Waiver No: PR6/2021



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# PARTICIPATION RULES WAIVER

Victoria
Section 27 Electronic Conveyancing National Law (Victoria)

#### Title

This instrument is Victorian Participation Rules Waiver PR6/2021 – User good character.

## **Enabling Provisions**

- Under sections 23 and 25 of the Electronic Conveyancing National Law (Victoria) (the National Law) the Registrar of Titles (Registrar) has determined and published Version 6 of the Participation Rules which came into effect on and from 12 April 2021 (Participation Rules). Capitalised terms used in this instrument and not defined have the meaning given to those terms in the National Law or the Participation Rules.
- 2. Section 27 of the National Law permits the Registrar to waive compliance with all or any provisions of the Participation Rules if the Registrar is satisfied that granting the waiver is reasonable in all the circumstances.

## **Affected Participation Rules**

Participation Rule 7.2.3(a) (Affected Participation Rule).

Any personal information about you or a third party in your correspondence will be protected under the provisions of the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*. It will only be used or disclosed to appropriate Ministerial, Statutory Authority, or departmental staff in regard to the purpose for which it was provided, unless required or authorized by law. Enquiries about access to information about you held by the Department should be directed to <a href="foi.unit@delwp.vic.gov.au">foi.unit@delwp.vic.gov.au</a> or FOI Unit, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, PO Box 500, East Melbourne, Victoria 8002.

#### **Explanatory Statement**

Under the Affected Participation Rule, a Subscriber must take reasonable steps to ensure that each of its Users have not been subject to:

- i. an Insolvency Event within the last 5 years; or
- ii. a conviction of fraud or an indictable offence which may impact the conduct of a Conveyancing Transaction or a conviction for any offence of dishonesty against any law in connection with business, professional or commercial activities; or
- iii. disqualification from managing a body corporate under the Corporations Act; or
- iv. any determination of disciplinary action of any government of governmental authority or agency, or any regulatory authority of a financial market or a profession which may impact on the conduct of a Conveyancing Transaction; or
- v. any current restriction on their right to access an ELN.

Previous versions of the Participation Rules have required Subscribers to take reasonable steps to ensure that Signers and Subscriber Administrators have not been subject to the events specified in Participation Rule 7.2.3(a)(i-iv). Version 6 of the Participation Rules expanded the requirements to all Users and added the requirement to take reasonable steps to ensure that Users are not and have not been subject to any restriction on their right to access an ELN.

An industry peak body has requested a temporary waiver of the Affected Participation Rule on behalf of Subscribers. It is understood that a number of Subscribers may not comply with the Affected Participation Rule in relation to Users other than Signers or Subscriber Administrators, as well as in relation to ensuring all Users have not been subject to a restriction on their right to access an ELN. A temporary waiver will provide sufficient time for Subscribers to extend existing checks so that Subscribers will comply with the Affected Participation Rule.

Accordingly, the Registrar has determined that it would be reasonable in the circumstances to grant a partial waiver modifying the obligations of Subscriber(s) under the Affected Participation Rules.

#### Waiver

Subject to the Conditions, the Registrar grants Subscribers a partial waiver of their obligations to comply with the Affected Participation Rules.

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#### **Conditions**

The partial waiver is granted on the conditions that:

- (a) for Participation Rule 7.2.3(a)(i-iv), it is limited to Users that were not Subscriber Administrators or Signers prior to 12 April 2021;
- (b) for Participation Rule 7.2.3(a)(v), it applies to all Users; and
- (c) any Subscriber that is complying with the Affected Participation Rule must continue to do so.

### Commencement

This partial waiver commences on the 12 April 2021.

# Period during which this waiver applies

This partial waiver operates to the earlier of:

- (a) 12 October 2021; or
- (b) Subscriber(s) fully complying with the Affected Participation Rules; or
- (c) the revocation of this waiver by the Registrar.

Dated: 11/06/21

Signed by:

Jane Allan

**Deputy Registrar of Titles** 

