## NATIONAL ENERGY RETAIL LAW

#### **SECTION 88**

#### **INFRINGEMENT NOTICE ISSUED TO**

#### **TAPLIN PROPERTIES PTY LTD**

## TO: Taplin Properties Pty Ltd (ABN: 77 008 126 814) 99 Gouger Street Adelaide SA 5000

#### Infringement Notice No.: AER10-2017

- 1. The Australian Energy Regulator (AER):
  - (a) has reason to believe that Taplin Properties Pty Ltd (ABN 77 008 126 814) (**Taplin Properties**):
    - (i) is, and was at all relevant times, a seller of energy in relation to its premises at Marden Shopping Complex;
    - (ii) has breached section 88 of the National Energy Retail Law (Retail Law), in the manner set out in Schedule 1 to this Infringement Notice (the alleged breach); and
  - (b) has decided to serve this Infringement Notice on Taplin Properties under section 277 of the National Gas (South Australia) Law being the Schedule to the National Gas (South Australia) Law 2008 (National Gas Law) as applied by section 308 of the Retail Law.
- 2. Section 88 of the Retail Law is a civil penalty provision within the meaning of the Retail Law.
- 3. The infringement penalty is \$20,000.

## WHAT CAN TAPLIN PROPERTIES DO IN RESPONSE TO THIS INFRINGEMENT NOTICE?

- 4. Taplin Properties can choose whether or not to comply with this Infringement Notice. If Taplin Properties chooses not to comply with this Infringement Notice, the AER may commence proceedings against it in relation to the alleged breach. Taplin Properties is entitled to disregard this Infringement Notice and to defend any proceedings in respect of the alleged breach.
- 5. If Taplin Properties chooses to comply with this Infringement Notice, it must pay the infringement penalty by 7 September 2017, being not less than 28 days from the date of service of this Infringement Notice, beginning on the day after the day on which this Infringement Notice is served (the compliance period).

- 6. To ensure payment is made in accordance with this Infringement Notice, payment must be received on or before **7 September 2017**.
- 7. If Taplin Properties pays the infringement penalty within the compliance period, the AER will not institute proceedings in respect of the alleged breach unless the Infringement Notice is withdrawn before the end of the compliance period in accordance with section 282 of the National Gas Law as applied by section 308 of the Retail Law.

# HOW TO PAY AN INFRINGEMENT NOTICE

- 8. Taplin Properties may pay the \$20,000 infringement penalty in two ways:
  - (a) by cheque made out to the "ACCC Official Administered Account",\* enclosing a copy of this Infringement Notice to: Australian Energy Regulator GPO Box 520 MELBOURNE VIC 3001

you should allow at least 5 business days for payment to be received

or

 (b) by electronic funds transfer to the following account:\* Account name: ACCC Official Administered Account BSB: 032-730 Account: 146550 Description: AER10-2017

you should allow at least 2 business days for payment to be received.

- \* The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission handles the receipt of infringement penalty payments for the AER on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia. All payments received are paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund.
- 9. Please allow sufficient time for your payment to be received within the compliance period.
- 10. Taplin Properties will be issued with a Tax Invoice following payment of the \$20,000 infringement penalty.

DATE OF ISSUE: 1 August 2017

Paula Conboy Chair Australian Energy Regulator

### **SCHEDULE 1**

# MATTERS CONSTITUTING AN ALLEGED BREACH OF A CIVIL PENALTY PROVISION: SECTION 88 OF THE NATIONAL ENERGY RETAIL LAW

- 1. Taplin Properties is, and was at all relevant times, a seller of electricity at Marden Shopping Complex.
- 2. Section 88 of the Retail Law states that a person (the seller) must not sell energy to a person for premises unless the seller is the holder of a retailer authorisation or the seller is an exempt seller.
- 3. Taplin Properties engaged in the activity of selling electricity to persons during the period 1 February 2013 to 21 March 2017 (**the relevant period**).
- 4. Taplin Properties sold electricity during the relevant period to tenants who lease premises at Marden Shopping Complex.
- 5. During the relevant period, in relation to Marden Shopping Complex, Taplin Properties did not hold a retailer authorisation and was not an exempt seller.
- 6. Accordingly, Taplin Properties breached section 88 of the Retail Law in respect of Marden Shopping Complex.