

# Appendix 4B

## Half yearly/preliminary final report

Introduced 1/7/96. Origin: Appendices 3, 4. Amended 1/7/97.

Name of entity

**RURAL PRESS LIMITED**

ACN or ARBN

000 010 382

Half yearly  
(tick)

Preliminary  
final (tick)

Half year/financial year ended ('current  
period')

June 30, 1997

### For announcement to the market

*Extracts from this report for announcement to the market (see note 1).*

\$A'000

Sales (or equivalent operating) revenue ( <i>item 1.1</i> )	up/down	5.8%	to \$299,353
Abnormal items after tax attributable to members ( <i>item 2.5</i> )	gain (loss) of -		
+Operating profit (loss) after tax (before amortisation of goodwill) attributable to members ( <i>item 1.26</i> )	up/down	2.2%	to \$32,296
+Operating profit (loss) after tax attributable to members ( <i>item 1.10</i> )	up/down	2.1%	to \$32,198
Extraordinary items after tax attributable to members ( <i>item 1.13</i> )	gain (loss) of -		
+Operating profit (loss) and extraordinary items after tax attributable to members ( <i>item 1.16</i> )	up/down	2.1%	to \$32,198
<b>Dividends (distributions)</b>	Amount per security	Franked amount per security at 36% tax	
Final dividend ( <i>Preliminary final report only - item 15.4</i> )	6.30¢	6.30¢	
Interim dividend ( <i>Half yearly report only - item 15.6</i> ) - Ordinary	6.93¢	6.93¢	
- Preferred	6.93¢	6.93¢	
Previous corresponding period ( <i>Preliminary final report - item 15.5; half yearly report - item 15.7</i> ) - Ordinary	6.00¢	6.00¢	
- Preferred	6.60¢	6.60¢	
+Record date for determining entitlements to the dividend, (in the case of a trust, distribution) ( <i>see item 15.2</i> )	October 24, 1997		
Short details of any bonus or cash issue or other item(s) of importance not previously released to the market:			

+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.

## Consolidated profit and loss account

*(The figures are not equity accounted)*

	Current period- \$A'000	Previous corresponding period- \$A'000
1.1 Sales (or equivalent operating) revenue	299,353	282,881
1.2 Other revenue	5,336	5,579
<b>1.3 Total revenue</b>	<b>304,689</b>	<b>288,460</b>
1.4 <b>+Operating profit (loss) before abnormal items and tax</b>	<b>53,251</b>	<b>52,720</b>
1.5 Abnormal items before tax (detail in item 2.4)	-	-
1.6 +Operating profit (loss) before tax (items 1.4 + 1.5)	53,251	52,720
1.7 Less tax	19,310	19,345
1.8 +Operating profit (loss) after tax but before outside +equity interests	33,941	33,375
1.9 Less outside +equity interests	1,743	1,846
<b>1.10 +Operating profit (loss) after tax attributable to members</b>	<b>32,198</b>	<b>31,529</b>
1.11 Extraordinary items after tax (detail in item 2.6)	-	-
1.12 Less outside +equity interests	-	-
1.13 Extraordinary items after tax attributable to members	-	-
<b>1.14 Total +operating profit (loss) and extraordinary items after tax (items 1.8 + 1.11)</b>	<b>33,941</b>	<b>33,375</b>
1.15 +Operating profit (loss) and extraordinary items after tax attributable to outside +equity interests (items 1.9 + 1.12)	1,743	1,846
<b>1.16 +Operating profit (loss) and extraordinary items after tax attributable to members (items 1.10 + 1.13)</b>	<b>32,198</b>	<b>31,529</b>
1.17 Retained profits (accumulated losses) at beginning of financial period	65,059	60,581
1.18 If change in accounting policy as set out in clause 11 of AASB 1018 Profit and Loss Accounts, adjustments as required by that clause (include brief description)	-	-
1.19 Aggregate of amounts transferred from reserves	-	-
<b>1.20 Total available for appropriation (carried forward)</b>	<b>97,257</b>	<b>92,110</b>

+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.

