to the proposed **base capex**;

relevant financial information including evidence of efficiency improvements in proposed **capital expenditure**;

quantitative or economic analysis related to the proposed **capital expenditure**, including sensitivity analysis and impact analysis undertaken;

consideration and analysis of alternatives to the proposed **capital expenditure**, including the impact of the alternatives on **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes;

**fibre asset** and **fibre network** information;

competition effects, including specific information for **base** **capex** **sub-categories** that have potential impacts on competition in **PQ FFLAS** and other telecommunications markets;

the impact that the proposed **capital expenditure** has on layer 1 **PQ FFLAS**;

common costs and benefits with **services that are not regulated FFLAS** and **regulated FFLAS**;

the linkages between proposed **capex** and quality, including the impact the **capital expenditure** would have on **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes; and

the extent of consultation by **Chorus** with its **access seekers** and **end-users**, how input from consultation is incorporated into the forecast **capital expenditure** and what impact it has had on the **base capex proposal**; and

procurement, resourcing and deliverability of the proposed **capex**.

* + - 1. Base capex independent verification
         1. For the **second regulatory period** and subsequent **regulatory periods,** the **base capex proposal** must be verified by an **independent verifier** approved by the **Commission**.
         2. The intended independent verifier, scope and the terms and conditions proposed by **Chorus** for the **independent verification report** must be submitted to the **Commission** for approval prior to the start of the verification process.
         3. The verification information submitted to the **Commission** in accordance with subclause (2) must include enough information for the **Commission** to be satisfied that:

the verifier is **independent** and capable of undertaking the verification; and

the terms and conditions of engagement and the scope of the **independent verification report** will provide the appropriate assurance needed to assess the **base capex proposal**.

* + - 1. Other assurance for base capex: certification and audit
         1. At least 2 **directors**of **Chorus** must provide **certification** in relation to the **base capex proposal** in accordance with clause 3.7.3.
         2. The **base capex proposal** must include a report by an **auditor** in accordance with clause 3.7.4.
      2. Commission processes and rules for base capex allowance
         1. After the **Commission** evaluates a **base capex proposal** in accordance with Subpart 8, the **Commission** must determine a **base capex allowance** for each **regulatory year** of that **regulatory period**:

for the **first regulatory period**, no later than 3 months before the start of that **regulatory period**; and

for the **second regulatory period** and subsequent **regulatory periods**, no later than 6 months before the start of that **regulatory period**.

* + - * 1. **Chorus** does not exceed the total **base capex allowance** for the **regulatory period** simply because the actual **capital expenditure** varies between **base capex sub-categories** or between **regulatory years** from the forecast **capital expenditure** set out in the **base capex proposal** for the **regulatory period**.
        2. The **Commission** may determine that **proposed capex** in a **base capex proposal** must be excluded from the **base capex allowance**  if the **Commission** is satisfied that the **proposed capex** should not be part of the **base capex allowance** after having regard to at least the following matters:

the size and complexity of the **project** or **programme**;

the extent of the uncertainty related to the:

need for the **proposed** **capex;**

economic case justifying the **proposed** **capex**; and

timing of the **proposing capex**; and

whether **capital expenditure** for the **project** or **programme** should be**:**

approved only for the **project** or **programme** to which the **proposed capex** relates; and

reported separately from the **base capex** to assist the **Commission** in its evaluation of the **capital expenditure**.

* + - * 1. If the **Commission** makes a determination in accordance with subclause (3), **Chorus** may submit an **individual capex proposal** for that **capital expenditure** in accordance with the staged application process specified in clause 3.7.22-3.7.27.
    1. Connection capex
       1. General rules for connection capex allowances
          1. The **Commission** will determine two components for the **connection capex allowance**:

a **connection capex baseline allowance** prior to the **regulatory period** in accordance with clause 3.7.20; and

a connection capex variable adjustment after the final **connection capex annual report** of the **regulatory period** in accordance with clause 3.7.21.

* + - * 1. The **capital expenditure** determined for the **connection capex allowance** must be additional to the **base capex allowance** and any **individual capex allowance**.
        2. The **capital expenditure** determined for the **connection capex allowance** is not substitutable for **capital expenditure** determined for the **base capex allowance** or any **individual capex allowance** for a **regulatory year** or between **regulatory years** for the **regulatory period**.
      1. Connection capex baseline proposal process and timeframes
         1. **Chorus** must submit a **connection capex baseline** **proposal** to the **Commission** for a **regulatory period** at the same time that it submits the **base capex proposal** for that **regulatory period**.
         2. A **connection capex baseline proposal** must:

state any **connection capex** that **Chorus** considers should be included in the **connection capex baseline allowance** for each **regulatory year** of the **regulatory period**;

only propose **connection capex** additional to the **base capex** **allowance** proposed for each **regulatory year** of the **regulatory period**;

provide enough information to enable the **Commission** to evaluate the **connection capex baseline proposal** in accordance with Subpart 8, including:

**regulatory template** agreed under subclause (3) or specified under subclause (4); and

information required by the **Commission’s** **connection capex information request**; and

be accompanied by the required assurance reports, including an **independent verification** **report**, **certification**, and an **auditor** report in accordance with clauses 3.7.16-3.7.17.

