



National Consumer Credit Protection (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Regulations 2010¹

Select Legislative Instrument 2010 No. 45

I, QUENTIN BRYCE, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, acting with the advice of the Federal Executive Council, make the following Regulations under the *National Consumer Credit Protection (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Act 2009*.

Dated 10 March 2010

QUENTIN BRYCE
Governor-General

By Her Excellency's Command

CHRIS BOWEN
Minister for Financial Services, Superannuation and Corporate
Law

Contents
Part 1 Preliminary

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------|---|
| 1 | Name of Regulations | 4 |
| 2 | Commencement | 4 |
| 3 | Definitions | 4 |
| 4 | Meaning of <i>associate</i> | 5 |

Part 2 Transitional provisions

| | | |
|---|---|----|
| 5 | Transfer of assets or liabilities to ASIC | 7 |
| 6 | Application of new Credit Code to particular sale contracts | 8 |
| 7 | Treatment of proceedings brought under old Credit Code before commencement | 9 |
| 8 | References to the <i>National Consumer Credit Protection Regulations 2010</i> | 10 |
| 9 | Modification of the Act | 10 |

Part 3 Registration

| | | |
|----|------------------------------------|----|
| 10 | The conditions on the registration | 11 |
|----|------------------------------------|----|

Part 4 Exemptions

| | | |
|----|---|----|
| 11 | Persons exempt from being registered — general | 14 |
| 12 | Persons exempt from being registered — debt collectors | 20 |
| 13 | Persons exempt from being registered — third parties | 22 |
| 14 | Persons exempt from being registered — providers of point of sale credit services | 23 |
| 15 | Activities exempt from being credit activities | 27 |
| 16 | Activities exempt from being registered | 31 |

Part 5 Infringement notices

| | | |
|----|--|----|
| 17 | Purpose of Part 5 | 33 |
| 18 | Definitions for Part 5 | 34 |
| 19 | When an infringement notice can be given | 34 |
| 20 | Contents of infringement notice | 35 |

| | Page |
|--|------|
| 21 Amount of penalty if infringement notice given | 35 |
| 22 Extension of time to pay penalty | 36 |
| 23 Payment of penalty by instalments | 37 |
| 24 Time for payment of penalty | 37 |
| 25 Effect of payment of penalty | 38 |
| 26 Withdrawal of infringement notice by nominated person | 40 |
| 27 Withdrawal of infringement notice by ASIC | 41 |
| 28 Notice of withdrawal of infringement notices | 41 |
| 29 Refund of penalty | 41 |

Regulation 1

Part 1 Preliminary**1 Name of Regulations**

These Regulations are the *National Consumer Credit Protection (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Regulations 2010*.

2 Commencement

These Regulations commence:

- (a) on the day after they are registered — regulations 1 to 5; and
- (b) on 1 April 2010 — regulations 8 and 9, and Parts 3 to 5; and
- (c) on 1 July 2010 — the remainder.

3 Definitions

In these Regulations:

Act means the *National Consumer Credit Protection (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Act 2009*.

associate has the meaning given by regulation 4.

financial counselling association has the same meaning as in *ASIC Class Order [CO 03/1063]*.

financial counselling service means a counselling and advocacy service provided predominantly for the purpose of assisting individuals who are in financial difficulty to resolve their problems.

registered debt agreement administrator means a person registered by the Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia as a debt agreement administrator under Part IX of the *Bankruptcy Act 1966*.

Regulation 4

4 Meaning of *associate*

- (1) This regulation has effect for the purposes of interpreting a reference (the *associate reference*), in relation to a person (the *primary person*), to an associate.
- (2) A person is not an associate of the primary person except as provided in this regulation.
- (3) Nothing in this regulation limits the generality of anything else in it.
- (4) If the primary person is a body corporate, the associate reference includes a reference to:
 - (a) a director or secretary of the body; and
 - (b) a related body corporate; and
 - (c) a director or secretary of a related body corporate.
- (5) An associate reference includes a reference to:
 - (a) a person in partnership with whom the primary person engages in a credit activity; and
 - (b) subject to subregulation (8), a person who is a partner of the primary person otherwise than because of the engaging in a credit activity in partnership with the primary person; and
 - (c) a trustee of a trust in relation to which the primary person benefits, or is capable of benefiting; and
 - (d) a director of a body corporate of which the primary person is also a director and that engages in a credit activity; and
 - (e) subject to subregulation (8), a director of a body corporate of which the primary person is also a director and that does not engage in a credit activity; and
 - (f) a person in concert with whom the primary person is acting, or proposes to act, in respect of the matter to which the associate reference relates; and
 - (g) a person with whom the primary person is, or proposes to become, associated, whether formally or informally, in any other way, in respect of the matter to which the associate reference relates.

Regulation 4

- (6) If the primary person has entered, or proposes to enter, into a transaction, or has done, or proposes to do, any act or thing, in order to become associated with another person as mentioned in an applicable provision of this regulation, the associate reference includes a reference to that other person.
- (7) A person is not an associate of another person by virtue of subregulation (5), or by virtue of subregulation (6) as it applies in relation to subregulation (5), merely because one or both of the following occurs:
- (a) one gives advice to the other, or acts on the other's behalf, in the proper performance of the functions attaching to a professional capacity or a business relationship;
 - (b) one, as a client, gives specific instructions to the other, whose ordinary business includes engaging in a credit activity, to enter into a credit contract on the client's behalf in the ordinary course of that business.
- (8) For the purposes of proceedings in relation to a matter mentioned in these Regulations in which it is alleged that a person (*person 1*) was an associate of another person by virtue of paragraph (5) (b) or (e), person 1 is not taken to have been an associate of the other person in relation to a matter by virtue of that paragraph unless it is proved that person 1 knew, or ought to have known, at that time, the material particulars of that matter.
- (9) A reference to an associate, in relation to an entity (other than a body corporate) that:
- (a) engages in a credit activity; and
 - (b) is constituted by 2 or more persons;
- includes a reference to an associate of any of those persons.

Regulation 5

Part 2 Transitional provisions**5 Transfer of assets or liabilities to ASIC**

- (1) For the purposes of item 22 of Schedule 1 to the Act, a transfer agreement may be entered into between:
 - (a) ASIC (or on behalf of ASIC); and
 - (b) a referring State or Territory.
- (2) The transfer agreement may determine how assets or liabilities relating to the regulation of credit providers may be transferred to ASIC from:
 - (a) a referring State or Territory; or
 - (b) an authority of a referring State or Territory.
- (3) This regulation does not prevent assets or liabilities being transferred to ASIC otherwise than in accordance with a transfer agreement.
- (4) The transfer agreement has effect in accordance with this regulation to the extent that it is within the Commonwealth's legislative power to give the agreement that effect.

Transfer of assets

- (5) A transfer agreement may determine that all or any of the following things happen on a specified date, not being a date before the transfer date:
 - (a) specified assets vest in ASIC without any conveyance, transfer or assignment;
 - (b) specified instruments in relation to specified assets continue to have effect after the assets vest in ASIC, as if specified references in the instruments were references to ASIC;
 - (c) ASIC becomes the previous owner's successor in law in relation to specified assets immediately after the assets vest in ASIC.

Regulation 6

- (6) For subregulation (5), assets or instruments may be specified by description, by inclusion in a specified class or in some other way.
- (7) For this regulation, *assets* includes information, documents, records and instruments, regardless of whether they are in hard copy or in an electronic format.

Transfer of liabilities

- (8) A transfer agreement may determine that all or any of the following things happen on a specified date, not being a date before the transfer date:
 - (a) specified liabilities vest in ASIC;
 - (b) specified instruments in relation to specified liabilities continue to have effect after the liabilities vest in ASIC, as if specified references in the instruments were references to ASIC;
 - (c) ASIC becomes the previously liable person's successor in law in relation to specified liabilities immediately after the liabilities vest in ASIC.
- (9) For subregulation (8), liabilities or instruments may be specified by description, by inclusion in a class or in some other way.

6 Application of new Credit Code to particular sale contracts

- (1) This regulation applies if:
 - (a) a provision of credit was made before 29 May 2009; and
 - (b) the provision of credit was for a sale of land or goods by instalments under a contract; and
 - (c) immediately before commencement of the new Credit Code, an old Credit Code applies to the provision of credit.

Regulation 7

- (2) For subsection 6 (2) of the Act, sections 10, 11 and 12 of the new Credit Code do not apply to the provision of credit.

Note Subsection 6 (2) of the Act provides that the regulations may prescribe matters of a transitional nature (including matters of an application or saving nature):

- (a) arising out of the enactment of the National Credit Act; or
- (b) relating to the transition from the application of provisions of the old Credit Codes, or related laws, of the referring States and the Territories to the application of provisions of the National Credit Act.

7 Treatment of proceedings brought under old Credit Code before commencement

- (1) This regulation applies if:
- (a) a party to old proceedings under subitem 4 (1) of Schedule 1 to the Act was a Government Consumer Agency (within the same meaning as in the old Credit Code of a referring State or Territory) of a State or Territory; and
 - (b) the party to the old proceedings had powers and functions under the old Credit Code that relate to the old proceedings; and
 - (c) the party to the old proceedings is a party to new proceedings under paragraph 4 (4) (a) of Schedule 1 to the Act; and
 - (d) under the National Credit Act, ASIC has equivalent powers and functions to the powers and functions mentioned in paragraph (b).
- (2) The party may continue to exercise the powers or perform the functions of the party under the old Credit Code for the purposes of the new proceedings, despite ASIC's equivalent powers and functions under the National Credit Act.

Note Paragraph 6 (2) (b) of the Act provides that the regulations may prescribe matters of a transitional nature relating to the transition from the application of provisions of the old Credit Codes, or related laws, of the referring States and the Territories to the application of provisions of the National Credit Act.

Regulation 8

8 References to the *National Consumer Credit Protection Regulations 2010*

From 1 April 2010 to immediately before 1 July 2010, the references in paragraphs 16 (3) (b) and 20 (a) of these Regulations to the *National Consumer Credit Protection Regulations 2010* are taken to be references to those Regulations as if those Regulations had commenced.

Note Paragraph 6 (2) (a) of the Act provides that the regulations may prescribe matters of a transitional nature (including matters of an application or saving nature) arising out of the enactment of the National Credit Act.

9 Modification of the Act

- (1) For subsection 6 (3) of the Act, this regulation provides that certain provisions of the Act are taken to be modified as set out in this regulation.

Note Subsection 6 (3) of the Act provides that the regulations may provide that certain provisions of the Act are taken to be modified as set out in the regulations. Those provisions then have effect as if they were so modified.

- (2) The definition of ***commencement*** in subsection 4 (1) of the Act is modified by substituting it with the following definition:

‘commencement means:

- (a) for Schedule 2 to this Act — the start of 1 April 2010; and
(b) for the remainder of this Act — the start of 1 July 2010, or a later day prescribed by the regulations.’

- (3) Subitem 20 (2) of Schedule 1 is modified by omitting ‘commencement’ and inserting ‘1 April 2010’.

Part 3 Registration

10 The conditions on the registration

- (1) For subitem 14 (7) of Schedule 2 to the Act, the registration is subject to the conditions set out in this regulation.
- (2) If:
 - (a) there is a change in a matter particulars of which are entered in the credit register for registered persons; and
 - (b) the change is not a direct consequence of an act by ASIC; the registered person must lodge particulars of the change with ASIC, in the approved form, within 10 business days after the change occurs.
- (3) If:
 - (a) there is a change in a matter particulars of which are entered in the credit register for credit representatives; and
 - (b) the change is not required to be reported in accordance with section 71 of the National Credit Act; and
 - (c) the change is not a direct consequence of an act by ASIC; the registered person must ensure that particulars of the change are lodged with ASIC in the approved form within 10 business days after the change occurs.
- (4) The registered person must ensure that each credit representative of the registered person that may give an authorisation to another individual is aware of the requirements in section 71 of the National Credit Act.
- (5) The registered person must ensure that, before the registered person authorises an individual to engage in a credit activity on its behalf as mentioned in section 64 of the National Credit Act, reasonable inquiries are made to establish:
 - (a) the individual's identity; and
 - (b) whether the individual has already been allocated a number by ASIC as a credit representative.

Regulation 10

- (6) The registered person must ensure that, before a body corporate that is a credit representative of the registered person authorises an individual to engage in a credit activity on behalf of the registered person as mentioned in section 65 of the National Credit Act, reasonable inquiries are made to establish:
- (a) the individual's identity; and
 - (b) whether the individual has already been allocated a number by ASIC as a credit representative.
- (7) The registered person must ensure that, if:
- (a) ASIC has allocated a number to a credit representative; and
 - (b) the registered person, or a body corporate that has authorised an individual to engage in a credit activity on behalf of the registered person as mentioned in section 65 of the National Credit Act, lodges a document with ASIC that refers to the credit representative;
- the document refers to the number.
- (8) The registered person must provide evidence of an authorisation of any of its credit representatives:
- (a) on request by any person; and
 - (b) free of charge; and
 - (c) as soon as practicable after receiving the request and, in any event, within 10 business days after the day on which it received the request.
- (9) The registered person must take reasonable steps to ensure that each of its credit representatives supplies evidence of its authorisation by the registered person:
- (a) on request by any person; and
 - (b) free of charge; and
 - (c) as soon as practicable after receiving the request and, in any event, within 10 business days after the day on which it received the request.
- (10) If the registered person becomes aware of any change in control of the registered person, the registered person must lodge with ASIC particulars of the change, in the approved form, not later than 10 business days after the change.

