



# ***PR 2022/7 - Bell Equity Lever - instalment receipts***

 This cover sheet is provided for information only. It does not form part of *PR 2022/7 - Bell Equity Lever - instalment receipts*

 This document has changed over time. This is a consolidated version of the ruling which was published on *31 August 2022*



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Status: **legally binding**

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## Product Ruling

# Bell Equity Lever – instalment receipts

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### **1 Relying on this Ruling**

This publication (excluding appendix) is a public ruling for the purposes of the *Taxation Administration Act 1953*.

If this Ruling applies to you, and you correctly rely on it, we will apply the law to you in the way set out in this Ruling. That is, you will not pay any more tax or penalties or interest in respect of the matters covered by this Ruling.

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## No guarantee of commercial success

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The Commissioner **does not** sanction or guarantee this product. Further, the Commissioner gives no assurance that the product is commercially viable, that charges are reasonable, appropriate or represent industry norms, or that projected returns will be achieved or are reasonably based.

Potential participants must form their own view about the commercial and financial viability of the product. The Commissioner recommends a financial (or other) adviser be consulted for such information.

This Product Ruling provides certainty for potential participants by confirming that the tax benefits set out in the **Ruling** part of this document are available, **provided that** the scheme is carried out in accordance with the information we have been given, and have described below in the **Scheme** part of this document. If the scheme is not carried out as described, participants lose the protection of this Product Ruling.

## Terms of use of this Product Ruling

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This Product Ruling has been given on the basis that the entity(s) who applied for the Product Ruling, and their associates, will abide by strict terms of use. Any failure to comply with the terms of use may lead to the withdrawal of this Product Ruling.

### **What this Ruling is about**

1. This Product Ruling sets out the Commissioner's opinion on the way in which the relevant provisions identified in the Ruling section apply to the defined class of entities that

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participates in the scheme to which this Product Ruling relates. All legislative references in this Product Ruling are to the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*, unless otherwise indicated.

2. In this Product Ruling, the scheme is referred to as a Bell Equity Lever facility (a Facility) offered by Bell Potter Capital Limited (BPC) and issued under the Product Disclosure Statement (including a Short Form Product Disclosure Statement and Incorporation by Reference) dated 13 June 2019 (PDS).<sup>1</sup>

3. This Product Ruling does not address:

- a Holder's entitlement to franking credits, except as provided for in paragraphs 15(h) and 33(b) of this Product Ruling
- the tax consequences of fees and charges paid in respect of a Facility (including Brokerage and particular indirect costs), except any interest or Issuance Fee charged in respect of a Facility
- the tax consequences of a transfer of an Instalment Receipt
- the tax consequences arising from any Stock Loan, and
- whether this scheme constitutes a financial arrangement for the purposes of Division 230 (taxation of financial arrangements).

#### **Class of entities**

4. This part of the Product Ruling specifies which entities can rely on the Ruling section of this Product Ruling and which entities cannot rely on the Ruling section. Those entities that can rely on the Ruling section are referred to as the Holder.

5. The class of entities that can rely on the Ruling section of this Product Ruling consists of those entities that:

- enter into the scheme described in paragraphs 16 to 20 of this Product Ruling on or after 1 July 2022 and on or before 30 June 2025, and
- have a genuine intention and realistic expectation of deriving assessable income (other than capital gains) from the investment that exceeds the deductible expenditure incurred in connection with the investment.

6. The class of entities that can rely on the Ruling section of this Product Ruling does **not** include entities that:

- are accepted to participate in the scheme described in paragraphs 16 to 20 of this Product Ruling before 1 July 2022<sup>2</sup> or after 30 June 2025
- do not have a genuine intention and realistic expectation of deriving assessable income (other than capital gains) from the investment that exceeds the deductible expenditure that they incur in order to invest in the scheme

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise defined, capitalised terms in this Product Ruling take their meaning from the PDS and Instalment Receipts Deed referred to in paragraph 16 of this Product Ruling.

<sup>2</sup> Holders that are accepted to participate in the scheme on or after 1 July 2019 and prior to 1 July 2022 may be able to rely on Product Ruling PR 2019/6 *Income tax: taxation consequences of investing in Bell Equity Lever Instalment Receipts*.

