## AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES AND INVESTMENTS COMMISSION SUBSECTION 12GLC(1) OF THE AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES AND INVESTMENTS COMMISSION ACT 2001

## PUBLIC WARNING NOTICE

- 1. The Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC):
  - a. has reasonable grounds to suspect that:
    - i. Shaun Gregory Morgan also known as Shaun Monroe;
    - ii. Australian Capital Investment Group Pty Ltd (ACN 169 480 880);
    - iii. Aussie Prime Securities Pty Ltd (ACN 168 402 177); and
    - iv. Auscap Group Holding Pty Ltd (ACN 603 681 072),

have engaged in conduct in contravention of subsection 12DA(1) or paragraph 12DB(1)(f) of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission Act 2001 and may be continuing to do so; and

- b. is satisfied that one or more other persons has suffered, or is likely to suffer, detriment as a result of the conduct; and
- c. is satisfied that it is in the public interest to issue this notice.

## 2. ASIC is aware that:

- a. The websites <a href="www.auscapitalgroup.com">www.auscap.com</a> represent that Australian Capital Investment Group Pty Ltd holds an Australian financial services licence when it does not. The website <a href="www.aussieprimesecurities.com">www.aussieprimesecurities.com</a> represents that Aussie Prime Securities Group Pty Ltd also holds such a licence when it does not.
- b. The application to register Auscap Group Holdings Pty Ltd as a company states that it had over \$1 billion in share capital and listed HSBC Australia Holdings Pty Ltd, JP Morgan Nominees Australia Limited, N.A.B. Nominees Pty Ltd and RBS Nominees (Australia) Pty Limited as shareholders (who contributed between \$147 million and \$370 million). Each of these alleged shareholders has advised ASIC that they do not hold any shares in Auscap Group Holding Pty Ltd and have no knowledge of Auscap Group Holding Pty Ltd.
- c. HSBC Australia Holdings Pty Ltd, JP Morgan Nominees Australia Limited and RBS Nominees (Australia) Pty Limited are subsidiaries of major banking institutions. The address given for N.A.B. Nominees Pty Ltd in the application to register Auscap Group Holding Pty Ltd is that

for the National Australia Bank but N.A.B. Nominees Pty Ltd is not associated with that bank.

- d. Shaun Gregory Morgan is the sole director of Australian Capital Investment Group Pty Ltd and Auscap Group Holding Pty Ltd and a major shareholder of Aussie Prime Securities Pty Ltd. Mr Morgan and Australian Capital Investment Group Pty Ltd are also shareholders of Auscap Group Holding Pty Ltd.
- e. Shaun Gregory Morgan was imprisoned in the United States after pleading guilty to an offence involving fraud in connection with the provision of financial services. Mr Morgan was also ordered to pay restitution.
- 3. ASIC is issuing this notice as it is concerned that:
  - a. people will obtain financial services from Australian Capital Investment Group Pty Ltd and Aussie Prime Securities Pty Ltd believing that they hold an Australian financial services licence when this is not the case;
  - b. people will obtain financial services from Australian Capital Investment Group Pty Ltd and Aussie Prime Securities Pty Ltd believing that they are carrying on a legitimate financial services business when this is not the case;
  - c. people will obtain financial services from Australian Capital Investment Group Pty Ltd and Auscap Group Holding Pty Ltd believing that they are supported by or have a business relationship with major banking institutions or their clients when this is not the case; and
  - d. people will suffer a financial detriment as a result.
- 4. ASIC is warning the public that Australian Capital Investment Group Pty Ltd and Aussie Prime Securities Pty Ltd do not hold an Australian financial services licence and are not authorised to provide financial services in Australia.
- 5. ASIC is further warning the public that certain shareholder details currently on ASIC's register in relation to Auscap Group Holding Pty Ltd are incorrect. HSBC Australia Holdings Pty Ltd, JP Morgan Nominees Australia Limited, N.A.B. Nominees Pty Ltd and RBS Nominees (Australia) Pty Limited do not in fact hold shares in Auscap Group Holding Pty Ltd and have no knowledge of or relationship with that company.

Date:
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9<sup>th</sup> February 2015

Stephen Yen

Signed:

Stephen Yen

as a delegate of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission