

Co-operatives National Law (Queensland)

On 14 July 2025, an application for extension or shortening of time (Form 15) was lodged with the Office of Fair Trading on behalf of the Union Cooperative Society Ltd (QC0051) (USC), a co-operative registered under the *Co-operatives National Law (Queensland)* (CNL).

The application requested the Registrar shorten the time periods required by section 248 of the CNL relating to the holding of a special postal ballot which apply to the proposed actions of USC involving obtaining member approval as a result of section 359(1)(b).

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to section 609(1) of the CNL, as delegate of the Registrar, I have decided to:

1. Refuse to shorten the time after which UCS may hold the special postal ballot after notice of the ballot is given to members under section 248(2), meaning UCS must not hold the special postal ballot until 28 days after notice of the ballot is given to members; and
2. Approve the shortening of time for USC to submit a draft disclosure statement to the Registrar before the notice of the special postal ballot is to be given to members under section 248(5) from 28 days to 16 days on the following terms:
 - a. USC must do everything reasonably possible to send notice of the special resolution by special postal ballot to members as required by the CNL and USC's rules **as soon as possible and no later than 6 August 2025** to allow for the full 28 days notice to members before the postal ballot is held required under section 248(2) and for registration of the resolution under sections 243 and 244 (if passed) by 5 September 2025;
 - b. USC must record the efforts taken to provide notice to each and every member required under USC's rules including the way the notice was provided (email, post etc), and the dates and times the notices were sent or provided to the member;
 - c. If USC is unable to send the notices to members on or before 6 August 2025 and wishes to apply again to the Registrar for a shortening of time related to this matter, USC must make that application and provide sufficient reasons as to why the Registrar should approve such an application in the circumstances, **as soon as possible and by no later than 8 August 2025**.

You may be entitled to request a written statement of reasons for this decision under section 32 of the *Judicial Review Act 1991 (Qld)*. If you wish to make such a request, it must be made in writing to the Office of Fair Trading within 28 days of receiving notice of this decision. For further information, contact Registration.Services@justice.qld.gov.au.

Madeleine Forster

A/Manager, Registration Services Unit, Office of Fair Trading

Delegate of the Registrar

30 July 2025