Regulation 10

- (11) For subregulation (10):
- (a) a change in control, in relation to a registered person, includes a transaction, or a series of transactions in a period of 12 months, that results in a person having control of the registered person (either alone or together with associates of the person); and
 - (b) control, in relation to a registered person, means:
 - (i) if the registered person is a body corporate:
 - (A) the capacity to cast, or control the casting of, more than one half of the maximum number of votes that might be cast at a general meeting of the registered person; or
 - (B) directly or indirectly holding more than one half of the issued share capital of the registered person (not including any part of the issued share capital that carries no right to participate beyond a specified amount in a distribution of either profits or capital); or
 - (ii) the capacity to control the composition of the registered person's board or governing body; or
 - (iii) the capacity to determine the outcome of decisions about the registered person's financial and operating policies.
- (12) For subparagraph (11) (b) (iii), the following matters must be taken into account in determining whether a person has the capacity to determine the outcome of decisions about the registered person's financial and operating policies:
- (a) the practical influence the person can exert (rather than the rights it can enforce);
 - (b) any practice or pattern of behaviour affecting the registered person's financial or operating policies is to be taken into account (whether or not it involves a breach of an agreement or a breach of trust).
- (13) On the request of any person, the registered person must make available, within 10 business days, evidence of its registration for inspection by that person.

Regulation 11

Part 4 Exemptions**11 Persons exempt from being registered — general**

- (1) For paragraph 42 (a) of Schedule 2 to the Act, this regulation exempts certain persons engaging in a credit activity from:
- (a) items 4 and 6 of Schedule 2 to the Act; and
 - (b) definitions in the Act, as they apply to references in the provisions mentioned in paragraph (a); and
 - (c) regulations or other instruments made for the purposes of any of the provisions mentioned in paragraphs (a) and (b).

Note Item 4 of Schedule 2 to the Act provides that a person must not engage in a credit activity during a specified period unless the person is registered or holds a licence authorising the person to engage in the credit activity.

Item 6 of Schedule 2 to the Act provides that a person must not engage in a credit activity during a specified period unless the person is:

- (a) registered and has applied for a licence authorising the person to engage in the credit activity; or
- (b) holds a licence authorising the person to engage in the credit activity.

- (2) The person is exempted only to the extent that the person is engaging in the specified credit activity.

Note If the person also engages in a credit activity that is not the subject of an exemption under the Act, the person is not exempted in relation to that credit activity.

- (3) A person is exempted if the person engages in a credit activity while performing functions, or exercising powers, in any of the following capacities or circumstances:
- (a) as an official receiver or trustee within the meaning of the *Bankruptcy Act 1966*;
 - (b) as a receiver, receiver and manager, provisional liquidator, or liquidator (whether appointed by a court or otherwise);
 - (c) as a person appointed by a court to engage in a credit activity;
 - (d) as the Public Trustee acting under a law of a State or Territory;
 - (e) as an administrator of a body corporate;

Regulation 11

- (f) as an administrator of a deed of company arrangement executed by a body corporate;
 - (g) as a trustee or person administering a compromise or arrangement between a body corporate and another person or persons;
 - (h) as a personal representative of a deceased person other than a deceased registered person;
 - (i) subject to subregulation (4), as a personal representative of a deceased registered person;
 - (j) in the administration of a bankrupt estate or in the winding up of a body corporate or partnership;
 - (k) as a registered debt agreement administrator preparing and administering a debt agreement under Part IX of the *Bankruptcy Act 1966*.
- (4) Paragraph (3) (i) only applies until the first of the following events takes place:
- (a) the end of 6 months after the death of the registered person;
 - (b) the removal or discharge of the personal representative;
 - (c) the final distribution of the registered person's estate.
- (5) A person is exempted if:
- (a) the person (the ***financial counselling agency***) engages in the credit activity as part of a financial counselling service; and
 - (b) no remuneration (whether by way of commission or otherwise) is payable to, or on behalf of, the financial counselling agency by any person in relation to any action by, or on behalf of, the client arising from:
 - (i) engaging in the credit activity; or
 - (ii) any other aspect of the provision of the financial counselling service; and
 - (c) no remuneration (whether by way of commission or otherwise) is payable to, or on behalf of, a representative of the financial counselling agency by any person in relation to any action by, or on behalf of, the client arising from:
 - (i) engaging in the credit activity; or

Regulation 11

- (ii) any other aspect of the provision of the financial counselling service; and
 - (d) no remuneration (whether by way of commission or otherwise) is payable to, or on behalf of, an associate of the financial counselling agency by any person in relation to any action by, or on behalf of, the client arising from:
 - (i) engaging in the credit activity; or
 - (ii) any other aspect of the provision of the financial counselling service; and
 - (e) no fees or charges (however described) are payable by or on behalf of the client in relation to the credit activity or any other aspect of the financial counselling service; and
 - (f) the financial counselling agency:
 - (i) does not engage in a credit activity that is not covered by paragraphs (a) to (e); and
 - (ii) takes all reasonable steps to ensure that none of its representatives engages in a credit activity that is not covered by paragraphs (a) to (e); and
 - (g) the financial counselling agency takes all reasonable steps to ensure that each person who engages in credit activities on its behalf:
 - (i) is a member of, or is eligible to be a member of, a financial counselling association; and
 - (ii) has undertaken appropriate training to ensure that the person has adequate skills and knowledge to engage satisfactorily in the credit activity and any other aspect of the provision of the financial counselling service.
- (6) A person is exempted if:
- (a) the person:
 - (i) is a related body corporate of a registered person; and
 - (ii) is engaging in credit activities only on behalf of the registered person; and
 - (iii) is engaging in credit activities only because its employees and directors are engaging in credit activities on behalf of the registered person; and

