

TREASURER'S INSTRUCTION
GOVERNMENT BUSINESS ENTERPRISES ACT 1995

GBE 13-114-06

DIVIDENDS

BACKGROUND

Under section 114(1)(e) of the *Government Business Enterprises Act 1995* (GBE Act), the Treasurer may issue instructions, in writing, in respect of guidelines, principles, practices and procedures to be observed by a Government Business Enterprise (GBE) in relation to financial obligations of GBEs. Section 115 imposes an obligation on GBE Boards to ensure that all Treasurer's Instructions are complied with.

The purpose of this Instruction is to issue Guidelines for the payment of dividends by GBEs.

Section 39 of the GBE Act requires GBEs to prepare a Corporate Plan. The Corporate Plan is to include an estimate of the dividends that are forecast over the corporate planning period.

Section 83 of the GBE Act requires the Board of each GBE, within 60 days after the end of each financial year, to advise the Treasurer and the Portfolio Minister of its recommendation for a dividend payable in respect of that financial year.

Section 86 of the GBE Act allows the Portfolio Minister and Treasurer to determine the payment of a special dividend to the Government under certain circumstances.

DEFINITIONS

Terms used in the attached Guidelines have the same meaning as those used in the GBE Act.

TREASURER'S INSTRUCTION

The Board of a GBE is to ensure that it establishes a dividend distribution policy consistent with the *Guidelines for Tasmanian Government Businesses - Dividends*, attached to this Instruction.

COMMENCEMENT DATE

This Treasurer's Instruction applies to all GBEs listed in Schedule 4 of the GBE Act, and takes effect for the determination of dividends payable in respect of the 2013-14 financial year and the financial years thereafter and replaces Treasurer's Instruction GBE 13-114-05.

ATTACHMENT

Guidelines for Tasmanian Government Businesses – Dividends.