* + - * 1. The Commission and Chorus must use reasonable endeavours to agree the information required in the **regulatory templates** for the relevant regulatory period, including:

the form and content of the regulatory templates;

the connection types relevant to the forecast expenditure and a description of each;

forecast initial **connection capex unit costs** by **connection type** made up of the following components that must not overlap and must be identified separately:

**variable connection costs**; and

**non-linear connection costs**; and

forecast connection volumes by **connection type**.

* + - * 1. If no agreement is reached on one or more of the matters in subclause (3)(a)-(d), subject to subclause (6), the **Commission** must specify those matters and notify **Chorus**.
        2. The **regulatory templates** must be agreed in accordance with subclause (3) or specified in accordance with subclause (4):

for the **first** **regulatory period**, as soon as it is reasonably practicable; and

for the **second** **regulatory period** and subsequent regulatory periods,before the first working day in March which is at least 22 months before the start of the regulatory period.

* + - * 1. The **Commission** must have regard to the views **Chorus** expressed during discussion on the **regulatory templates** when specifying the matters in subclause (4).
        2. The **Commission** must issue a **connection capex information request** to **Chorus** related to the **connection capex baseline proposal** in accordance with information requirements set out in clause 3.7.15:

for the **first regulatory period**, as soon as it is reasonably practicable; and

for the **second regulatory period** and subsequent **regulatory periods**, at least 22 months before the start of the **regulatory period**.

* + - 1. Connection capex information request - information requirements
         1. The **connection capex information request** may include information relating to any or all of the following areas:

governance relating to proposed **capital expenditure**,including evidence that appropriate policies and processes have been applied;

historic **capital expenditure** and consideration of historic rates of investment;

approach to forecasting **capital expenditure**, including models used to develop the **capital expenditure** forecasts;

procurement, resourcing, deliverability of the proposed **capital expenditure**;

relevant financial information including evidence of efficiency improvements in proposed **capital expenditure**;

quantitative or economic analysis related to the proposed **capital expenditure**, including sensitivity analysis and impact analysis undertaken;

**fibre asset** and **fibre network** information;

competition effects, including specific information for **capital expenditure** that may have potential impacts on competition in **PQ FFLAS** and other telecommunications markets;

the linkages between the proposed **capital expenditure** and quality, including the impact the **capital expenditure** would have on **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes;

consideration and analysis of alternatives to the proposed **capital expenditure**, including the impact of the alternatives on **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes;

the extent of consultation by **Chorus** with its **access seekers** and **end-users**,how input from consultation is incorporated into the forecast **capital expenditure** and what impact it has had on the connection capex baseline **proposal**; and

forecast costs for each **connection type** that make up the **connection capex unit cost** including specification of **variable connection costs** and **non-linear connection costs**, where **variable connection costs** and **non-linear connection costs** must not overlap and must be identified separately.

* + - 1. Connection capex baseline independent verification
         1. For the **second regulatory period** and subsequent **regulatory periods**, the connection capex baseline **proposal** must be verified by an **independent verifier** approved by the **Commission**.
         2. The intended independent verifier, scope and terms and conditions proposed by **Chorus** for the **independent verification report** must be submitted to the **Commission** for approval before the start of the verification process.
         3. The verification information submitted to the **Commission** in accordance with subclause (2) must include enough information for the **Commission** to be satisfied that:

the verifier is **independent** and capable of undertaking the verification; and

the terms and conditions of engagement and the scope of the **independent verification report** will provide the appropriate assurance needed to assess the connection capex baseline **proposal**.

* + - * 1. The **independent verification report** must be submitted with the connection capex baseline **proposal**.
      1. Other connection capex assurance: certification and audit
         1. At least two **directors**of **Chorus** must provide **certification** in relation to the connection capex baseline **proposal***,* in accordance with clause 3.7.3.
         2. The connection capex baseline **proposal** must include a report by an **auditor** in accordance with clause 3.7.4.
      2. Connection capex annual report
         1. **Chorus** must provide a **connection capex annual report** for each **regulatory year** of a **regulatory period** to the **Commission** no later than 3 months after the end of each **regulatory year** of the **regulatory period**.
         2. The **connection capex annual report** must include the following information:

actual **connection capex unit costs** by **connection type** for the **regulatory year** which is the subject of the annual report, including separate identification of the **non-linear connection costs**;

actual connection volumes by **connection type** for the **regulatory year** which is the subject of the annual report;

updated forecast **connection capex unit costs** and forecast connection volumes by **connection type** for the remaining **regulatory years** of the **regulatory period**.

* + - * 1. The connection capex annual report must be accompanied by the required assurance, including the certification in accordance with clause 3.7.19(1) and an auditor report in accordance with clause 3.7.19(2).
      1. Connection capex annual report assurance processes
         1. At least 2 **directors** of **Chorus** must provide a **certification** for the **connection capex annual report**.
         2. The **connection capex annual report** must be audited in accordance with clause 3.7.4.
      2. Commission processes and timeframes for determining connection capex baseline allowance
         1. After the **Commission** evaluates a **connection capex baseline proposal** in accordance with Subpart 8, the **Commission** must determine a **connection capex baseline allowance**:

for the **first regulatory period**, no later than 3 months before the start of that **regulatory period**; and

for the **second regulatory period** and subsequent **regulatory periods**, no later than 6 months before the start of that **regulatory period**.