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- trade in Instalment Receipts, Underlying Securities or other financial investments and are treated for tax purposes as trading in the Instalment Receipts or Underlying Securities, carrying on a business of investing in the Instalment Receipts or Underlying Securities, or holding the Instalment Receipts or Underlying Securities as trading stock or as revenue assets
- participate in the scheme through offers made other than through the PDS, or that enter into an undisclosed arrangement with the promoter or a promoter associate, or an independent adviser that is interdependent with scheme obligations or scheme benefits (which may include tax benefits) in any way
- do not satisfy an assumption set out in paragraph 20 of this Product Ruling, or
- are subject to Division 230 in respect of this scheme.

### ***Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993***

7. This Product Ruling does not address the provisions of the *Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993* (SISA). The Commissioner gives no assurance that the scheme is an appropriate investment for a superannuation fund. The trustees of superannuation funds are advised that no consideration has been given in this Product Ruling as to whether investment in this scheme may contravene the provisions of the SISA.

### **Qualifications**

8. The class of entities defined in this Product Ruling may rely on its contents provided the scheme actually carried out is carried out in accordance with the scheme described in paragraphs 16 to 20 of this Product Ruling.

9. If the scheme actually carried out is materially different from the scheme that is described in this Product Ruling, then this Product Ruling:

- has no binding effect on the Commissioner because the scheme entered into is not the scheme on which the Commissioner has ruled, and
- may be withdrawn or modified.

### **Date of effect**

10. This Product Ruling applies from 1 July 2022. It applies only to the specified class of entities that enter into the scheme from 1 July 2022 until 30 June 2025, being its period of application. This Product Ruling will continue to apply to those entities even after its period of application has ended for the scheme entered into during the period of application.

11. However, the Product Ruling only applies to the extent that there is no change in the scheme or in the entity's involvement in the scheme.

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### **Changes in the law**

12. Although this Product Ruling deals with the income tax laws enacted at the time it was issued, later amendments may impact on this Product Ruling. Any such changes will take precedence over the application of this Product Ruling and, to that extent, this Product Ruling will have no effect.

13. Entities that are considering participating in the scheme are advised to confirm with their tax adviser that changes in the law have not affected this Product Ruling since it was issued.

### **Note to promoters and advisers**

14. Product Rulings were introduced for the purpose of providing certainty about tax consequences for entities in schemes such as this. In keeping with that intention, the Commissioner suggests that promoters and advisers ensure that participants are fully informed of any legislative changes after the Product Ruling has issued.

## **Ruling**

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15. Subject to paragraph 3 of this Product Ruling and the assumptions in paragraph 20 of this Product Ruling:

- (a) Interest incurred under a Facility, reduced by an amount reasonably attributable to the cost of capital protection calculated under step 3 of the method statement in subsection 247-20(3), will be deductible under section 8-1 as it accrues.
- (b) Under subsection 247-20(3), the amount reasonably attributable to the cost of capital protection in an income year is the amount by which the interest incurred under a Facility for the income year exceeds the amount of the credit provided multiplied by the average of the adjusted loan rates, being the Reserve Bank of Australia's Indicator Lending Rate for Standard Variable Housing Loans – Investor applicable during the income year, plus 100 basis points (subsections 247-20(5) and (5A)).
- (c) The amount reasonably attributable to the cost of capital protection, as worked out under paragraph 15(b) of this Product Ruling, is treated as the cost of a put option granted by BPC to the Holder under subsection 247-20(6). This amount is not deductible under section 8-1.
- (d) Section 51AAA of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936* (ITAA 1936) will not apply to deny deductibility of the interest incurred under a Facility that is allowable as a deduction under section 8-1.
- (e) Section 82KL of the ITAA 1936 will not apply to deny deductibility of the interest incurred under a Facility that is allowable as a deduction under section 8-1.
- (f) For the purposes of the ITAA 1936 and the ITAA 1997 (other than the purposes set out in subsection 235-815(2)) and pursuant to the operation of section 235-820, Underlying Securities held on trust for the Holder by the Security Trustee as security for the provision of credit under a Facility will be treated as being the Holder's assets (instead of assets of the Security Trust), and any act done in relation to the Underlying Securities by the