Regulation 11

- (b) the credit activities in which the person engages are not those mentioned in:
- (i) paragraph (a) or (b) of item 1 of the table in subsection 6 (1) of the National Credit Act; or
 - (ii) paragraph (a) or (b) of item 3 of the table in subsection 6 (1) of the National Credit Act.
- (7) A person is exempted if the person is a public body or authority, or a local government body or authority, constituted under an Act of the Commonwealth or a State or Territory.
- (8) Subject to subregulation (9), if a person is authorised to engage in particular credit activities by:
- (a) an Act of the Commonwealth or a State or Territory (other than the Act, the National Credit Act or an Act mentioned in subregulation (10)); or
 - (b) a licence or registration issued or granted under an Act of the Commonwealth or a State or Territory (other than the Act, the National Credit Act or an Act mentioned in subregulation (10));
- the person is exempted to the extent that the person is engaging in the credit activities in which the person is authorised to engage under that Act, licence or registration.
- (9) If a person would have been exempted under regulation 12 except that 12 calendar months have passed since the day this Chapter commences, the person is not exempted under subregulation (8).
- Note* Subregulation 12 (4) provides that a person to whom subregulation 12 (3) applies is only exempted for 12 calendar months starting on the day this Chapter commences.
- (10) For paragraphs (8) (a) and (b), the Acts are:
- (a) the *Finance Brokers Control Act 1975* (WA); and
 - (b) the *Credit (Administration) Act 1984* (WA); and
 - (c) the *Consumer Credit (Administration) Act 1996* (ACT).
- (11) A person is exempted if:
- (a) the person is an organisation that provides services and makes benefits available to members of:
 - (i) the organisation; or

Regulation 11

- (ii) a program or facility operated or conducted by or within the organisation; and
 - (b) an incidental benefit of membership of the organisation, program or facility is that members are eligible:
 - (i) to apply for a particular credit contract or consumer lease offered by a licensee or a registered person; or
 - (ii) to obtain services or benefits under a particular credit contract or consumer lease offered by a licensee or a registered person; and
 - (c) the person takes reasonable steps:
 - (i) to identify information which may be relevant to whether the licensee or registered person mentioned in paragraph (b) decides to enter into the credit contract or consumer lease; and
 - (ii) to give the information to the licensee or registered person; and
 - (d) the organisation provides credit services (within the meaning given by section 7 of the National Credit Act) in relation to the particular credit contract or consumer lease to members or persons likely to become members; and
 - (e) it would not ordinarily be the case that:
 - (i) the credit to be provided under the credit contract is provided predominantly for the payment for services, goods or benefits provided by the organisation or an associate of the organisation; or
 - (ii) the goods to be hired under the consumer lease are supplied by the organisation or an associate of the organisation.
- (12) A person is exempted if:
- (a) either:
 - (i) the person:
 - (A) is a charitable body (within the same meaning as in *ASIC Class Order [CO 02/184]*); and

Regulation 11

- (B) is engaging in credit activities by providing a credit service in relation to credit contracts or consumer leases provided by a licensed or registered credit provider or lessor; or
 - (ii) the person:
 - (A) is not a charitable body (within the same meaning as in *ASIC Class Order [CO 02/184]*); and
 - (B) is engaging in credit activities by providing a credit service in relation to credit contracts or consumer leases provided by an ADI; and
 - (b) the credit contracts or consumer leases are offered as part of a program designed for low income consumers who are entitled:
 - (i) to hold a Health Care Card or Pension Concession Card; or
 - (ii) to receive Family Tax Benefit Part A; and
 - (c) the only remuneration (whether by way of commission or otherwise) is payable to, or on behalf of, the person by any other person in relation to any action by, or on behalf of, the client arising from providing the credit service is payments made by a third party that has no existing relationship with the client.
- (13) A person is exempted if:
 - (a) the person engages in credit activities mentioned in:
 - (i) paragraph (c) of item 1 of the table in subsection 6 (1) of the National Credit Act; or
 - (ii) paragraph (c) of item 3 of the table in subsection 6 (1) of the National Credit Act; or
 - (iii) paragraph (b) of item 4 of the table in subsection 6 (1) of the National Credit Act; or
 - (iv) paragraph (b) of item 5 of the table in subsection 6 (1) of the National Credit Act; and
 - (b) the person engages in the credit activities while performing the statutory obligations of a credit provider, lessor, mortgagee or beneficiary of a guarantee under:
 - (i) the *Privacy Act 1988*; or

Regulation 12

- (ii) the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006*.

12 Persons exempt from being registered — debt collectors

- (1) For paragraph 42 (a) of Schedule 2 to the Act, this regulation exempts certain persons engaging in a credit activity from:
- (a) items 4 and 6 of Schedule 2 to the Act; and
 - (b) definitions in the Act, as they apply to references in the provisions mentioned in paragraph (a); and
 - (c) regulations or other instruments made for the purposes of any of the provisions mentioned in paragraphs (a) and (b).

Note Item 4 of Schedule 2 to the Act provides that a person must not engage in a credit activity during a specified period unless the person is registered or holds a licence authorising the person to engage in the credit activity.

Item 6 of Schedule 2 to the Act provides that a person must not engage in a credit activity during a specified period unless the person is:

- (a) registered and has applied for a licence authorising the person to engage in the credit activity; or
- (b) holds a licence authorising the person to engage in the credit activity.

- (2) The person is exempted only to the extent that the person is exempted in the specified credit activity.

Note If the person also engages in a credit activity that is not the subject of an exemption under the Act, the person is not exempted in relation to that credit activity.

- (3) A person is exempted if:
- (a) the person engages in a credit activity mentioned in:
 - (i) paragraph (c) of item 1 of the table in subsection 6 (1) of the National Credit Act, on behalf of a credit provider who is a licensee or a registered person; or
 - (ii) paragraph (c) of item 3 of the table in subsection 6 (1) of that Act, on behalf of the lessor who is a licensee or a registered person; or
 - (iii) paragraph (b) of item 4 of the table in subsection 6 (1) of that Act, on behalf of a mortgagee who is a licensee or a registered person; or

Regulation 12

- (iv) paragraph (b) of item 5 of the table in subsection 6 (1) of that Act, on behalf of the other person who is a licensee or a registered person; and
 - (b) the person only performs the obligations, or exercises the rights, mentioned in those paragraphs in relation to:
 - (i) demanding and receiving payments from:
 - (A) borrowers or guarantors under credit contracts; or
 - (B) lessees under consumer leases; and
 - (ii) enforcing rights in relation to taking possession of:
 - (A) property secured by a mortgage; or
 - (B) goods hired under a consumer lease; and
 - (c) either:
 - (i) the person:
 - (A) holds a licence or authorisation to engage in an activity mentioned in paragraph (a) under one or more of the Acts mentioned in subregulation (5); or
 - (B) is authorised to act on behalf of a person holding a licence or authorisation of a kind mentioned in subparagraph (i); or
 - (ii) the person:
 - (A) is not required to hold a licence or authorisation, or be authorised to act on behalf of a person who holds a licence or authorisation, to engage in an activity mentioned in paragraph (a) in a State or Territory; and
 - (B) the person is not prohibited from engaging in an activity mentioned in paragraph (a) by an order of a court or a law of the State or Territory; and
 - (d) the person is authorised in writing by a registered person or a licensee to engage in an activity mentioned in paragraph (a).
- (4) The person is exempted for 12 calendar months starting on the day on which these Regulations commence.