* + - * 1. For the purposes of subclause (1), the **connection capex baseline** determinationmust include:

the **connection capex baseline allowance** by **connection type** for each **regulatory year** ofthe **regulatory period**;

the **connection capex unit costs**, by **connection type**, used to calculate the **connection capex baseline allowance** for each **regulatory year** ofthe **regulatory period**; and

the forecast volumes, by **connection type**, used to calculate the **connection capex baseline allowance** for each **regulatory year** ofthe **regulatory period**.

* + - 1. The connection capex variable adjustment
         1. A connection capex variable adjustment will be determined at the end of the **regulatory period** after the **Commission** receives the **connection capex annual report** for the last **regulatory year** of the **regulatory period**.
         2. The connection capex variable adjustment will be the difference between:

the **connection capex baseline allowance** for the **regulatory period** which is based on forecast connection volumes; and

a **capital expenditure** amount that is based on actual connection volumes by **connection type** for the **regulatory period** multiplied by the **connection capex unit costs** used in determining the **connection capex baseline allowance** for that **connection type**.

* + 1. Individual capex proposals
       1. Overview of individual capex proposal process and timeframes
          1. **Chorus** may apply to the **Commission** to determine an additional **capex allowance** before or during a **regulatory period** by submitting an **individual capex proposal** in accordance with the staged application process specified in subclause (6).
          2. An **individual capex proposal** must, in relation to a **regulatory period**, state any **individual capex** that **Chorus** considers should be included in the **individual capex allowance** for each **regulatory year** of that **regulatory period**.
          3. The **individual capex proposal** must meet the following requirements:

the **proposed** **capex** must be additional to any **base capex allowance** and **connection capex baseline allowance** for the **regulatory years** of each **regulatory period** relevant to the **individual capex proposal**;

the **proposed capex** must relate to one or more **base capex sub-categories** included in the **base capex proposal** for the first **regulatory period** relevant to the **individual capex proposal**;

the proposed **individual capex** must relate to a **project** or **programme**, where the forecast **capital expenditure** for **PQ FFLAS** on that **project** or **programme** is at least $5 million over the life of the **project** or **programme**; and

the **proposed capex** has the characteristics specified in either or both subclause (4) or (5).

* + - * 1. For the purposes of subclause (3)(d), at the time when the **base capex proposal** for the first **regulatory period** relevant to the **individual capex proposal** is submitted to the **Commission**, it is unreasonable to accurately forecast the **capital expenditure** for that **project** or **programme** due to the uncertainty in one or more of the following:

the need for the **project** or **programme**;

the economic case justifying the **capital expenditure** for the **project** or **programme**; or

the timing of the **project** or **programme**.

* + - * 1. For the purposes of subclause (3)(d), the **Commission** is satisfied that the **capital expenditure** for the **project** or **programme** should be:

approved only for the **project** or **programme** to which the **proposed capex** relates; and

reported separately from the **base capex** to assist the **Commission** in its evaluation of the **capital expenditure**.

* + - * 1. Where **Chorus** intends to submit an **individual capex proposal** to the **Commission**, the following staged application process will occur:

a notification stage, where **Chorus** must notify the **Commission** of its intention to submit an **individual capex proposal** and provide an **individual capex design proposal** to the **Commission** for approval in accordance with clause 3.7.23; and

if the **Commission** approves **Chorus’** **individual capex design proposal**, a final proposal stage, where **Chorus** must submit to the **Commission** an **individual capex proposal** in accordance with clause 3.7.25-3.7.27 that is consistent with the **individual capex design proposal**.

* + - 1. Notification stage - individual capex design proposal
         1. **Chorus** must notify the **Commission** in writing that it intends to submit an **individual capex proposal** to the **Commission** and must include an **individual capex design proposal** with the notice.
         2. The **individual capex design proposal** must include a description of:

key parameters of the **individual capex project** or **individual capex** **programme** that the proposed **capital expenditure** relates to in accordance with subclause (3);

the proposed information to be provided to the **Commission** in the final **individual capex proposal** based on the **individual capex** information requirements in clause 3.7.26;

the assurance processes to be undertaken, based on the **individual capex** requirements in clause 3.7.27; and

the proposed timeframe for **Chorus** to submit the final proposal.