**Consolidated profit and loss account continued**

1.20	Total available for appropriation ( <i>brought forward</i> )	97,257	92,110
1.21	Dividends provided for or paid	16,936	27,051
1.22	Aggregate of amounts transferred to reserves	-	-
1.23	<b>Retained profits (accumulated losses) at end of financial period</b>	<b>80,321</b>	<b>65,059</b>

**Profit restated to exclude amortisation of goodwill**

		Current period \$A'000	Previous corresponding period \$A'000
1.24	+Operating profit (loss) after tax before outside equity interests (items 1-8) and amortisation of goodwill	34,049	33,433
1.25	Less (plus) outside +equity interests	1,753	1,846
1.26	+Operating profit (loss) after tax (before amortisation of goodwill) attributable to members	32,296	31,587

**Intangible, abnormal and extraordinary items**

		<i>Consolidated - current period</i>			
		Before tax \$A'000	Related tax \$A'000	Related outside +equity interests \$A'000	Amount (after tax) attributable to members \$A'000
2.1	Amortisation of goodwill	108	-	10	98
2.2	Amortisation of other intangibles	-	-	-	-
2.3	<b>Total amortisation of intangibles</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>98</b>
2.4	Abnormal items	-	-	-	-
2.5	<b>Total abnormal items</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
2.6	Extraordinary items	-	-	-	-
2.7	<b>Total extraordinary items</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

**Comparison of half year profits**

*(Preliminary final report only)*

		Current year - \$A'000	Previous year - \$A'000
3.1	Consolidated +operating profit (loss) after tax attributable to members reported for the <i>1st</i> half year (item 1.10 in the half yearly report)	16,958	16,267
3.2	Consolidated +operating profit (loss) after tax attributable to members for the <i>2nd</i> half year	15,240	15,262

+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.

**Appendix 4B**  
**Half yearly/preliminary final report**

**Consolidated balance sheet**

(See note 5)

	At end of current period \$A'000	As shown in last annual report \$A'000	As in last half yearly report \$A'000	
<b>Current assets</b>				
4.1	Cash	11,368	8,780	7,132
4.2	Receivables	58,963	52,207	60,239
4.3	Investments	-	-	-
4.4	Inventories	9,128	13,906	9,466
4.5	Other (provide details if material)	2,712	1,625	5,384
4.6	<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>82,171</b>	<b>76,518</b>	<b>82,221</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>				
4.7	Receivables	-	-	-
4.8	Investments	9,762	8,206	8,206
4.9	Inventories	-	-	-
4.10	Exploration and evaluation expenditure capitalised (see para .71 of AASB 1022)	-	-	-
4.11	Development properties (*mining entities)	-	-	-
4.12	Other property, plant and equipment (net)	80,175	80,529	81,855
4.13	Intangibles (net)	1,441	814	1,213
4.14	Other (provide details if material) <i>Mastheads/Licences &amp; FITB</i>	263,306	264,265	263,859
4.15	<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>354,684</b>	<b>353,814</b>	<b>355,133</b>
4.16	<b>Total assets</b>	<b>436,855</b>	<b>430,332</b>	<b>437,354</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>				
4.17	Accounts payable	31,064	30,177	32,173
4.18	Borrowings	10,931	11,369	21,521
4.19	Provisions	29,523	33,924	24,437
4.20	Other (provide details if material)	-	-	-
4.21	<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>71,518</b>	<b>75,470</b>	<b>78,131</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>				
4.22	Accounts payable	-	-	-
4.23	Borrowings	113,670	119,594	113,576
4.24	Provisions	4,416	3,909	3,880
4.25	Other (provide details if material)	-	-	-
4.26	<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>118,086</b>	<b>123,503</b>	<b>117,456</b>
4.27	<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>189,604</b>	<b>198,973</b>	<b>195,587</b>
4.28	<b>Net assets</b>	<b>247,251</b>	<b>231,359</b>	<b>241,767</b>

+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.

