

Ms Abigail Boyd, MLC
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Ms Boyd

Re: Committee Portfolio Committee No. 4 – Commitment to reporting to Parliament on security and progress with interoperability

Thank you for the opportunity for the Office of the Registrar General (ORG) to provide a submission, and for inviting me and Ms Cameron to represent ORG as witnesses, during the Committee's inquiry into the *Electronic Conveyancing (Adoption of National Law) Amendment Bill 2022*.

I am writing to confirm the NSW Registrar General will report to the Parliament on critical security aspects of the reform, and progress with other key aspects of the Bill. The NSW Registrar General will table the following reports to Parliament:

Security report

- a. Before interoperability is made available generally to customers in NSW – key findings and recommendations from the Program's independent security reviews, and ICT readiness/health checks.

Progress reports

- b. Within 12 months of the assent of this current Bill, and each year afterwards until interoperability is made available generally to customers in NSW – progress reports covering key program areas of technology, regulations, stakeholder participation and project implementation, as well as an update on the implementation of a stronger financial settlement oversight regime for eConveyancing.

This avoids the impact of delays that would result from amending the current Bill, or the associated NSW amendment legislation. Any such amendment, even if the focus is NSW only, would still require a review from the Australian Registrars' National Electronic Conveyancing Council (ARNECC) and potentially State and Territory executive approval (including some Cabinets). We anticipate this could take many months; and PEXA may not re-join this reform until a Bill is passed. The potential impact is Sympli's investors, financial institutions and land registries would lose confidence; and the opportunity to introduce competition for the benefit of consumers may pass.

Thank you again for considering the Bill and this proposed approach for reporting to Parliament on security and progress with this important reform. Please feel free to share this letter with your colleagues on the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Jeremy Cox
NSW Registrar General