

Formal Warning under subsection 103(1) of the *Telecommunications Act 1997*

TO: Southern Phone Company Ltd (100 901 184)

OF: 6 Page Street

Moruya, NSW 2537

The Australian Communications and Media Authority (the ACMA), being satisfied that Southern Phone Company Ltd (Southern Phone) contravened subsection 101(1) of the *Telecommunications Act 1997* (the Act) by failing to comply with clause 19 of Schedule 2 to the Act;

HEREBY issues a formal warning, under subsection 103(1) of the Act, to Southern Phone to comply with the service provider rule set out in clause 19 of Schedule 2 to the Act.

Details of the contravention

- The ACMA has investigated whether Southern Phone complied with the requirements under clause 19 of Schedule 2 to the Act, which requires a carriage service provider (CSP) that receives an inquiry from a prospective residential customer about the supply of a standard telephone service, to provide certain information to the prospective customer regarding priority assistance.
- 2. Southern Phone is a CSP as defined in section 87 of the Act. As a CSP, it is subject to the obligation imposed by subsection 101(1) of the Act, which requires it to comply with the service provider rules applicable to it. The service provider rules, set out in section 98 of the Act, include those in Schedule 2 to the Act.
- 3. After completing its investigation, the ACMA found that Southern Phone did not comply with:
 - a. paragraph 19(2)(a) of Schedule 2 to the Act on nine occasions, as detailed in Attachment A to the ACMA's Investigation Report, as it did not inform prospective residential customers, who made an inquiry about the supply of a standard telephone service, that it does not offer priority assistance in connection with the service; and
 - b. paragraph 19(2)(b) of Schedule 2 to the Act on nine occasions, as detailed in Attachment A to the ACMA's Investigation Report, as it did not inform prospective residential customers, who made an inquiry about the supply of a standard telephone service, of the names of one or more CSPs from whom the prospective residential customer could obtain priority assistance in connection with a standard telephone service.
- 4. Accordingly, the ACMA found that Southern Phone contravened clause 19 of Schedule 2 to the Act, thereby also contravening subsection 101(1) of the Act.

Dated this 15 th day of April 2019

Signature of Member

Signature of Member/

General Manager

NERIDA O'LOUGHLIN

Name (Please Print)

Name (Please Print)