**Consolidated balance sheet continued**

<b>Equity</b>				
4.29	Capital	116,690	116,690	116,690
4.30	Reserves	38,710	38,318	38,346
4.31	Retained profits (accumulated losses)	80,321	65,059	75,440
4.32	Equity attributable to members of the parent entity	235,721	220,067	230,476
4.33	Outside +equity interests in controlled entities	11,530	11,292	11,291
4.34	<b>Total equity</b>	<b>247,251</b>	<b>231,359</b>	<b>241,767</b>
4.35	Preference capital and related premium included as part of 4.32	-	-	-

**Exploration and evaluation expenditure capitalised**

*To be completed only by entities with mining interests if amounts are material. Include all expenditure incurred regardless of whether written off directly against profit.*

	Current period \$A'000	Previous corresponding period- \$A'000
5.1	-	-
5.2		
5.3		
5.4		
5.5		
5.6	-	-

**Development properties**

*(To be completed only by entities with mining interests if amounts are material)*

	Current period \$A'000	Previous corresponding period- \$A'000
6.1	-	-
6.2		
6.3		
6.4		
6.5		
6.6		
6.7	-	-

+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.

**Consolidated statement of cash flows**

(See note 6)

	Current period \$A'000	Previous corresponding period- \$A'000
<b>Cash flows related to operating activities</b>		
7.1 Receipts from customers	303,042	278,915
7.2 Payments to suppliers and employees	(228,970)	(221,222)
7.3 Dividends received	169	145
7.4 Interest and other items of similar nature received	832	515
7.5 Interest and other costs of finance paid	(8,099)	(8,068)
7.6 Income taxes paid	(24,102)	(18,899)
7.7 Other (provide details if material)	-	-
<b>7.8 Net operating cash flows</b>	<b>42,872</b>	<b>31,386</b>
<b>Cash flows related to investing activities</b>		
7.9 Payment for purchases of property, plant and equipment	(7,516)	(9,309)
7.10 Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	1,004	1,109
7.11 Payment for purchases of equity investments	(1,558)	-
7.12 Proceeds from sale of equity investments	2	596
7.13 Loans to other entities	-	-
7.14 Loans repaid by other entities	-	-
7.15 Other (provide details if material)	1,441	-
<b>Business Acquired</b>	<b>(3,025)</b>	<b>(52,819)</b>
<b>7.16 Net investing cash flows</b>	<b>(9,652)</b>	<b>(60,423)</b>
<b>Cash flows related to financing activities</b>		
7.17 Proceeds from issues of +securities (shares, options, etc.)	-	-
7.18 Proceeds from borrowings	31,700	66,700
7.19 Repayment of borrowings	(26,850)	(14,500)
7.20 Dividends paid	(16,443)	(15,594)
7.21 Other (provide details if material)	(11,500)	(2,008)
<b>7.22 Net financing cash flows</b>	<b>(23,093)</b>	<b>34,598</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in cash held</b>		
7.23 Cash at beginning of period (see Reconciliation of cash)	15,453	10,068
7.24 Exchange rate adjustments to item 7.23.	107	(176)
<b>7.25 Cash at end of period</b> (see Reconciliation of cash)	<b>25,687</b>	<b>15,453</b>

+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.

## Non-cash financing and investing activities

*Details of financing and investing transactions which have had a material effect on consolidated assets and liabilities but did not involve cash flows are as follows. If an amount is quantified, show comparative amount.*

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## Reconciliation of cash

Reconciliation of cash at the end of the period (as shown in the consolidated statement of cash flows) to the related items in the accounts is as follows.	Current period \$A'000	Previous corresponding period- \$A'000
8.1 Cash on hand and at bank	11,368	8,780
8.2 Deposits at call	14,319	6,673
8.3 Bank overdraft	-	-
8.4 Other (provide details)	-	-
<b>8.5 Total cash at end of period (item 7.25)</b>	<b>25,687</b>	<b>15,453</b>

## Ratios

	Current period	Previous corresponding period
<b>9.1 Profit before abnormals and tax / sales</b> Consolidated +operating profit (loss) before abnormal items and tax (item 1.4) as a percentage of sales revenue (item 1.1)	17.8%	18.6%
<b>9.2 Profit after tax / +equity interests</b> Consolidated +operating profit (loss) after tax attributable to members (item 1.10) as a percentage of equity (similarly attributable) at the end of the period (item 4.32)	13.7%	14.3%

## Earnings per security (EPS)

	Current period	Previous corresponding period
10.1 Calculation of basic, and fully diluted, EPS in accordance with AASB 1027: <i>Earnings per Share</i>		
(a) Basic EPS	\$0.202	\$0.198
(b) Diluted EPS (if materially different from (a))	\$0.202	\$0.198

## NTA backing

*(see note 7)*

	Current period	Previous corresponding period
11.1 Net tangible asset backing per +ordinary security	\$1.41	\$1.32

+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.

