

Friday, 29 May 2009

The Manager Company Announcements Australian Stock Exchange Limited 20 Bridge Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir / Madam

## Distribution guidance for 2009 and capital management plans

I have attached a statement which provides information in relation to Spark Infrastructure's distribution guidance for 2009 and capital management plans .

Yours faithfully,

Alexandra Finley Company Secretary



# **ASX RELEASE**

Friday, 29 May 2009

# Distribution guidance and capital funding plan

As foreshadowed at the time of its profit statement issued in February 2009, Spark Infrastructure announces distribution guidance for 2009 and information about its capital funding plans.

#### Distribution guidance for 2009

Subject to there being no material change in prevailing business conditions, the Board of Spark Infrastructure expects to pay a full year distribution for 2009 to Securityholders of 13.56 cents per stapled security<sup>1</sup>. This level of distribution fully satisfies the current interest payable on the Loan Notes which form part of the stapled securities held by Securityholders and does not contain any capital or profit components.

The forecast distribution for 2009 is expected to be fully supported by the operating cashflows of the three electricity distribution businesses in which it has a 49% interest<sup>2</sup> and the cash distributions Spark Infrastructure expects to receive from them for the 2009 year.

Following payment of the 2009 distribution to Securityholders, the Board expects Spark Infrastructure will have surplus cash reserves. These reserves will be used to help fund its share of the Asset Companies' increased capital expenditure requirements. Capital expenditure is included in the regulated asset bases of the Asset Companies and this, in turn, leads to increased operating revenue in future periods.

### Capital funding plan

The Board of Spark Infrastructure has decided to activate its Distribution Re-investment Plan (DRP) commencing for the June 2009 half year distribution (payable in September 2009).

The DRP for the half year distribution payable in September 2009 will not be underwritten and Securityholders participating in the DRP at that time will be issued Spark Infrastructure stapled securities at a discount of 2.5% to the price specified under the DRP rules. A formal invitation to participate in the DRP, together with the DRP rules and explanatory materials, will be sent to Securityholders in July 2009.

The Board of Spark Infrastructure believes that the two measures detailed above – the retention of cash reserves from the operations of the Asset Companies and the DRP – should be sufficient to meet Spark Infrastructure's funding requirements until the end of 2010 for the increased growth capital expenditure of the Asset Companies.

The Board will continue to review the appropriateness of Spark Infrastructure's capital structure in light of changing market conditions and, in particular, its future funding needs when the Australian Energy Regulator's final decisions are issued for the next regulatory resets for the Asset Companies<sup>3</sup>.

Further information:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This distribution guidance is 4.95 cents (26.7%) per security lower than the total distribution for 2008.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> ETSA Utilities based in South Australia and CitiPower and Powercor based in Victoria

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> ETSA Utilities' next reset period commences on 1 July 2010 and the resets for CitiPower and Powercor commence on 1 January 2011.