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- Security Trustee will be treated as if the act has been done by the Holder (instead of the Security Trustee).
- (g) Any dividends or distributions paid on the Underlying Securities while the Underlying Securities are held on trust for the Holder by the Security Trustee, including any dividend or distribution applied to reduce the Holder's Outstanding Instalment Balance, will be included in the assessable income of the Holder (and not the Security Trustee) under subsection 44(1) or paragraph 97(1)(a) of the ITAA 1936 (as applicable), as if the Holder held the Underlying Securities directly.
  - (h) For the purposes of determining whether the Holder is entitled to an offset under Division 207 in respect of franking credits attached to franked distributions paid, the qualified person rules contained in former Division 1A of Part IIIAA of the ITAA 1936 will apply to the Holder directly (and not as a beneficiary of a trust) while the Underlying Securities are held on trust for the Holder by the Security Trustee.
  - (i) For capital gains tax (CGT) purposes pursuant to section 109-5, the date of acquisition of an Underlying Security is the date on which the Holder acquires the Instalment Receipt to which the Underlying Security relates.
  - (j) The cost base and reduced cost base that a Holder has in the Underlying Securities acquired by the Holder under a Facility will include the amounts of the First Instalment and Final Instalment used to fund the acquisition of the Underlying Securities, the Issuance Fee and any incidental costs of acquisition and disposal of the Underlying Securities (sections 110-25 and 110-55).
  - (k) No CGT event happens for the Holder under Division 104 when legal title to an Underlying Security is transferred by the Security Trustee to the Holder.
  - (l) If the Holder sells (or arranges for the sale of) the Underlying Securities to fund the Completion Payments owing under a Facility, CGT event A1 under section 104-10 will happen in relation to the Underlying Securities for the Holder.
  - (m) If BPC exercises its Security Interest and the Underlying Securities are disposed of by the Security Trustee
    - (i) CGT event A1 under section 104-10 will happen for the Holder in relation to the Underlying Securities
    - (ii) pursuant to subsection 134-1(1), the cost base and reduced cost base of the Underlying Securities will include the amount reasonably attributable to the cost of capital protection (if any) calculated under paragraph 15(b) of this Product Ruling (but will not include any interest incurred in respect of that amount), and
    - (iii) any capital gain or capital loss made by the Holder on exercise of the put option referred to in paragraph 15(c) of this Product Ruling will be disregarded under subsection 134-1(4).
  - (n) Any capital gain made by a Holder on disposal of an Underlying Security will be treated as a discount capital gain pursuant to section 115-5 where the Holder is an individual, a complying superannuation entity or a trust, and the Holder acquired the Instalment Receipt over that Underlying Security at least 12 months before the disposal of the Underlying Security.

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- (o) If the Holder pays the Completion Payment
- (i) the put option referred to in paragraph 15(c) of this Product Ruling will be taken to have expired pursuant to subsection 247-30(2)
  - (ii) CGT event C2 under paragraph 104-25(1)(c) will happen in relation to the put option for the Holder, resulting in a capital loss equal to the reduced cost base of that put option under subsection 104-25(3), and
  - (iii) pursuant to section 110-55, the reduced cost base of the put option will include the amount reasonably attributable to the cost of capital protection (if any) calculated under paragraph 15(b) of this Product Ruling (but will not include any interest incurred in respect of that amount).
- (p) The commercial debt forgiveness rules in Division 245 will not reduce the tax attributes of a Holder as a result of the debt forgiveness that occurs when the limited recourse provisions of a Facility come into effect if BPC exercises its Security Interest and the disposal proceeds from the sale of the Underlying Securities will not fully repay the Holder's Outstanding Instalment Balance.
- (q) The anti-avoidance provisions in Part IVA of the ITAA 1936 will not be applied to deny the deductibility of the interest incurred by the Holder in respect of the credit provided under a Facility.

## Scheme

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16. The scheme that is the subject of this Product Ruling is identified and described in the following documents:

- application for a Product Ruling as constituted by documents and information received on 9 June 2022 and 30 June 2022
- Bell Equity Lever Product Disclosure Statement (including a Short Form Product Disclosure Statement, Incorporation by Reference and Web Update dated 4 October 2021) dated 13 June 2019, and
- Equity Lever Instalment Receipts Deed dated 20 March 2008, as amended by Supplemental Deeds dated 1 February 2011, 28 October 2015, 21 September 2017 and 24 May 2019 (the Instalment Receipts Deed).

**Note:** Certain information has been provided on a commercial-in-confidence basis and will not be disclosed or released under Freedom of Information legislation.

17. For the purposes of describing the scheme to which this Product Ruling applies, there are no other agreements, whether formal or informal, and whether or not legally enforceable, which a Holder, or any associate of a Holder, will be a party to, which are a part of the scheme.