**Details of specific receipts/outlays, revenues/ expenses**

	Current period \$A'000	Previous corresponding period- \$A'000
12.1 Interest revenue included in determining item 1.4	832	515
12.2 Interest revenue included in item 12.1 but not yet received (if material)	-	-
12.3 Interest expense included in item 1.4 (include all forms of interest, lease finance charges, etc.)	8,099	8,068
12.4 Interest costs excluded from item 12.3 and capitalised in asset values (if material)	-	-
12.5 Outlays (except those arising from the +acquisition of an existing business) capitalised in intangibles (if material)	-	-
12.6 Depreciation and amortisation (excluding amortisation of intangibles)	9,665	9,487

**Control gained over entities having material effect**

(See note 8)

13.1 Name of entity (or group of entities)	<b>NOT APPLICABLE</b>
13.2 Consolidated +operating profit (loss) and extraordinary items after tax of the entity (or group of entities) since the date in the current period on which control was +acquired	\$
13.3 Date from which such profit has been calculated	
13.4 +Operating profit (loss) and extraordinary items after tax of the entity (or group of entities) for the whole of the previous corresponding period	\$

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+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.

### Loss of control of entities having material effect

(See note 8)

14.1	Name of entity (or group of entities)	<b>NOT APPLICABLE</b>
14.2	Consolidated +operating profit (loss) and extraordinary items after tax of the entity (or group of entities) for the current period to the date of loss of control	\$
14.3	Date to which the profit (loss) in item 14.2 has been calculated	
14.4	Consolidated +operating profit (loss) and extraordinary items after tax of the entity (or group of entities) while controlled during the whole of the previous corresponding period	\$
14.5	Contribution to consolidated +operating profit (loss) and extraordinary items from sale of interest leading to loss of control	\$

### Reports for industry and geographical segments

*Information on the industry and geographical segments of the entity must be reported for the current period in accordance with AASB 1005: Financial Reporting by Segments. Because of the different structures employed by entities, a pro forma is not provided. Segment information should be completed separately and attached to this report. However, the following is the presentation adopted in the Appendices to AASB 1005 and indicates which amounts should agree with items included elsewhere in this report.*

#### Segments

Operating Revenue

Sales to customers outside the economic entity

**Refer Attached Note**

Inter-segment sales

Unallocated revenue

Total revenue (consolidated total equal to item 1.3)

Segment result (including abnormal items where relevant)

Unallocated expenses

Consolidated +operating profit after tax (before equity accounting) (equal to item 1.8)

Segment assets

)

*Comparative data for segment assets should be as at*

Unallocated assets

)

*the end of the previous corresponding period.*

Total assets (equal to item 4.16)

)

### Dividends (in the case of a trust, distributions)

15.1	Date the dividend (distribution) is payable	November 5, 1997
15.2	+Record date to determine entitlements to the dividend (distribution) (ie, on the basis of registrable transfers received up to 5.00 pm if paper based, or by "End of Day" if a proper +SCH transfer)	October 24, 1997
15.3	If it is a final dividend, has it been declared? <i>(Preliminary final report only)</i>	No

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+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.