Regulation 13

- (5) For subparagraph (3) (c) (i), the Acts are the following:
- (a) the *Commercial Agents and Private Inquiry Agents Act 2004* (NSW);
 - (b) the **Private Agents Act 1966** (Vic);
 - (c) the *Property Agents and Motor Dealers Act 2000* (Qld);
 - (d) the *Debt Collectors Licensing Act 1964* (WA);
 - (e) the *Security and Investigation Agents Act 1995* (SA);
 - (f) the *Security and Investigations Agents Act 2002* (Tas);
 - (g) the *Commercial and Private Agents Licensing Act* (NT).

13 Persons exempt from being registered — third parties

- (1) For paragraph 42 (a) of Schedule 2 of the Act, this regulation exempts certain persons engaging in a credit activity from:
- (a) items 4 and 6 of Schedule 2 to the Act; and
 - (b) definitions in the Act, as they apply to references in the provisions mentioned in paragraph (a); and
 - (c) instruments made for the purposes of any of the provisions mentioned in paragraphs (a) and (b).

Note Item 4 of Schedule 2 to the Act provides that a person must not engage in a credit activity during a specified period unless the person is registered or holds a licence authorising the person to engage in the credit activity.

That item also provides that it is a defence if the person is a credit representative of a person who is registered or holds a licence authorising the person to engage in the credit activity.

Item 6 of Schedule 2 to the Act provides that a person must not engage in a credit activity during a specified period unless the person:

- (a) is registered and has applied for a licence authorising the person to engage in the credit activity; or
- (b) holds a licence authorising the person to engage in the credit activity.

That item also provides that it is a defence if the person is a credit representative of a person who:

- (a) is registered and has applied for a licence authorising the person to engage in the credit activity; or
- (b) holds a licence authorising the person to engage in the credit activity.

Regulation 14

- (2) The person is exempted only to the extent that the person is engaging in the specified credit activity.

Note If the person also engages in a credit activity that is not the subject of an exemption under the Act, the person is not exempted in relation to that credit activity.

- (3) A person is exempted if:
- (a) the person engages in a credit activity by selling, storing or transporting property of a debtor, lessor, mortgagor or guarantor on behalf of:
 - (i) a credit provider who is a licensee or a registered person; or
 - (ii) a mortgagee who is a licensee or a registered person; or
 - (iii) a person who is the beneficiary of a guarantee who is a licensee or a registered person; or
 - (iv) a lessor who is a licensee or a registered person; or
 - (b) the person engages in a credit activity by giving or sending to a debtor, lessee, mortgagor or guarantor, on behalf of:
 - (i) a credit provider who is a licensee or a registered person; or
 - (ii) a mortgagee who is a licensee or a registered person; or
 - (iii) a person who is the beneficiary of a guarantee who is a licensee or a registered person; or
 - (iv) a lessor who is a licensee or a registered person;
 a notice or document that the person mentioned in subregulation (i), (ii), (iii) or (iv) is obliged by law to give or send to the debtor, lessee, mortgagor or guarantor.

14 Persons exempt from being registered — providers of point of sale credit services

- (1) For paragraphs 42 (a) and (c) of Schedule 2 to the Act, this regulation:
- (a) exempts certain persons engaging in a credit activity from:
 - (i) items 4 and 6 of Schedule 2 to the Act; and
 - (ii) definitions in the Act, as they apply to references in the provisions mentioned in subparagraph (i); and

Regulation 14

- (iii) instruments made for the purposes of any of the provisions mentioned in subparagraphs (i) and (ii); and
- (b) modifies specified provisions for the purposes of the exemption under paragraph (a).

Note Item 4 of Schedule 2 to the Act provides that a person must not engage in a credit activity during a specified period unless the person is registered or holds a licence authorising the person to engage in the credit activity.

Item 6 of Schedule 2 to the Act provides that a person must not engage in a credit activity during a specified period unless the person is:

- (a) registered and has applied for a licence authorising the person to engage in the credit activity; or
- (b) holds a licence authorising the person to engage in the credit activity.

- (2) The person is exempted only to the extent that the person is engaging in the specified credit activity.

Note If the person also engages in a credit activity that is not the subject of an exemption under the Act, the person is not exempted in relation to that credit activity.

- (3) A person is exempted if:
 - (a) the person is:
 - (i) a supplier of goods or services; or
 - (ii) a related body corporate of a supplier of goods or services; and
 - (b) the person is:
 - (i) engaging in a credit activity mentioned in:
 - (A) paragraph (c) of item 1 of the table in subsection 6 (1) of the National Credit Act:
 - (I) on behalf of the credit provider who is a licensee or a registered person; and
 - (II) in relation to a credit contract or consumer lease; or
 - (B) paragraph (c) of item 3 of the table in subsection 6 (1) of that Act:
 - (I) on behalf of the lessor who is a licensee or a registered person; and

Regulation 14

- (II) in relation to a credit contract or consumer lease; or
 - (C) paragraph (b) of item 4 of the table in subsection 6 (1) of that Act:
 - (I) on behalf of the mortgagee who is a licensee or a registered person; and
 - (II) in relation to a credit contract or consumer lease; or
 - (D) paragraph (b) of item 5 of the table in subsection 6 (1) of that Act:
 - (I) on behalf of the other person who is a licensee or a registered person; and
 - (II) in relation to a credit contract or consumer lease; or
 - (ii) providing credit services (within the meaning given by section 7 of the National Credit Act) in relation to a credit contract or consumer lease; and
 - (c) the credit provider or lessor in relation to the credit contract or consumer lease is:
 - (i) a linked credit provider or linked lessor of the supplier; and
 - (ii) a licensee or a registered person; and
 - (d) a consumer enters into the credit contract or consumer lease wholly or predominantly for the purpose of payment for goods or services supplied by the supplier.
- (4) For paragraph 42 (c) of Schedule 2 to the Act, the definition of ***linked credit provider*** of a supplier in section 127 of Schedule 1 to the National Credit Act is modified for the purposes of this exemption so that it provides that a ***linked credit provider or linked lessor*** of a supplier means a credit provider or lessor:
- (a) with whom the supplier has a contract, arrangement or understanding relating to:
 - (i) the supply to the supplier of goods in which the supplier deals; or
 - (ii) the business carried on by the supplier of:
 - (A) supplying goods or services; or

