

NOTE 01

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

DTAs and DTLs are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply to the year when the asset is realised or the liability is settled, based on tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date. DTAs and DTLs are offset only if a legally enforceable right exists to set off current tax assets against current tax liabilities and the DTAs and DTLs relate to the same taxable entity and the same taxation authority.

Tax consolidation legislation

Australian Rail Track Corporation Ltd and its wholly owned Australian controlled entities have been consolidated for income tax purposes as of 1 July 2003.

The head entity, Australian Rail Track Corporation Ltd and the controlled entities in the income tax consolidated group continue to account for their own current and deferred tax amounts. The Group has applied the stand alone taxpayer approach, consistent with the requirements of UIG 1052, in determining the appropriate amount of current taxes and deferred taxes to allocate to members of the income tax consolidated group. In addition to its own current and deferred tax amounts, Australian Rail Track Corporation Ltd also recognises the current tax liabilities (or assets) and the DTAs arising from unused tax losses and unused tax credits assumed from controlled entities in the tax consolidated group.

Assets or liabilities arising under tax funding agreements with the tax consolidated entities are recognised as amounts receivable from or payable to other entities in the Group.

Any difference between the amounts assumed and amounts receivable or payable under the tax funding agreement are recognised as a contribution to (or distribution from) wholly owned tax consolidated entities.

(o) Leases

(i) Group as a lessee

Leases of property, plant and equipment where the Group, as lessee, has substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as finance leases. Finance leases are capitalised at the lease's inception at the fair value of the leased property or, if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments. The corresponding rental obligations, net of finance charges, are included in other short term and long term payables. Each lease payment is allocated between the liability and

finance cost. The finance cost is charged to profit or loss over the lease period so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability for each period. The property, plant and equipment acquired under finance leases is depreciated over the asset's useful life or over the shorter of the asset's useful life and the lease term if there is no reasonable certainty that the Group will obtain ownership at the end of the lease term.

Leases in which a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are not transferred to the Group as lessee are classified as operating leases (note 15). Payments made under operating leases (net of any incentives received from the lessor) are charged to the consolidated income statement on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

(ii) Group as a lessor

Leases in which the Group retains substantially all the risks and benefits of ownership of the leased asset are classified as operating leases. Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating an operating lease are added to the carrying amount of the leased asset and recognised as an expense over the lease term on the same basis as rental income.

(p) Fair Value

(i) Borrowings

Borrowings are initially recognised at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred. Borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption amount is recognised in the consolidated income statement over the period of the borrowings using the effective interest method. Fees paid on the establishment of loan facilities are recognised as transaction costs of the loan to the extent that it is probable that some or all of the facility will be drawn down. To the extent there is no evidence that it is probable that some or all of the facility will be drawn down, the fee is capitalised as a prepayment for liquidity services and amortised over the period of the facility to which it relates.

(ii) Infrastructure assets

The fair value for infrastructure assets is calculated using the income method approach, whereby the measurement reflects current market expectations of future cashflows discounted to their present value for