**Appendix 4B**  
**Half yearly/preliminary final report**

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**Amount per security**

		Amount per security	Franked amount per security at 36% tax
15.4	<i>(Preliminary final report only)</i> <b>Final dividend:</b> Current year - Ordinary	6.30¢	6.30¢
	- Preferred	6.93¢	6.93¢
15.5	Previous year - Ordinary	6.00¢	6.00¢
	- Preferred	6.60¢	6.60¢
15.6	<i>(Half yearly and preliminary final reports)</i> <b>Interim dividend:</b> Current year - Ordinary	4.00¢	4.00¢
	- Preferred	4.40¢	4.40¢
15.7	Previous year - Ordinary	4.00¢	4.00¢
	- Preferred	4.40¢	4.40¢

**Total dividend (distribution) per security (interim plus final)**

*(Preliminary final report only)*

	Current year	Previous year
15.8 +Ordinary securities	10.30¢	10.00¢
15.9 Preference +securities	11.33¢	11.00¢

**Half yearly report - interim dividend (distribution) on all securities or Preliminary final report - final dividend (distribution) on all securities**

	Current period \$A'000	Previous corresponding period- \$A'000
15.10 +Ordinary securities	6,683	6,365
15.11 Preference +securities	3,676	3,501
15.12 <b>Total</b>	<b>10,359</b>	<b>9,865</b>

The +dividend or distribution plans shown below are in operation.

**NOT APPLICABLE**

The last date(s) for receipt of election notices for the +dividend or distribution plans

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Any other disclosures in relation to dividends (distributions)

*(Note: Special interim dividend declared of 10 cents per ordinary share on October 12, 1995 is not Included in the above.)*

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+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.

### Equity accounted associated entities and other material interests

*Equity accounting information attributable to the economic entity's share of investments in associated entities must be disclosed in a separate note. See AASB 1016: Disclosure of Information about Investments in Associated Companies.*

Investments in associated entities	Current period \$A'000	Previous corresponding period- \$A'000
16.1 Statutory carrying value of investments in associated entities (SCV)		
16.2 Share of associated entities' retained profits and reserves not included in SCV:		
Retained profits		
Reserves		
16.3 Equity carrying value of investments	<b>NIL</b>	<b>NIL</b>

### Material interests in entities which are not controlled entities

*The economic entity has an interest (that is material to it) in the following entities.*

Name of entity	Percentage of ownership interest (+ordinary securities, +units etc) held at end of period		Contribution to +operating profit (loss) and extraordinary items after tax	
	Current period	Previous corresponding period	Current period - \$A'000	Previous corresponding period- \$A'000
17.1 Equity accounted associated entities				
<b>NOT APPLICABLE</b>			<i>Equity accounted</i>	
17.2 Other material interests			<i>Not equity accounted (ie part of item 1.14)</i>	
<b>NOT APPLICABLE</b>				

+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.

**Issued and quoted securities at end of current period**

*Description includes rate of interest and any redemption or conversion rights together with prices and dates.*

Category of +securities	Number issued	Number quoted	Par value (cents)	Paid-up value (cents)
18.1 <b>Preference +securities</b> <i>(description)</i> Preferred Shares	53,041,290	53,041,290	20	20
18.2 Issued during current period	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
18.3 <b>+Ordinary securities</b>	106,081,929	106,081,929	100	100
18.4 Issued during current period	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
18.5 <b>+Convertible debt securities</b> <i>(description and conversion factor)</i>	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
18.6 Issued during current period	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
18.7 <b>Options</b> <i>(description and conversion factor)</i>			<i>Exercise price</i>	<i>Expiry date</i>
	NIL	NIL	<b>NIL</b>	<b>NIL</b>
18.8 Issued during current period	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
18.9 Exercised during current period	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
18.10 Expired during current period	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
18.11 <b>Debentures</b> <i>(totals only)</i>	NIL	NIL		
18.12 <b>Unsecured notes</b> <i>(totals only)</i>	NIL	NIL		

+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.

### **Comments by directors**

*Comments on the following matters are required by ASX or, in relation to the half yearly report, by AASB 1029: Half-Year Accounts and Consolidated Accounts. The comments do not take the place of the directors' report and statement (as required by the Corporations Law) and may be incorporated into the directors' report and statement. For both half yearly and preliminary final reports, if there are no comments in a section, state NIL. If there is insufficient space to comment, attach notes to this report.*

### **Basis of accounts preparation**

*If this report is a half yearly report, it is a general purpose financial report prepared in accordance with the listing rules and AASB 1029: Half-Year Accounts and Consolidated Accounts. It should be read in conjunction with the last annual report and any announcements to the market made by the entity during the period. [Delete if preliminary final statement.]*

Material factors affecting the revenues and expenses of the economic entity for the current period

**See attached release issued by Directors**

A description of each event since the end of the current period which has had a material effect and is not related to matters already reported, with financial effect quantified (if possible)

**See attached release issued by Directors**

Franking credits available and prospects for paying fully or partly franked dividends for at least the next year

**Existing franking credits and franking credits arising from the payment of income tax before the proposed dividend are for pre-acquisition profits at 36% \$33,580,000 and post-acquisition profits at 36% \$90,681,000.**

Changes in accounting policies since the last annual report are disclosed as follows.