* + - * 1. For the purposes of subclause (2)(a), the key parameters in the **individual capex design proposal** must include:

the need for investment and the timing of the **individual capex** **project** or **individual capex** **programme** and the extent of any related uncertainty;

the assumed technical parameters for the **individual capex** **project** or **individual capex** **programme**;

any relevant technology development plans;

identification of alternatives considered;

impact of the proposed **individual capex** on **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes;

any impact of the proposed **individual capex** on previously determined or forecast **base capex** and **operating expenditure**;

the possible expected costs, benefits and risks associated with the **individual capex project** or **individual capex programme**;

any previous or planned consultation undertaken and the reasons that the consultation is commensurate with the scale and complexity of the proposed **capital expenditure** on the **individual capex** **project** or **individual capex** **programme**;

if **Chorus** considers the **capital expenditure** related to the proposed **individual capex** **project** or **individual capex** **programme** should be substitutable with other **capital expenditure** within the **base capex allowance**, sufficient information and reasons to assist the **Commission** in deciding whether a waiver is justified in accordance with clause 3.7.28(3); and

a proposal for independent verification that is commensurate with the size and complexity of the **individual capex proposal**, including:

details of the intended independent verifier and enough information to demonstrate that verifier is **independent** and capable of undertaking the intended **independent verification report**;

the proposed terms and conditions of the verifier’s engagement and the scope of the proposal for independent verification, including enough information to demonstrate the scope and terms of engagement for the intended **independent verification report** is appropriate for the size and complexity of the **individual capex** **project** or **individual capex programme**; and

if **Chorus** considers there is no need for an **independent verification report**, sufficient information and reasons to assist the **Commission** in deciding whether a waiver is justified in accordance with clause 3.7.24(2).

* + - 1. Commission approval of the individual capex design proposal
         1. Within one month of the **Commission** receiving the **individual capex design proposal** from **Chorus**, the **Commission** must do one of the following:

approve the **individual capex design proposal**;

approve the **individual capex design proposal** with conditions; or

decline the **individual capex design proposal**.

* + - * 1. Subject to subclause (3), the **Commission** may approve the **individual capex design proposal** and waive the requirement for an **independent verification report**,if satisfied that the information and reasons provided in the **individual capex design proposal** in accordance with clause 3.7.23(3)(j)(iii) justifies the waiver.
        2. For the purposes of subclause (2), when considering the waiver, the **Commission** will have regard to:

the size and complexity of the proposed **capital expenditure** and related **project** or **programme**; and

the extent to which an **independent verification** **report** might assist the **Commission** in its determination of the **individual capex allowance**.

* + - * 1. If the **individual capex design proposal** is not approved, or approved with conditions not acceptable to **Chorus**, **Chorus** may resubmit a revised **individual capex design proposal** at a later date.
      1. The final individual capex proposal
         1. Where the **Commission** approves or approves with conditions an **individual capex design proposal** in whole or in part, **Chorus** must provide an **individual capex proposal** in accordance with the **approved timeframes** specified in the approved **individual capex design proposal**.
         2. The **individual capex proposal** must be consistent with the key parameters, information requirements, assurance processes and any conditions approved by the **Commission** in relation to the **individual capex design proposal**.
      2. Individual capex information requirements
         1. The **Commission** may require additional information in relation to the **individual capex design proposal** and **individual capex proposal** including information relating to the following:

governance relating to proposed **capital expenditure,** including evidence that appropriate policies and processes have been applied;

historic **capital expenditure** and consideration of historic rates of investment;

approach to forecasting **capital expenditure**, including models used to develop the **capital expenditure** forecasts;

relevant financial information including evidence of efficiency improvements in proposed **capital expenditure**;

quantitative or economic analysis undertaken to justify the **individual capex** **project** or **individual capex** **programme**;

the linkages between the proposed **capex expenditure** and quality, including the impact the **capital expenditure** would have on **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes and forecast **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes and where applicable an assessment of the updated forecast **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes against the quality standards within the **PQ determination**;

consideration and analysis of alternatives to the proposed **capital expenditure**, including the impact of the alternatives on **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes;

competition effects, including specific information for the **individual capex** **project** or **individual capex** **programme**, that may have potential impacts on competition in **PQ FFLAS** and other telecommunications markets;

the extent of the uncertainty related to the proposed **individual capex** **project** or **individual capex** **programme**;

the impact that the proposed **capital expenditure** has on layer 1 **PQ FFLAS;**

common costs and benefits with **services that are not regulated FFLAS** and **regulated FFLAS**;

any technical information and standards relied upon in the development of the **capital expenditure** **proposal**;

the extent of consultation by **Chorus** on the **individual capex** **project** or **individual capex programme**,how input from consultation is incorporated into the forecast **capital expenditure** and what impact it has had on the individual capex **proposal**;

procurement, resourcing, and deliverability of the proposed **capital expenditure**;

the impact the **capital expenditure** would have on any previously determined **base capex** **allowance** and **operating expenditure** or forecast **base capex** **allowance** and forecast **operating expenditure**; and

any expert reports or advice that contributed to the **individual capex proposal**.

* + - 1. Individual capex assurance requirements
         1. Subject to clause 3.7.24(2), the **individual capex proposal** must be verified by an **independent verifier** identified in the **individual capex design proposal** and approved by the **Commission** in accordance with clause 3.7.24(1)(a) or (b).
         2. If an **independent verification report** is required, the scope and the terms and conditions of the report must be consistent with the approved **individual capex design proposal**.
         3. The verification information submitted to the **Commission** in accordance with subclause (2) must include enough information for the **Commission** to be satisfied that:

the verifier is **independent** and capable of undertaking the verification; and

the terms and conditions of engagement and the scope of the **independent verification report** will provide the appropriate assurance needed to assess the **individual capex proposal**.