18. All Australian Securities and Investments Commission requirements are, or will be, complied with for the term of the agreements.

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**Overview**

19. The details of the Instalment Receipts are summarised as follows:
- (a) A Facility enables leveraged exposure to Securities and any Accretions conferred in respect of those Securities (Underlying Securities) for a term of up to 10 years via an investment, part funded by a provision of credit provided to the Holder by BPC, in unlisted and limited recourse instalment receipts (Instalment Receipts) issued by BPC. Each Instalment Receipt is over one Underlying Security.
  - (b) The Holder is required to select the Underlying Securities from an approved list of Underlying Securities, which is available on the Bell Equity Lever website. The Underlying Securities obtained under one Facility together form the Underlying Portfolio.
  - (c) In respect of each Underlying Security acquired under a Facility
    - (i) the Holder pays an Investment Amount applied to the payment of
      - the First Instalment which will be generally up to 50% of the Purchase Price of the Underlying Security, and
      - the Issuance Fee, which is a fee to establish the Instalment Receipt
    - (ii) BPC provides credit to the Holder equal to the Final Instalment, being that part of the Purchase Price of the Underlying Security as remains due by the Holder after payment of the First Instalment
    - (iii) BPC buys the Underlying Security in the name of BPC Custody Pty Ltd, as the Security Trustee, and
    - (iv) the Instalment Receipt is issued in the name of the Holder.
  - (d) Unless BPC accepts Investment Instructions for lesser amounts at its discretion, the minimum Investment Amount for the Holder's initial Investment Instruction is \$20,000, and \$2,000 for each subsequent Investment Instruction.
  - (e) Once the Holder has acquired the Instalment Receipt, interest is calculated daily on the Holder's Outstanding Instalment Balance from the date the Instalment Receipt is issued, and is capitalised (as set out in paragraph 19(f) of this Product Ruling). The Holder's Outstanding Instalment Balance in respect of an Instalment Receipt is the Final Instalment plus Capitalised Interest owing to BPC over the term of the Instalment Receipt.
  - (f) The Interest Rate payable on the Instalment Receipt is variable and a Monthly Interest Amount is capitalised to the Outstanding Instalment Balance on a monthly basis in arrears.
  - (g) During the term of the Instalment Receipt, the Underlying Security (including any Accretion) is held on separate trust (Security Trust) by the Security Trustee for the sole benefit of the Holder, subject to a Security Interest in favour of BPC to secure its rights to receipt of the Secured Moneys owing under the Instalment Receipt (including the Completion Payment referred to in paragraph 19(j) of this Product Ruling), in accordance with the Instalment Receipts Deed.



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- (h) The Holder is entitled to the benefit of all income from the Underlying Security such as dividends, distributions or other payments (for example, as a result of a corporate action) made in respect of the Underlying Security. Such income from the Underlying Security will generally be used to reduce the Outstanding Instalment Balance owing by the Holder on their corresponding Instalment Receipt.
- (i) The Holder may also elect to provide cash to BPC as payment (an Early Instalment Payment) of some or all of the Outstanding Instalment Balance in respect of an Instalment Receipt.
- (j) The Holder is entitled to be transferred legal title to the Underlying Security on payment of the Completion Payment provided their Current Facility Leverage to Valuation Ratio (LVR) will not exceed their Facility LVR. The Completion Payment for an Instalment Receipt is payable by the Completion Date (generally 10 years from the date of acquisition of the Instalment Receipt); may be paid at any time during the term of the Instalment Receipt; and is comprised of
  - (i) the Holder's Outstanding Instalment Balance
  - (ii) any Accrued Interest (being interest that has accrued since the last Interest Payment Date, and not capitalised)
  - (iii) Brokerage, and
  - (iv) any other amount due to be paid by the Holder but which remains unpaid.
- (k) If an Instalment Acceleration Event occurs in respect of a Holder's Facility (because their Current Facility LVR increases to a level above their Maximum Facility LVR), the Holder will be required to reduce their Current Facility LVR by the Instalment Acceleration Event Amount by paying a portion of the Total Completion Payments owing by the Holder prior to the Completion Date. This can be done either by requesting the Early Closure of a sufficient number of Instalment Receipts and applying the proceeds from the sale of the Underlying Securities relevant to those Instalment Receipts (as undertaken by the Security Trustee pursuant to the exercise by BPC of its Security Interest) against the Completion Payments, or by direct payment to BPC.
- (l) An Early Closure of the Holder's Instalment Receipts, as contemplated in paragraph 19(k) of this Product Ruling, may also be requested by the Holder at any time by submitting an instruction to that effect. The sale proceeds of an Underlying Security in these circumstances will, in the first instance, be applied to cover the Completion Payment of the corresponding Instalment Receipt.
- (m) The Holder may, as an alternative to paying the Completion Payment by the Completion Date, or not paying the Completion Payment by the Completion Date and having the Underlying Security over which the Instalment Receipt has been issued sold by the Security Trustee, apply to BPC to extend the Completion Date. An extension of the Completion Date for the Instalment Receipt in these circumstances is subject to BPC's discretion.
- (n) The Holder's liability to BPC under a Facility is limited to the proceeds which BPC receives from exercising its rights under the Security Interests to dispose of part or all of the Holder's Underlying Portfolio.