*(Disclose changes in the half yearly report in accordance with paragraph 15(c) of AASB 1029: Half-Year Accounts and Consolidated Accounts. Disclose changes in the preliminary final report in accordance with AASB 1001: Accounting Policies-Disclosure.)*

**NIL**

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+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.

## Additional disclosure for trusts

19.1 Number of units held by the management company or a related party of it

NOT APPLICABLE

19.2 A statement of the fees and commissions payable to the management company.

Identify:

- initial service charges
- management fees
- other fees

## Annual meeting

*(Preliminary final report only)*

The annual meeting will be held as follows:

Place

159 Bells Line of Road, North Richmond,  
NSW 2754

Date

October 10, 1997

Time

10:30am

Approximate date the annual report will be available

September 19, 1997

## Compliance statement

1 This report has been prepared under accounting policies which comply with accounting standards as defined in the Corporations Law or other standards acceptable to ASX (see note 13).

Identify other standards used

2 This report, and the financial statements prepared under the Corporations Law (if separate), use the same accounting policies.

3 This report does/~~does not~~\* (*delete one*) give a true and fair view of the matters disclosed (see note 2).

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+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.

4 This report is based on financial statements to which one of the following applies.

*(Tick one)*

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The financial statements have been audited.	<input type="checkbox"/>	The financial statements have been subject to review.
<input type="checkbox"/>	The financial statements are in the process of being audited or subject to review.	<input type="checkbox"/>	The financial statements have <i>not</i> yet been audited or reviewed.

5 If the audit report or review by the auditor is not attached, details of any qualifications are attached/will follow immediately they are available\* (*delete one*). (*Half yearly report only - the audit report or review by the auditor must be attached to this report if this report is to satisfy the requirements of the Corporations Law.*)

6 The entity has/~~does not~~ have\* (*delete one*) a formally constituted audit committee.

Sign here: ..... Date:..August 28,1997....  
(~~Director~~/Company secretary)

Print name: ....B. H. G. Stofberg.....

**Notes**

1. **For announcement to the market** The percentage changes referred to in this section are the percentage changes calculated by comparing the current period's figures with those for the previous corresponding period. Do not show percentage changes if the change is from profit to loss or loss to profit, but still show whether the change was up or down.
2. **True and fair view** If this report does not give a true and fair view of a matter (for example, because compliance with an Accounting Standard is required) the entity must attach a note providing additional information and explanations to give a true and fair view.
3. **Consolidated profit and loss account**
  - Item 1.1 The definition of "operating revenue" and an explanation of "sales revenue" (or its equivalent) and "other revenue" are set out in *AASB 1004: Disclosure of Operating Revenue*.
  - Item 1.2 "other revenue" includes abnormal items, but excludes extraordinary revenue items.
  - Item 1.4 "+operating profit (loss) before abnormal items and tax" is calculated before dealing with outside +equity interests and extraordinary items, but after deducting interest on borrowings, depreciation and amortisation.
  - Item 1.7 This item refers to the total tax attributable to the amount shown in item 1.6. Tax includes income tax and capital gains tax (if any) but excludes taxes treated as operating expenses (eg, fringe benefits tax).
4. **Income tax** If the amount provided for income tax in this report differs (or would differ but for compensatory items) by more than 15% from the amount of income tax *prima facie* payable on the profit before tax, the entity must explain in a note the major items responsible for the difference and their amounts.

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+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.

5. **Consolidated balance sheet**

**Format** The format of the consolidated balance sheet should be followed as closely as possible. However, additional items may be added if greater clarity of exposition will be achieved, provided the disclosure still meets the requirements of *AASB 1029*. Banking institutions and trusts may substitute a clear liquidity ranking for the Current/Non-Current classification.