Regulation 14

- (B) causing goods to be supplied to the consumer by way of a consumer lease; or
 - (iii) the provision to persons to whom goods or services are supplied by the supplier of credit in respect of payment for those goods or services; or
 - (b) to whom the supplier, by arrangement with the credit provider or lessor, regularly refers persons for the purpose of obtaining credit or being provided with a consumer lease; or
 - (c) whose:
 - (i) forms of contract; or
 - (ii) forms of application; or
 - (iii) offers for credit; or
 - (iv) offers to be provided with a consumer lease; are, by arrangement with the credit provider or lessor, made available to persons by the supplier; or
 - (d) with whom the supplier has a contract, arrangement or understanding under which:
 - (i) contracts; or
 - (ii) applications; or
 - (iii) offers for credit; or
 - (iv) offers to be provided with a consumer lease; from the credit provider or lessor may be signed by persons at the premises of the supplier.
- (5) For paragraph 42 (c) of Schedule 2 to the Act, the definition of *services* in subsection 204 (1) of Schedule 1 to the National Credit Act is modified for the purposes of this exemption to provide that *services*:
- (a) includes:
 - (i) insurance; or
 - (ii) professional services; or
 - (iii) a right to services; and
 - (b) does not include:
 - (i) rights in relation to, and interest in, real property; or

Regulation 15

- (ii) services relating to credit or consumer leases that are regulated under the National Credit Act, or would be regulated under that Act if entered into, (other than credit services within the meaning given by section 7 of that Act).
- (6) The exemption does not apply to a person if the supplying of goods or services to the consumer is the result of unsolicited contact with the consumer.
- (7) For subregulation (6), unsolicited contact includes circumstances in which:
 - (a) a consumer is contacted in relation to the supply of goods or services after providing his or her name or contact details to a person, and:
 - (i) the consumer did not provide his or her name or contact details for the predominant purpose of being contacted in relation to the supply of those goods or services; or
 - (ii) the consumer is not contacted within a reasonable period after making an inquiry in relation to the provision of those goods or services; or
 - (b) a consumer is contacted, in relation to the supply of goods or services, on or from business premises that are not physically separate from premises regularly used by consumers for purposes other than being contacted in relation to the provision of those goods or services.

15 Activities exempt from being credit activities

- (1) For paragraph 42 (b) of Schedule 2 to the Act, this regulation exempts certain credit activities, or classes of credit activities, from all of the provisions to which Part 5 of Schedule 2 to the Act applies.

Note Item 40 of Schedule 2 to the Act identifies the provisions to which Part 5 of Schedule 2 to the Act applies.

Regulation 15

- (2) Subject to subregulation (3), the following credit activities are exempted:
- (a) the providing of credit assistance by a lawyer in his or her professional capacity in relation to matters of law, legal interpretation or the application of the law to any facts;
 - (b) the providing of any credit assistance not mentioned in paragraph (a) by a lawyer in the ordinary course of activities as a lawyer that is reasonably regarded as a necessary part of those activities.
- (3) For subregulation (2), the credit activity is exempted only if the lawyer providing the credit assistance does not hold out or advertise to consumers that he or she is able to provide credit services.
- (4) A credit activity (other than the provision of credit assistance mentioned in subregulation (2)) is exempted if it is engaged in by a lawyer in the following circumstances:
- (a) the lawyer is acting:
 - (i) on the instructions of a client, an associate of the client or a relative of the client; and
 - (ii) in his or her professional capacity; and
 - (iii) in the ordinary course of his or her activities as a lawyer;
 - (b) the credit activity can reasonably be regarded as a necessary part of those activities;
 - (c) the lawyer has not received, and will not receive, from the client or from another person on behalf of the client a benefit in connection with those activities other than the following:
 - (i) the payment of professional charges in relation to those activities;
 - (ii) reimbursement for expenses incurred or payment on account of expenses to be incurred on behalf of the client, an associate of the client or a relative of the client;
 - (d) the lawyer does not hold out or advertise to consumers that he or she is able to provide credit services.

Regulation 15

- (5) A credit activity is exempted if:
- (a) it is engaged in by a tax agent in the following circumstances:
 - (i) the tax agent is registered under Part VIIA of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936*;
 - (ii) the tax agent engages in the credit activity in the ordinary course of activities as a tax agent; and
 - (b) it is a credit activity mentioned in item 2 of the table in subsection 6 (1) of the National Credit Act; and
 - (c) it does not involve providing a certificate or assessment (however described) relating to whether a consumer will be able to meet financial obligations under a credit contract or consumer lease.
- (6) A credit activity is exempted if:
- (a) the credit activity consists only of a person (*person 1*) passing on, publishing, distributing or otherwise disseminating a document that was provided or approved by another person (*person 2*); and
 - (b) person 2:
 - (i) is not acting on behalf of person 1; and
 - (ii) is a licensee or a registered person; and
 - (c) person 1 is not otherwise required to hold an Australian credit licence to engage in credit activities; and
 - (d) either:
 - (i) for a consumer in relation to the credit activity mentioned in paragraph (a):
 - (A) person 1 advises the consumer that person 2 is a licensee or a registered person; and
 - (B) if person 2 is a licensee — person 1 gives the consumer the licence number of person 2; or
 - (ii) a reasonable person would not consider that person 1 is the licensee or registered person in relation to credit activities being engaged in by person 2; and
 - (e) person 2 approved the content of the document.

Regulation 15

- (7) A credit activity is exempted if:
- (a) the credit activity consists only of a person (*person 1*) allowing another person (*person 2*) to use person 1's business name, logo or trade mark in relation to:
 - (i) the passing on, publishing, distributing or other dissemination of a document; or
 - (ii) a credit contract, consumer lease, mortgage or guarantee provided or offered by person 2; or
 - (iii) a credit activity engaged in by person 2; and
 - (b) person 2:
 - (i) is not acting on behalf of person 1; and
 - (ii) is a licensee or a registered person; and
 - (c) person 1 is not otherwise required to hold an Australian credit licence to engage in credit activities; and
 - (d) either:
 - (i) for a consumer in relation to a credit activity mentioned in paragraph (a):
 - (A) the person performing the credit activity advises the consumer that person 2 is a licensee or a registered person; and
 - (B) if person 2 is a licensee — the person performing the credit activity gives the consumer the licence number of person 2; and
 - (ii) a reasonable person would not consider that person 1 is the licensee or registered person in relation to credit activities being engaged in by person 2.
- (8) A credit activity is exempted if:
- (a) the credit activity consists only of a person (the *provider*) giving to another person (the *inquirer*), in response to a request made by the inquirer to the provider, information about:
 - (i) the cost, or an estimate of the likely cost, of a credit contract or a consumer lease offered by a licensee or a registered person;

Regulation 16

- (ii) terms and conditions of a credit contract or a consumer lease offered by a licensee or a registered person; and
 - (b) the provider could have complied with the request by giving the inquirer equivalent information about one or more other credit contracts or consumer leases offered by a licensee or a registered person; and
 - (c) the provider did not give the inquirer that equivalent information.
- (9) A credit activity is exempted if it is engaged in by a clerk or cashier in the ordinary course of activities as a clerk or cashier.