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Status: **legally binding**

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**Assumptions**

20. This Product Ruling is made on the basis of the following necessary assumptions:
- (a) The Holder is an Australian resident for tax purposes.
  - (b) The Holder will enter into the Instalment Receipt through the purchase of an Underlying Security via a Facility and not under a secondary market transfer.
  - (c) The Holder will hold their interests in the Underlying Securities on capital account, is not a trader in investments and is not treated for tax purposes as trading in the Instalment Receipts or Underlying Securities, carrying on a business of investing in the Instalment Receipts or Underlying Securities, or holding the Instalment Receipts or Underlying Securities as trading stock or as a revenue asset.
  - (d) The dominant purpose of a Holder in entering into the scheme is to derive an amount of receipts (income, gains and distributions) from their Underlying Securities acquired under the scheme that exceeds the total expenses incurred in respect of a Facility.
  - (e) At all times, the Security Trustee will be an Australian resident and management and control of the Security Trust will be in Australia.
  - (f) The Underlying Security will be a share, unit in a unit trust or stapled security either listed for quotation in the official list of an approved stock exchange, or that meets the widely held requirements set out in paragraphs 235-835(1)(b) and 247-15(5)(b).
  - (g) At all times while the Security Trustee holds the Underlying Security, the Underlying Security will not be subject to any charge, security or other encumbrance (apart from any charge securing obligations relating to the provision of credit under a Facility).
  - (h) A Stock Loan pursuant to the terms of the Instalment Receipts Deed will not be entered into involving any Underlying Security held under a Security Trust by the Security Trustee for the Holder.
  - (i) The Holder will not be under any legal disability.
  - (j) A Holder that is a superannuation fund is not prevented from investing in the scheme by any terms of its trust deed, and is not in breach of any of its stated investment guidelines and strategies.
  - (k) The scheme will be executed in the manner described in the Scheme section of this Product Ruling and the scheme documentation referred to in paragraph 16 of this Product Ruling.
  - (l) All transactions between the Holder, the Security Trustee and BPC in relation to the Instalment Receipts will be at prevailing market prices and otherwise on arm's length terms.

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**Commissioner of Taxation**

31 August 2022

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## Appendix – Explanation

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**❶** *This Appendix is provided as information to help you understand how the Commissioner’s view has been reached. It does not form part of the binding public ruling.*

<b>Table of Contents</b>	<b>Paragraph</b>
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### **Section 8-1 and Division 247 – capital protected borrowings and deductibility of interest**

21. The interest paid on a provision of credit used to acquire income-producing assets such as the Underlying Securities is generally deductible under section 8-1 where it is expected that dividends, trust distributions or other assessable income would be derived from the investment (refer to Taxation Ruling TR 95/33 *Income tax: subsection 51(1) – relevance of subjective purpose, motive or intention in determining the deductibility of losses and outgoings*). However, the ability to claim interest deductions may be subject to Division 247.

22. Division 247 limits the allowable deductions for expenditure incurred under a ‘capital protected borrowing’. Broadly, a capital protected borrowing arises where an amount is borrowed or an amount of credit is provided under an arrangement where the borrower is protected against the fall in value of some specified securities, and where that borrowing or provision of credit is made for the purpose of investing in those securities.

23. Division 247 applies to a Facility where the Holder uses the credit provided to acquire a beneficial interest in the Underlying Securities and the Holder is protected against the fall in the market value of those Underlying Securities.