**Basis of revaluation** If there has been a material revaluation of non-current assets (including investments) since the last annual report, the entity must describe the basis of revaluation adopted. The description must meet the requirements of paragraphs 19-21 of *AASB 1010: Accounting for the Revaluation of Non-Current Assets*. If the entity has adopted a procedure of regular revaluation, the basis for which has been disclosed and has not changed, no additional disclosure is required. Trusts should also note paragraph 10 of *AASB 1029* and paragraph 11 of *AASB 1030*.

6. **Statement of cash flows** For definitions of "cash" and other terms used in this report see *AASB 1026: Statement of Cash Flows*. Entities should follow the form as closely as possible, but variations are permitted if the directors (in the case of a trust, the management company) believe that this presentation is inappropriate. However, the presentation adopted must meet the requirements of *AASB 1026*. +Mining exploration entities may use the form of cash flow statement in Appendix 5B.

7. **Net tangible asset backing** Net tangible assets are determined by deducting from total tangible assets all claims on those assets ranking ahead of the +ordinary securities (ie, all liabilities, preference shares, outside +equity interests etc). +Mining entities are *not* required to state a net tangible asset backing per +ordinary security.

8. **Gain and loss of control over entities** The gain or loss must be disclosed if it has a material effect on the consolidated financial statements. Details must include the contribution for each gain or loss that increased or decreased the entity's consolidated +operating profit (loss) and extraordinary items after tax by more than 5% compared to the previous corresponding period.

9. **Equity accounting** If an entity adopts equity accounting, no comparative equity accounting figures are required in the first period following its adoption.

10. **Rounding of figures** This report anticipates that the information required is given to the nearest \$1,000. However, an entity may report exact figures, if the \$A'000 headings are amended. If an entity qualifies under an ASC Class Order dated 17 August 1994, it may report to the nearest million dollars, or to the nearest \$100,000, if the \$A'000 headings are amended.

11. **Comparative figures** Comparative figures are normally the unadjusted figures from the previous corresponding period. However, if the previously reported figures are adjusted to achieve greater comparability, a note explaining the adjustment must be included with this report. If no adjustment is made despite a lack of comparability, a note explaining the position should be attached.

12. **Additional information** An entity may disclose additional information about any matter, and must do so if the information is material to an understanding of the reports. The

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+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.

information may be an expansion of the material contained in this report, or contained in a note attached to the report. The requirement under the listing rules for an entity to complete this report does not prevent the entity issuing reports more frequently. Additional material lodged with the +ASC under the Corporations Law must also be given to ASX. For example, a directors' report and statement, if lodged with the +ASC, must be given to ASX.

13. **Accounting Standards** ASX will accept, for example, the use of International Accounting Standards for foreign entities. If the standards used do not address a topic, the Australian standard on that topic (if one) must be complied with.
  
14. **Borrowing corporations** As at 1/7/96, this report may be able to be used by an entity required to comply with the Corporations Law as part of its half yearly financial statements if prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards. However, borrowing corporations must comply with Schedule 5 of the Corporations Regulations. See regulation 3.6.02(4).

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+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.

**Appendix 4B**  
**Half yearly/preliminary final report**

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**Attachment to APPENDIX 4B**  
**Half yearly/preliminary final report**

**Segments**

	Operating Revenue		Segment Assets		Earnings Before Tax	
	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Printing and Publishing	278,000	261,862	333,178	335,962	52,307	53,621
Broadcasting	25,419	25,594	60,045	59,846	6,568	6,283
Corporate	1,270	1,004	43,632	34,524	1,643	369
	<u>304,689</u>	<u>288,460</u>	<u>436,855</u>	<u>430,332</u>	<u>60,518</u>	<u>60,273</u>
Net interest	-	-	-	-	(7,267)	(7,553)
	<u>304,689</u>	<u>288,460</u>	<u>436,855</u>	<u>430,332</u>	<u>53,251</u>	<u>52,720</u>

The company and its controlled entities operate predominantly within Australasia.

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+ See chapter 19 for defined terms.