16 Activities exempt from being registered

- (1) For paragraph 42 (b) of Schedule 2 to the Act, this regulation exempts certain credit activities from:
- (a) items 4 and 6 of Schedule 2 to the Act; and
 - (b) definitions in the Act, as they apply to references in the provisions mentioned in paragraph (a); and
 - (c) regulations or other instruments made for the purposes of any of the provisions mentioned in paragraphs (a) and (b).

Note Item 4 of Schedule 2 to the Act provides that a person must not engage in a credit activity during a specified period unless the person is registered or holds a licence authorising the person to engage in the credit activity.

Item 6 of Schedule 2 to the Act provides that a person must not engage in a credit activity during a specified period unless the person is:

- (a) registered and has applied for a licence authorising the person to engage in the credit activity; or
 - (b) holds a licence authorising the person to engage in the credit activity.
- (2) A credit activity is exempted if:
- (a) the activity consists only of:
 - (i) a person (*person 1*) informing another person (*person 2*) that a licensee or registered person, or a representative of the licensee or registered person, is able to provide a particular credit activity or a class of credit activities; and

Regulation 16

- (ii) person 1 giving person 2 information about how person 2 may contact the licensee, registered person or representative; and
 - (b) at the time the activity is engaged in, person 1 discloses to person 2:
 - (i) any benefits, including commission, that person 1, or an associate of person 1, may receive in respect of the activity; and
 - (ii) any benefits, including commission, that person 1, or an associate of person 1, may receive that are attributable to the activity; and
 - (c) the disclosure mentioned in paragraph (b) is provided in the same form as the information mentioned in paragraph (a).
- (3) A credit activity is exempted if it is a credit activity engaged in in respect of the provision of credit mentioned in:
- (a) subsection 6 (9) or (11) of Schedule 1 to the National Credit Act; or
 - (b) regulation 52, 54, 55, 56, 57, 60, 61 or 63 of the *National Consumer Credit Protection Regulations 2010*.

Part 5 Infringement notices

17 Purpose of Part 5

- (1) The purpose of this Part is to set out a scheme under item 43 of Schedule 2 to the Act under which:
 - (a) a person who is alleged to have committed an offence against the Act that is stated to be an offence of strict liability may pay a penalty to the Commonwealth as an alternative to prosecution; and
 - (b) a person who is alleged to have contravened a civil penalty provision may pay a penalty to the Commonwealth as an alternative to civil proceedings.
- (2) This Part does not require an infringement notice to be given to a person for the alleged commission of an offence or contravention of a civil penalty provision.
- (3) This Part does not affect the liability of a person to prosecution for the commission of an alleged offence or contravention of a civil penalty provision if an infringement notice is not given to the person.
- (4) This Part does not affect the liability of a person to prosecution for the commission of an alleged offence or contravention of a civil penalty provision if:
 - (a) an infringement notice is given to the person; and
 - (b) the person does not pay the penalty stated in the notice in accordance with regulation 24.
- (5) This Part does not limit or otherwise affect:
 - (a) the penalty that a court could impose on the person for the offence; or
 - (b) the penalty that a court could impose on the person for contravention of the civil penalty provision.

Regulation 18

18 Definitions for Part 5

In this Part:

infringement notice means an infringement notice under regulation 19.

infringement notice offence means:

- (a) an offence against the Act that is stated to be an offence of strict liability; or
- (b) a contravention of the civil penalty provision in subitem 19 (1) of Schedule 2 to the Act.

nominated person, in relation to an infringement notice, means the person specified in the notice as the nominated person.

Note The nominated person is responsible for the administration of the infringement notice for the purposes of the payment of a penalty and the withdrawal of the notice.

recipient, in relation to an infringement notice, means the person to whom the notice is given under regulation 19.

19 When an infringement notice can be given*Alleged commission of offence against the Act*

- (1) If ASIC has reasonable grounds to believe that a person has committed an offence against the Act that is stated to be an offence of strict liability, ASIC may give to the person an infringement notice relating to the alleged commission of the offence.
- (2) The infringement notice must be given within 12 months after the day on which the offence is alleged to have been committed.
- (3) If an infringement notice given to a person in relation to the alleged commission of a particular offence is withdrawn, ASIC may give the person a new infringement notice in relation to the alleged commission.

Example for subregulation (3)

An infringement notice given to a person in relation to the alleged commission of a particular offence may be withdrawn, and a new infringement notice given to the person in relation to that alleged commission, if the original infringement notice contained an error.

Regulation 21

Alleged contravention of civil penalty provision

- (4) If ASIC has reasonable grounds to believe that a person has contravened the civil penalty provision in subitem 19 (1) of Schedule 2 to the Act, ASIC may give to the person an infringement notice relating to the alleged contravention.
- (5) The infringement notice must be given within 12 months after the day on which the civil penalty provision is alleged to have been contravened.
- (6) If an infringement notice given to a person in relation to the alleged contravention of the civil penalty provision is withdrawn, ASIC may give the person a new infringement notice in relation to the alleged contravention.

Example for subregulation (6)

An infringement notice given to a person in relation to the alleged contravention of the civil penalty provision may be withdrawn, and a new infringement notice given to the person in relation to that alleged contravention, if the original infringement notice contained an error.

20 Contents of infringement notice

An infringement notice:

- (a) must be in accordance with Form 3 in Schedule 1 to the *National Consumer Credit Protection Regulations 2010*; and
- (b) may contain any other information that ASIC considers necessary.

21 Amount of penalty if infringement notice given

- (1) The penalty payable under an infringement notice for an alleged commission of an offence against the Act that is stated to be an offence of strict liability is:
 - (a) for an individual — one-fifth of the maximum penalty that a court could impose on the person for that offence; and
 - (b) for a body corporate — the maximum penalty that a court could impose on an individual for that offence.

Regulation 22

- (2) The penalty payable under an infringement notice for an alleged contravention of the civil penalty provision in subitem 19 (1) of Schedule 2 to the Act is:
- (a) for an individual — 50 penalty units; and
 - (b) for a body corporate — 250 penalty units.

Note Under item 43 of Schedule 2 to the Act:

- (a) the penalty for an offence against the Act that is stated to be an offence of strict liability must not exceed one-fifth of the maximum penalty that a court could impose on the person for that offence; and
- (b) the penalty for a contravention of a civil penalty provision must not exceed one-fortieth of the maximum penalty that a court could impose on the person for contravention of that provision.

22 Extension of time to pay penalty

- (1) Within 28 days after receiving an infringement notice, the recipient may apply, in writing, to the nominated person for a further period of up to 28 days in which to pay the penalty stated in the notice.
- (2) The application must:
 - (a) specify the infringement notice's unique identification code; and
 - (b) set out the reasons for the application.
- (3) Within 14 days after receiving the application, the nominated person must:
 - (a) grant or refuse a further period not longer than the period sought (but less than 28 days); and
 - (b) notify the recipient in writing of the decision and, if the decision is a refusal, the reasons for the decision.
- (4) If the nominated person has not granted, or refused to grant, the further period within 14 days after receiving the application, the nominated person is taken to have refused to grant the further period.

