

STATEMENT OF REASONS

Port of Darwin – Reporting Guidelines

The Utilities Commission (Commission) is required to issue Reporting Guidelines in accordance with section 128 of the *Ports Management Act 2015* and regulation 14 of the Ports Management Regulations 2015. The associated Port of Darwin Reporting Guidelines (Guidelines) commenced on 2 May 2018. The Guidelines set out the requirements of annual reports to the Commission by the private port operator regarding material instances of non-compliance with its access policy.

In March 2021, the Commission commenced a review of the Guidelines and in June 2021, draft revised Guidelines were released for consultation. The draft revised Guidelines proposed minor revisions to improve clarity on requirements and updating to current templates. Submissions were invited from relevant stakeholders by 16 July 2021.

Darwin Port Operations Ltd confirmed receipt of the draft revised Guidelines, but advised it had no comments on the proposed changes. No submissions were received from other parties. Accordingly, the revised Guidelines are the same as those published on 7 June 2021 for consultation except for updates to publication and commencement.

In making the Guidelines, the Commission has considered the objects of, and all matters it is required to consider under the *Ports Management Act 2015*, the Ports Management Regulations 2015 and the *Utilities Commission Act 2000*.

The Guidelines take effect on and from the date of publication in the Northern Territory of Australia Government Gazette, which will be on 25 August 2021.

Lyndon Rowe
Utilities Commissioner
19 August 2021