

**TREASURER'S INSTRUCTION**  
**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS ENTERPRISES ACT 1995**

**GBE 08-51-04**  
**APPLICATION OF AUSTRALIAN ACCOUNTING STANDARDS**

**BACKGROUND**

Section 51 of the *Government Business Enterprises Act 1995* (GBE Act) requires a Government Business Enterprise (GBE) to keep accounting records that, subject to the Treasurer's Instructions, comply with Australian Accounting Standards.

The Treasurer's Instruction modifies the application of some Standards to meet the requirements of GBEs. The Treasurer's Instruction also requires GBEs to apply Urgent Issue Group (UIG) Interpretations. The UIG Interpretations provide timely guidance on urgent financial reporting issues. In providing such guidance, the UIG seeks to avoid the development of divergent or unsatisfactory financial reporting practices in areas not dealt with, or not dealt with specifically, in Accounting Standards.

**DEFINITIONS**

Words and phrases used in this Treasurer's Instruction have the same meaning as those defined in the GBE Act.

**TREASURER'S INSTRUCTION**

All Australian Accounting Standards and Urgent Issue Group Interpretations are to apply as issued, except:

- (i) AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements* and AASB 120 *Accounting for Government Grants and Disclosure of Government Assistance* or AASB 1004 *Contributions* are to be applied as modified by Treasurer's Instruction GBE 08-52-04;
- (ii) AASB 114 *Segment Reporting* and AASB 124 *Related Party Disclosures* apply to all GBEs notwithstanding the application criteria of each Standard; and
- (iii) for the purposes of AASB 124, the Portfolio Minister and the Treasurer are not deemed to be "related parties" as defined by the Standard.

Where there is conflict between the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards and Urgent Issue Group Interpretations and the requirements of the GBE Act, the GBE Act will prevail.

A Board may apply to the Treasurer for a variation of or exemption from any Australian Accounting Standard or provision thereof. The application must include:

- (i) the reasons that an exemption or variation is requested; and
- (ii) the alternatives proposed.

Where authority for exemption from or variation to an Australian Accounting Standard exists, details of the exemption or variation and the alternatives authorised shall be included in a note to and forming part of the financial statements.

#### **COMMENCEMENT DATE**

This Treasurer's Instruction applies to all GBEs commencing for the year ended 30 June 2006, and replaces Treasurer's Instruction GBE 08-51-03 *Application of Australian Accounting Standards*.