* + - * 1. An **individual capex proposal** must be certified by the **CEO** of **Chorus** in accordance with clause 3.7.3.
        2. An **individual capex proposal** must be audited in accordance with clause 3.7.4 and must include a statement from the **auditor**:

that the **individual capex proposal** complies, in all material respects, with the information requirements, key parameters and conditions in the approved **individual capex design proposal**; and

on whether the proposed **individual capex** is additional to and not a substitute for the determined **base capex allowance**.

* + - 1. Commission processes for final individual capex proposal
         1. The **Commission** must evaluate the final **individual capex proposal** in accordance with Subpart 8 and do one of the following:

determine the **individual capex allowance**;

determine the **individual capex allowance**, with conditions; or

decline the **individual capex proposal**.

* + - * 1. If the **Commission** determines an **individual capex allowance**, the determination must include:

the **individual capex allowance** for that **regulatory period** and any subsequent **regulatory periods**;

any reporting requirements; and

any other conditions of the **Commission’s** determination of that **individual capex allowance**.

* + - * 1. Subject to subclause (4), an **individual capex allowance** determined by the **Commission** must be restricted to the **project** or **programme** to which that **individual capex allowance** relates.
        2. Subject to subclause (5), the **Commission** may waive the requirement that the **individual capex allowance** must be restricted to the **project** or **programme** to which that **individual capex allowance** relates, if satisfied that the information and reasons provided in the **individual capex proposal** justifies the waiver.
        3. For the purposes of subclause (4), when considering the waiver, the **Commission** must have regard to at least the following matters:

the size and complexity of the **proposed capex** and related **project** or **programme**; and

whether **proposed capex** for the **project** or **programme** should be**:**

approved only for the **project** or **programme** to which the **proposed capex** relates; and

reported separately from **base capex** to assist the **Commission** in its evaluation of the **proposed capex**.

* 1. Capital expenditure evaluation by the Commission
     1. General rules for Commission determination processes
        1. Commission determination of capex proposals
           1. After receiving a **capex proposal**, the **Commission** must determine the **capex allowance** in relation to each **capex proposal** in accordance with the general evaluation criteria in section 1 of Subpart 7 and any specific requirements set out for each category of **capex proposal** in sections 2, 3 and 4 of Subpart 7.
           2. A determined **capex allowance** must be net of **capital contributions**.
        2. Consequences of evaluation and other process timeframes not being met by Commission
           1. None of the Commission’s functions or decisions described in this determination are invalidated on account of the Commission’s failure to meet any timeframes applying to the **Commission** specified in this determination.
           2. Notwithstanding subclause (1), the Commission will, as soon as reasonably practicable after it believes that a timeframe applying to the Commission is not likely to be met or has not been adhered to, notify Chorus and, where relevant, interested persons, of the new timeframe that applies.
        3. Publication of determinations
           1. The Commission will publish all determinations that it is required to make under section 2-4 of Subpart 7:

on the **Commission’s** website; and

no later than 1 month after having made them.

* + - 1. Commission consultation
         1. After receiving a **base** **capex proposal** or a **connection capex baseline proposal**, the **Commission** must, for each **capex proposal**:

if deemed necessary by the **Commission**, seek the views of any person the **Commission** considers has expertise on a relevant matter;

publish the relevant **capex proposal**, subject to withholding any information the **Commission** considers commercially sensitive or otherwise confidential;

make and publish a draft determination or determinations; and

consult with interested persons.

* + - * 1. Subject to subclause (3), after receiving an **individual capex proposal**, the **Commission** may take any of the actions referred to in subclauses (1)(a)-(d).
        2. When determining whether to consult under subclause (2), the **Commission** must have regard to at least the following matters:

the size and complexity of the **proposed** **capex** and related **project** or **programme**;

any consultation already undertaken by **Chorus** related to the **capital expenditure** (for example, when consulting on the **base capex proposal**);

the extent to which the consultation might assist the **Commission** when determining the **individual capex allowance**;

the commercial sensitivity of the proposed **project** or **programme** and whether consultation might adversely impact competition; and

the impact of the **capital expenditure** on **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes for **access seekers** and **end-users**.

* + - * 1. Where the **Commission** takes any of the actions referred to in subclauses (1)(a)-(d) or (2), the **Commission** may do so in accordance with such timeframes and processes as it considers appropriate.
    1. Evaluation criteria – expenditure objective and assessment factors
       1. Commission evaluation
          1. The **Commission** must evaluate a **capex proposal** by:

considering whether the **proposed** **capex** meets the **capital expenditure objective** and reflects **good telecommunications industry practice**; and

having regard to the **assessment factors** in clause 3.8.6 when considering whether a **capex proposal** has met the **capital expenditure objective**.