24. Division 247 sets out a methodology for reasonably attributing a cost to the capital protection obtained by a borrower under a capital protected borrowing (section 247-20). Division 247 ignores any amount which is not in substance for capital protection or interest in calculating the cost of capital protection, pursuant to subsection 247-20(3).

25. The amount reasonably attributable to the cost of capital protection under a Facility is worked out according to the method statement in subsection 247-20(3), as set out in paragraph 15(b) of this Product Ruling. Under step 1 of the method statement, the total amount of interest incurred by the Holder under or in respect of a Facility for the income year is the interest incurred on the Facility for the income year.

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26. Where the total amount incurred by the Holder worked out under step 1 of the method statement is less than the total interest that would have been incurred by the Holder worked out under step 2 of the method statement, there is no amount reasonably attributable to the cost of capital protection. In these circumstances, the interest on the Facility will be fully deductible under section 8-1.

27. Where the total amount incurred by the Holder worked out under step 1 of the method statement is greater than the total interest that would have been incurred by the Holder worked out under step 2 of the method statement, the balance is reasonably attributable to the cost of capital protection and is treated as if it were incurred for a notional put option granted to the Holder (subsection 247-20(6)).

28. The Holder's put option is a capital asset. Therefore, the amount reasonably attributable to the cost of capital protection is of a capital nature and not deductible under section 8-1.

#### **Section 51AAA of the ITAA 1936**

29. By acquiring the Instalment Receipts, it is contemplated that a Holder will derive assessable income by way of the receipt of dividends or trust distributions, or both, and capital gains from the Underlying Securities. As interest incurred under a Facility would have been deductible under section 8-1 notwithstanding the inclusion of a net capital gain in assessable income, section 51AAA of the ITAA 1936 has no application to a Holder who enters into a Facility.

#### **Section 82KL of the ITAA 1936**

30. The operation of section 82KL of the ITAA 1936 depends on, among other things, the identification of a certain quantum of 'additional benefits'. Insufficient 'additional benefits' will be provided to trigger the application of section 82KL of the ITAA 1936. It will not apply to deny the deductions otherwise allowable under section 8-1.

#### **Division 235 – look-through treatment for instalment trusts**

31. The object of Division 235 is to ensure that, for most income tax purposes, the consequences of ownership of a certain type of asset (referred to as an 'instalment trust asset') flow to the investor that has a beneficial interest in that asset as a beneficiary of an 'instalment trust', instead of to the trustee of the instalment trust. Essentially, this means treating the investor (and not the trust) as the owner of the asset and treating any act done by the trustee in relation to the asset as if the act had been done by the investor, instead of by the trustee (see subsections 235-820(1) and (2)).

32. Each Security Trust created under the terms of the Instalment Receipts Deed for the purposes of holding the Underlying Securities of a Holder on trust by the Security Trustee as trustee for the Holder will be an instalment trust pursuant to paragraph 235-825(1)(a) on the basis that they will be covered by section 235-830 (about instalment trust arrangements), and satisfy the requirements in section 235-835 (about the type of asset being held on trust).

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### **Dividends and distributions**

33. Pursuant to the operation of section 235-820 (as per paragraphs 15(f), 31 and 32 of this Product Ruling):

- (a) All dividends and distributions paid in respect of Underlying Securities held on trust for the Holder by the Security Trustee, including any dividends or distributions applied toward repayment of the Holder's Outstanding Instalment Balance, will be included in the assessable income of the Holder (and not the Security Trustee) under subsection 44(1) or paragraph 97(1)(a) of the ITAA 1936, as applicable.
- (b) All franking credits attached to franked distributions made in respect of Underlying Securities held on trust for the Holder by the Security Trustee will be taken to have flowed directly to the Holder (instead of indirectly through the Security Trust). In determining whether the Holder is entitled to an offset under Division 207 in respect of franking credits received, the qualified person rules in former Division 1A of Part IIIA of the ITAA 1936 are applied to the Holder directly rather than as a beneficiary of a trust.

### **Parts 3-1 and 3-3 – application of capital gains tax provisions to the put option and Underlying Securities**

34. If the Security Trustee disposes of the Underlying Securities to pay the Completion Payments, the Holder will be treated as having disposed of the Underlying Securities and CGT event A1 under section 104-10 will arise for the Holder in respect of that disposal.

