ASX & SGX-ST Release



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TO: ASX Limited

Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited

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New Bushfire Class Actions

AusNet Services has been served with court documents which initiate a class action in relation to a bushfire that occurred in February 2014 in Yarram.

The Yarram bushfire commenced on 9 February 2014 near Morwell Yarram Road. It is alleged the fire commenced when vegetation made contact with a distribution line.

AusNet Services has been informed that a second class action will be commenced against it in relation to a bushfire that also occurred on 9 February 2014 in Mickleham Road, Mickleham and that court documents for the Mickleham Road bushfire class action will be served imminently.

It is understood it will be alleged that the Mickleham Road bushfire commenced following a tree falling and coming into contact with a conductor or conductors.

AusNet Services has liability insurance which provides cover for bushfire liability. AusNet Services reviews its insurance cover annually and ensures it is commensurate with the scale and size of its operations and with industry standards and practice.

AusNet Services' safety record, network asset management and network maintenance programs are consistent with industry practice, and its bushfire mitigation and vegetation management programs comply with relevant legislation and regulations.

AusNet Services has always been, and continues to be, committed to delivering energy safely and reliably to over 600,000 customers across Victoria. AusNet Services is confident of the appropriateness and effectiveness of its systems, policies and practices.

AusNet Services does not believe it was negligent and believes that it acted prudently at all times. It therefore intends to vigorously defend the proceedings.

Susan Taylor

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AusNet Services (RE) Ltd ABN 46 109 977 371 AFS Licence No. 294117 as responsible entity for AusNet Services Finance Trust