* + - * 1. A **capex proposal** meets the **capital expenditure objective** if the expenditure reflects the efficient costs that a prudent **fibre network operator** would incur to deliver **PQ FFLAS** of appropriate quality, during the relevant **regulatory period** and over the longer term.
      1. Assessment factors
         1. The **Commission** must have regard to at least the following ‘assessment factors’ when evaluating a **capex proposal**:

whether the **proposed** **capex** complies with all applicable legal and regulatory obligations associated with the provision of **PQ FFLAS**;

governance relating to **proposed capex,** including evidence that appropriate policies and processes have been applied;

historic **capital expenditure** and consideration of historic rates of investment;

quantitative or economic analysis related to the **proposed capex**, including sensitivity analysis and impact analysis undertaken;

approach to forecasting **capital expenditure**, including models used to develop the **capital expenditure** forecasts;

relevant financial information including evidence of efficiency improvements in **proposed** **capex;**

competition effects, including specific information for **capital expenditure** that have potential impacts on competition in **PQ FFLAS** and other telecommunications markets;

the linkages between the **proposed** **capex** and quality, including the impact the **capital expenditure** would have on **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes;

consideration and analysis of alternatives to the **proposed capex**, including the impact of the alternatives on **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes;

the extent and effectiveness of consultation and engagement with stakeholders and the extent that feedback received has been incorporated into the **capex proposal**;

procurement, resourcing, deliverability of the **proposed** **capex**;

common costs and benefits with **services that are not regulated FFLAS** and **regulated FFLAS;**

**fibre asset** and **fibre network** information;

mechanisms for controlling actual **capital expenditure** with respect to the **proposed** **capex** and achieving the **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes;

the extent of the uncertainty related to the:

need for the **proposed** **capex**;

economic case justifying the **proposed capex**; and

timing of the **proposed capex**;

the extent that a risk-based approach has been applied;

the impact that the **proposed** **capex** has on layer 1 **PQ FFLAS**;

the dependency and trade-off between the **proposed** **capex** and related **operating expenditure** to ensure least whole-of-life cost for managing assets and cost-efficient solutions;

the accuracy and reliability of data; and

the reasonableness of the key assumptions, methodologies, planning and technical standards relied upon.

* 1. Reconsideration of a price-quality path
     1. When Commission can reconsider and amend PQ determination
        1. When a price-quality path may be reconsidered and amended
           1. The **Commission** may reconsider and amend a **regulated provider’s** **PQ determination** if the **Commission** is satisfied that-

a **reopener event** has occurred;

the **PQ determination** should be amended, after having regard to at least the matters under clause 3.9.8(1); and

the proposed amendment to the **PQ determination** would be consistent with the applicable requirements of clause 3.9.9 and s 166(2) of the **Act**.

* + - * 1. A ‘reopener event’ is an event, or a series of related events, described in clauses 3.9.3 to 3.9.7 that-

the **Commission** identifies or a **regulated provider** notifies the **Commission** of; and

occur within six months of or during the **regulatory period** of the **PQ determination** that may be reconsidered.

* + - 1. Procedural, notification and information requirements for the reconsideration process
         1. A **regulated provider** that identifies a **reopener event** and requests that the **Commission** reconsider and amend the **PQ determination** must provide enough information to the **Commission** to enable it to assess:

whether a **reopener event** has occurred;

having regard to relevant matters under clause 3.9.8(1), whether and how the **PQ determination** should be amended; and

whether the proposed amendment to the **PQ determination** is consistent with the applicable requirements of clause 3.9.9 and the **Act**.

* + - * 1. The **Commission** must publish notice on its website when the **Commission**-

identifies a potential **reopener event**;

receives a request to assess whether a **reopener event** has occurred and to reconsider and amend the **PQ determination**;

decides whether the **Commission**:

is satisfied that a **reopener event** has occurred;

proposes to reconsider the **PQ determination**; and

will amend the relevant **PQ determination**.

* + - * 1. The **Commission** may publish notice under subclause (2) separately or in combination as it considers appropriate.
    1. Events that may be reopener events
       1. Catastrophic event
          1. ‘Catastrophic event’ means an event, or the credible threat of an event, that:

is beyond the reasonable control of the regulated provider affected or likely to be affected by the event or the credible threat of an event;

the **regulated** **provider** could not reasonably have foreseen when the **base capex proposal** and **connection capex baseline proposal** were made for the **regulatory period**; and

does at least one of the following:

imposes a cost on the **regulated provider** (whether **capital expenditure** or **operating costs**) for responding to, mitigating, or preventing the adverse consequences of the event or credible threat of the event on **core fibre assets** or **maximum revenues** that, net of any insurance or compensatory entitlements, exceeds an amount equivalent to 1% of the maximum revenues for the first regulatory year of the PQ determination; or

results in a **regulated provider** failing to meet its quality standards under the **PQ determination**.

*Examples of an event that, provided it meets the above requirements, is a catastrophic event:*

* *an act of God, fire, earthquake, tsunami, storm, cyclone, or flood;*
* *an explosion, or collision; or*
* *a civil disturbance, insurrection, epidemic, pandemic, national emergency (whether in fact or law), cyber security incident, act of war (whether declared or not), or an act of terrorism.* 
  + - * 1. The following events, or credible threats of these events, are not **catastrophic events**:

a loss of supply of any **PQ FFLAS** caused by the **regulated provider’s** action or neglect; or

a situation that the **regulated provider** could have prevented or overcome by exercising reasonable diligence at reasonable cost.