35. If the Holder does not pay the Completion Payments and, in exercising its Security Interest, the Security Trustee disposes of the Underlying Securities, CGT event A1 under section 104-10 will arise for the Holder in respect of the disposal (paragraph 247-30(1)(b)). Where:

- (a) A notional put option (as referred to in paragraph 15(c) of this Product Ruling) has arisen, it will be treated as having been exercised by the Holder (paragraph 247-30(1)(a)). The Holder will include the payment they are deemed to have made to acquire the put option (that is, the amount reasonably attributable to the cost of capital protection as per paragraph 15(b) of this Product Ruling, but excluding any interest incurred in respect of that amount) in the second element of the Holder's cost base and reduced cost base of the Underlying Securities, pursuant to table item 2 of subsection 134-1(1). Any capital gain or capital loss the Holder makes from exercising the put option will be disregarded under subsection 134-1(4).
- (b) No notional put option has arisen under Division 247 such that there is a shortfall in repayment of the Completion Payment, the Holder's cost base and reduced cost base in the Underlying Securities will be reduced by the amount of the shortfall under subsections 110-45(3) and 110-55(6) respectively.

36. If the notional put option referred to in paragraph 15(c) of this Product Ruling expires unexercised (including where the sale proceeds obtained by BPC on exercise of its Security Interest exceed the Completion Payment), CGT event C2 will arise for the Holder in relation to the put option at that time (section 104-25). As the Holder will not receive any capital proceeds in respect of the expiry of the put option, a capital loss will be made by the Holder in this regard, equal to the Holder's reduced cost base in the put option. Under

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section 110-55, the reduced cost base of this put option will include the amount reasonably attributable to the cost of capital protection as per paragraph 15(b) of this Product Ruling (but will not include any interest incurred in respect of that amount).

37. Under sections 110-25 and 110-55 respectively, the Holder's cost base and reduced cost base in the Underlying Securities will include the amounts of the First Instalment and Final Instalment used to fund the acquisition of the Underlying Securities plus the Issuance Fee and any incidental costs incurred by the Holder in acquiring and disposing of the Underlying Securities. As per paragraph 35(a) of this Product Ruling, where the limited recourse provisions of the Facility are invoked, the Holder's cost base and reduced cost base in the Underlying Securities also includes the cost base or reduced cost base of the put option referred to in paragraph 15(c) of this Product Ruling.

38. Division 115 allows a taxpayer a discount on capital gains in certain circumstances. In accordance with section 115-5, any capital gain realised by the Holder on the sale of the Underlying Securities will be treated as a discount capital gain where the Holder is an individual, a complying superannuation entity or a trust and acquired the Instalment Receipts at least 12 months before the disposal of the Underlying Securities (excluding the days of acquisition and disposal).

#### **Division 245 – commercial debt forgiveness**

39. The Outstanding Instalment Balance will be treated as a 'commercial debt' under section 245-10.

40. Where the limited recourse provisions of a Facility come into effect, a Holder is not required to repay the shortfall between the Outstanding Instalment Balance and the sale proceeds of the Underlying Security. This will result in the forgiveness of a commercial debt at that time, under paragraph 245-35(a).

41. Under Division 245, where the forgiveness of a commercial debt results in the Holder having a positive 'net forgiven amount', the Holder will be required to reduce certain tax attributes that could otherwise reduce their taxable income (in the same or a later income year), to the extent of the net forgiven amount.

42. To calculate the net forgiven amount of a debt, it is first necessary to calculate the 'gross forgiven amount' of a debt. In the Holder's circumstances, Division 245 will have no practical effect as there will be no gross forgiven amount in respect of the Outstanding Instalment Balance. The gross forgiven amount is equal to the value of the debt when it is forgiven (worked out under section 245-60) less the amount (if any) that is offset against the value of the debt when it is forgiven (worked out under section 245-65).

43. As the value of the Outstanding Instalment Balance when it is forgiven will be equal to the amount that is offset against the value of that debt when it is forgiven, there will be no gross forgiven amount in respect of the Outstanding Instalment Balance (subsection 245-75(2)).

44. Accordingly, the commercial debt forgiveness rules in Division 245 will not reduce the tax attributes of a Holder as a result of the debt forgiveness that occurs when the limited recourse provisions of a Facility come into effect.

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Status: **not legally binding**

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## References

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*Related Rulings/Determinations:*

TR 95/33; PR 2019/6

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NO: 1-TW79Z0R  
 ISSN: 2205-5517  
 BSL: PW  
 ATOLaw topic Income tax ~~ Financial arrangements ~~ Other

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