Regulation 24

23 Payment of penalty by instalments

- (1) Within 28 days after receiving an infringement notice, the recipient may apply, in writing, to the nominated person for permission to pay the amount of the infringement notice penalty by instalments.
- (2) The application must:
 - (a) specify the infringement notice's unique identification code; and
 - (b) set out the reasons for the application; and
 - (c) specify the amount and frequency of the instalments that the recipient proposes to pay.
- (3) Within 14 days after receiving the application, the nominated person must:
 - (a) grant or refuse to grant permission for payment by instalments; and
 - (b) give the recipient written notice of the decision, including:
 - (i) if permission is granted — the amount and frequency of the instalments; and
 - (ii) if permission is refused — the reasons for refusal.
- (4) If the nominated person has not granted, or refused to grant, permission for payment by instalments within 14 days after receiving the application, the nominated person is taken to have refused to grant permission for payment by instalments.

24 Time for payment of penalty

- (1) The penalty stated in an infringement notice must be paid within:
 - (a) 28 days after the day on which the notice is given to the recipient; or
 - (b) another period required by this regulation.
- (2) If the recipient applies for a further period of time in which to pay the penalty, and the application is granted, the penalty must be paid within the further period allowed.

Regulation 25

- (3) If the recipient applies for a further period of time in which to pay the penalty, and the application is refused or is taken to have been refused, the penalty must be paid within the later of:
- (a) 7 days after:
 - (i) the notice of the refusal is given to the recipient; or
 - (ii) the application is taken to have been refused; and
 - (b) 28 days after the day on which the infringement notice was given to the recipient.
- (4) If the recipient applies for permission to pay the penalty by instalments, and permission is granted, the penalty must be paid in accordance with the permission.
- (5) If the recipient applies for permission to pay the penalty by instalments, and permission is refused or is taken to have been refused, the penalty must be paid within the later of:
- (a) 7 days after:
 - (i) the notice of the refusal is given to the recipient; or
 - (ii) the application is taken to have been refused; and
 - (b) 28 days after the day on which the infringement notice was given to the recipient.
- (6) If the recipient applies for the notice to be withdrawn, and the application is refused or is taken to have been refused, the penalty must be paid within the later of:
- (a) 7 days after:
 - (i) the notice of the refusal is given to the recipient; or
 - (ii) the application is taken to have been refused; and
 - (b) 28 days after the day on which the infringement notice was given to the recipient.

25 Effect of payment of penalty*Alleged commission of offence against the Act*

- (1) If:
- (a) an infringement notice is given in relation to an alleged commission of an offence against the Act that is stated to be an offence of strict liability; and

Regulation 25

- (b) the infringement notice is not withdrawn; and
 - (c) the recipient pays the penalty stated in the notice in accordance with regulation 24;
- the consequences mentioned in subregulation (2) apply.

(2) The effects are:

- (a) any liability of the recipient for the alleged offence is discharged; and
- (b) no prosecution may be brought against the recipient for the alleged offence; and
- (c) the recipient is not taken to have admitted guilt in respect of the alleged offence; and
- (d) the recipient is not taken to have been convicted of the offence.

Alleged contravention of civil penalty provision

(3) If:

- (a) an infringement notice is given in relation to an alleged contravention of the civil penalty provision in subitem 19 (1) of Schedule 2 to the Act; and
- (b) the infringement notice is not withdrawn; and
- (c) the recipient pays the penalty stated in the notice in accordance with regulation 24;

the consequences mentioned in subregulation (4) apply.

(4) The effects are:

- (a) any liability of the recipient for the alleged contravention is discharged; and
- (b) no civil proceedings may be brought by the Commonwealth against the recipient for the alleged contravention; and
- (c) the recipient is not taken to have admitted guilt in respect of the alleged contravention; and

Regulation 26

- (d) the recipient is not taken to have been found guilty of the contravention.

Note This regulation does not prevent a consumer from commencing a civil proceeding against the recipient under section 178 or 179 of the National Credit Act. ASIC is not prevented from applying for an order on behalf of a plaintiff in accordance with those sections. Sections 178 and 179 of that Act apply to registered persons and Schedule 2 of the Act under item 37 of Schedule 2 to the Act.

26 Withdrawal of infringement notice by nominated person

- (1) Within 28 days after receiving an infringement notice, the recipient may apply, in writing, to the nominated person for the infringement notice to be withdrawn.
- (2) The application must:
 - (a) specify the infringement notice's unique identification code; and
 - (b) set out the reasons for the application.
- (3) Within 14 days after receiving the application, the nominated person must:
 - (a) withdraw or refuse to withdraw the notice; and
 - (b) notify the recipient in writing of the decision and, if the decision is a refusal, the reasons for the decision.
- (4) Without limiting subregulation (3), the nominated person may withdraw the infringement notice after taking into account the following matters:
 - (a) whether the recipient:
 - (i) has been previously convicted of an offence against the Act; or
 - (ii) has been previously found to have contravened a civil penalty provision;
 - (b) the circumstances in which the commission or contravention set out in the infringement notice offence specified in the notice is alleged to have occurred;

Regulation 29

- (c) whether an infringement notice has previously been given to the recipient in relation to an infringement notice offence of the same kind as the offence specified in the notice, and in relation to which the recipient paid the penalty under the notice;
 - (d) any other relevant matter.
- (5) If the nominated person has not withdrawn, or refused to withdraw, the notice within 14 days after receiving the application, the nominated person is taken to have refused to withdraw the notice.

27 Withdrawal of infringement notice by ASIC

- (1) ASIC may withdraw an infringement notice given by ASIC without an application under regulation 26 having been made.
- (2) Without limiting subregulation (1), ASIC may withdraw the infringement notice after taking into account a matter mentioned in paragraph 26 (4) (a), (b), (c) or (d).

28 Notice of withdrawal of infringement notices

- (1) A notice withdrawing an infringement notice must include the following information:
 - (a) the full name, or surname and initials, and address of the recipient;
 - (b) the date the infringement notice was given;
 - (c) the infringement notice's unique identification code.
- (2) The notice must also state that the notice is withdrawn.

29 Refund of penalty

If an infringement notice is withdrawn after the penalty stated in it has been paid, the Commonwealth must refund the amount of the penalty to the person who paid it.

Note

1. All legislative instruments and compilations are registered on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments kept under the *Legislative Instruments Act 2003*. See <http://www.frli.gov.au>.