* + - 1. Change event
         1. ‘Change event’ means an event that:

is a change in a regulatory requirement that applies to a **regulated provider** arising from:

new or amended legislation; or

judicial clarification of the interpretation of legislation; and

has at least one of the following effects:

increases the costs (whether **capital expenditure** or **operating costs**) the **regulated provider** needs to incur in providing **PQ FFLAS** of at least 1% of the **maximum revenues** for the first **regulatory year** of the **PQ determination**;

reduces the costs the **regulated provider** needs to incur in providing **PQ FFLAS** of at least 1% of the **maximum revenues** for the first **regulatory year** of the **PQ determination**; or

results in a **regulated provider** failing to meet its quality standards under the **PQ determination**.

* + - 1. GAAP change
         1. ‘GAAP change’ means an event that amounts to a change-

in a requirement that applies to a **regulated provider** under **GAAP** and results in a change in the recognition or measurement (including timing) of:

**operating expenditure**;

**capital expenditure**;

**fibre assets**;

liabilities; or

**total FFLAS revenue**; and

that, if the change was in effect at the time the price path was determined, the aggregate amount of the **maximum revenues** for all **regulatory years** of the **PQ determination** would have differed by at least 1% as a result of a difference in the forecast amounts or values relied on in setting the price path.

* + - 1. Error event
         1. Subject to subclause (2), ‘error event’ means, a circumstance in which the **PQ determination** was made or amended based on an error, including where:

incorrect, false, or misleading information was used in setting the price path or a quality standard; or

data was incorrectly applied in setting the price path or a quality standard.

* + - * 1. For the purposes of subclause (1):

an error relating to a quality standard specified in the **PQ determination** will not constitute an **error event** unless it is an error in the value of a quality standard, including any value used to prescribe a target, band or formula; and

a discrepancy between forecast values and actual values will not constitute an error event unless a material aspect of the forecast values was false or the forecast was misleading.

* + - 1. Major transaction
         1. ‘Major transaction’ means a transaction, whether contingent or not, that has or is likely to result in:

the **regulated provider** acquiring or agreeing to acquire, a **fibre asset** with a value which is equivalent to more than 10% of the sum of that **regulated provider’s opening RAB values** in the **PQ RAB** in the **disclosure year** of acquisition;

the **regulated provider** disposing of, or agreeing to dispose of, a **fibre asset** of **a regulated provider** with a value of more than 10% of the sum of that **regulated provider’s** **opening RAB values** in the **PQ RAB** in the **disclosure year** of disposal;

a **regulated provider** acquiring rights or interests in a **fibre asset** with a value which is equivalent to more than 10% of the sum of that **regulated provider’s** **opening RAB values** in the **PQ RAB** in the **disclosure year** of acquisition; or

a **regulated provider** incurring obligations or liabilities related to a **fibre asset**, excluding loans or borrowing costs in respect of the **fibre asset**, with a value which is equivalent to more than 10% of the sum of that **regulated provider’s** **opening RAB values** in the **PQ RAB** in the **disclosure year** of incurring the obligation or liabilities.

* + - * 1. For the purpose of subclause (1), a transaction includes an amalgamation under Part 13 of the Companies Act 1993.
    1. Commission consideration of whether and how to amend PQ determination
       1. Commission consideration of whether to amend the price-quality path
          1. If, under clause 3.9.1(1)(a), the **Commission** is satisfied that a **reopener event** has occurred, in deciding under clause 3.9.1(1)(b) whether to amend the relevant **PQ determination**, the **Commission** must have regard to at least the following matters:

the impact of the **reopener event** given all the relevant circumstances, including both positive and negative effects, on costs, revenues, and **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes;

whether the relevant **regulated provider** has satisfied the **Commission** that the action required to respond to the **reopener event’s** adverse consequences cannot be delayed until a future **regulatory period** without the relevant **regulated provider** failing to meet its quality standards or other legal or regulatory obligations;

the extent to which the relevant **PQ determination** provides explicitly or implicitly for the **reopener event**;

whether the relevant **regulated provider** has demonstrated it has reviewed its planned **capital expenditure** and **operating expenditure** for the remainder of the **regulatory period** and reprioritised its expenditure to the extent possible without adversely affecting:

the **regulated provider’s** ability to meet the quality standards under the relevant **PQ determination**; and

**PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes for **access seekers** and **end-users**; and

to the extent relevant:

whether the proposed **capital expenditure** complies with all applicable legal and regulatory obligations associated with the provision of **PQ FFLAS**;

governance relating to proposed **capital expenditure**,including evidence that appropriate policies and processes have been applied;

historic **capital expenditure** and consideration of historic rates of investment;

quantitative or economic analysis related to the proposed **capex**, including sensitivity analysis and impact analysis undertaken;

approach to forecasting **capital expenditure**, including models used to develop the **capital expenditure** forecasts;

relevant financial information including evidence of efficiency improvements in proposed **capital expenditure**;

competition effects, including specific information for **capital expenditure** that have potential impacts on competition in **PQ FFLAS** and other telecommunications markets;

the linkages between the proposed **capital expenditure** and quality, including the impact the **capital expenditure** would have on **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes;

consideration and analysis of alternatives to the proposed **capital expenditure**, including the impact of the alternatives on **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes;

the extent and effectiveness of consultation and engagement with stakeholders and the extent that feedback received has been incorporated into the proposed **capital expenditure**;

procurement, resourcing, deliverability of the proposed **capex**;

common costs and benefits with **services that are not regulated FFLAS** and **regulated FFLAS;**

**fibre asset** and **fibre network** information;

mechanisms for controlling actual **capital expenditure** with respect to the proposed **capital expenditure** and achieving the **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes;

the extent of the uncertainty related to the:

A. need for the proposed **capital expenditure**;

B. economic case justifying the proposed **capital expenditure**; and

C. timing of the proposed **capital expenditure**;

the extent that a risk-based approach has been applied;

the impact that the proposed **capex** has on layer 1 **PQ FFLAS**;

the dependency and trade-off between the proposed **capital expenditure** and related **operating expenditure** to ensure least whole-of-life cost for managing assets and cost-efficient solutions;

the accuracy and reliability of data; and

the reasonableness of the key assumptions, methodologies, planning and technical standards relied upon.

* + - 1. Amending the price-quality path after consideration
         1. Subject to subclause (2), if the **Commission** decides that a **reopener event** has occurred and the **PQ** **determination** should be amended, the **Commission** may amend the price path and the quality standards to take account of part or all of the net effects of the **reopener event** on costs, revenues, and **PQ FFLAS** quality outcomes.
         2. In amending the price path and the quality standards under subclause (1), the **Commission** must not amend the price path or quality standards more than is reasonably necessary to:

take account of the change in costs, net of any insurance or compensatory entitlements, resulting from the relevant event or transaction where the **PQ determination** is amended because of a **reopener event** caused by:

a **catastrophic event**;

a **change event**; or

a **major transaction**; and

address the relevant differences in values specified in the **PQ determination** where the **PQ determination** is amended because of a **reopener event** caused by:

* + - 1. an **error event**; or
      2. a **GAAP change**.
         1. Where the **PQ determination** is amended under this clause, the **Commission** will determine which ofthe capital expenditure requirements in Subparts 7 and 8, if any, apply.

SCHEDULE A **MINIMUM LEVELS OF SPECIFICITY TO DESCRIBE ASSETS IN RAB**

**Table A.1: Minimum levels of specificity to describe assets in RAB**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Category of asset** | **Minimum levels of specificity to describe assets** |
| Network layer | Whether a **core fibre asset** or collection of **core fibre assets** corresponds to layer 1 or layer 2 |
| Asset class | To reflect **GAAP** depreciation categories |
| Geographic location | Location, as recorded in the **regulated provider’s** asset management or geographical information systems, that allows identification of the physical location or the geographic area in which the **fibre asset** is installed  *Example: the location of* ***fibre assets****, such as cables, that naturally span a large physical area, must be identifiable to a level of detail that would allow the general location of the* ***fibre asset*** *to be identified.* |
| Shared with other parties | Information that is sufficient to permit an objectively justifiable and demonstrably reasonable assessment of the:   1. factors influencing the use of the **fibre asset** by the **regulated provider**, another **regulated provider**, a **Part 4 regulated supplier** or non-regulated party (who shall be treated as one group for the purposes of identifying such factors); or 2. the circumstances when a cost driver leads to an **operating cost** being incurred in respect of the use of the **fibre asset** by the **regulated provider**, the **regulated provider**, another **regulated provider**, a **Part 4 regulated supplier** or non-regulated party (who shall be treated as one group for the purposes of identifying such factors),   where  information must be kept current, such that any **asset allocators**, **cost allocators**, **proxy asset allocators** or **proxy cost allocators** that rely on it can be reviewed and, where relevant, updated at least once every 12 months; and  any **fibre asset** shared with another **regulated provider**, **Part 4 regulated supplier** or any non-regulated party is a **right-of-use asset**, the information held for **GAAP** purposes on that **right-of-use asset** provides sufficient specificity |
| Shared with **services that are not regulated FFLAS** or **FFLAS** not regulated under Part 6 of the **Act** | Information that is sufficient to permit an objectively justifiable and demonstrably reasonable assessment of the:   1. factors influencing the use of the **core fibre asset**; or 2. the circumstances when a cost driver leads to an **operating cost** being incurred, where   information must be kept current, such that any **asset** **allocators**, **cost allocators**, **proxy asset allocators** or **proxy cost allocators** that rely on it can be reviewed and, where relevant, updated at least once every 12 months |
| Related to **additional RABs** | Information that is sufficient to permit an objectively justifiable and demonstrably reasonable assessment of any of the following **fibre assets** specified by the **Commission**:   1. **fibre assets** in any **additional RAB**; 2. a subset of **fibre assets** relating to any **additional RAB**, where the **Commission** may from time to time specify subsets of **core fibre assets** for the purposes of Part 6 of the **Act**; or 3. **fibre assets** that were not part of the **UFB initiative** |

SCHEDULE B **Methodology for determining the financial loss asset**

[XX]