

25 February 2009

Manager of Company Announcements
ASX Limited
Level 5, 123 Eagle Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

**WBB Dividend Reinvestment Plan – Increase in Discount to Shares
issued under the Plan**

We enclose copies of two letters (Full Participants and Partial & Non Participants) being sent to shareholders of the Company today - in respect of Wide Bay Australia Ltd's Dividend Reinvestment Plan and an increase in the applicable discount for shares issued under the Plan.

Yours sincerely,



Bill Schafer
Company Secretary

Dear Shareholder

Despite difficult economic times and market turbulence, we are extremely pleased to report another profitable half-year for Wide Bay Australia Ltd.

A summary of our 2008/09 half-year results is contained in the attached announcement which has been released to the Australian Securities Exchange.

Our Half Year Report will be distributed in the near future to those shareholders who have opted to receive same. A copy will also be available on our website under Company Reports.

We are pleased to advise that we have declared an interim fully franked dividend for 2008/09 of \$0.30 cents per share - payable on 23 March 2009.

Your Directors have also resolved to increase the discount for shares issued under our Dividend Reinvestment Plan ('the Plan'). The discount will be increased from 2.5 per cent to 7.5 per cent and this discount will apply to this interim and future dividends until further notice.

As a Full Participant in the Plan you do not need to take any action in respect of the increased discount unless you wish to vary your level of participation.

However, should you wish to vary your participation in respect of this 2008/09 interim dividend, please do so at your earliest convenience as your advice must be received prior to the Record Date of 11 March 2009.

To vary your participation in the Plan visit our Share Registry's, Computershare Investor Service, website www.investorcentre.com - or you can write to Computershare at the address below.

Should you have queries in regard to the operation of the Plan please contact our Share Registry, Computershare Investor Services Call Centre on 1300 552 270 (domestic callers) +61 3 9415 4000 (overseas callers) or write to GPO Box 2975, Melbourne, VIC, 3001

Yours faithfully



Ron Hancock
Managing Director

**RELEASE TO THE AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES EXCHANGE LIMITED
23 February 2009**

Wide Bay Australia Ltd (WBB) reports strong six months

The Board of Directors of Wide Bay Australia Ltd (Wide Bay) are pleased to advise that although the last six months has provided a difficult economic environment, it has been a successful trading period for the Company.

The past six months have seen the culmination of the acquisition of Mackay Permanent Building Society Ltd (MPBS), the full integration of their operations and the implementation and extraction of the anticipated synergies.

The Company has experienced strong growth in profit for the period with an after tax profit of \$9.585 million – an increase of 16.5% compared to the corresponding period of 2007/2008.

The Cost to Income ratio increased to 58.1% for the period, as compared with 55.3%, affected to some extent by higher funding costs. Lending for the Half was down as expected at \$209 million compared to \$266 million for the previous corresponding period, resulting in a slight increase in the outstanding loan book. Lending demand continues to be steady and with the advent of lower interest rates and the introduction of the increased First Home Owners Grant, the Company expects a steady performance for the remainder of this financial year.

The bad and doubtful debt expense for the period shows a credit of \$40,887 as a result of adjustments to previous provisioning. This reflects strong lending activities, where the bulk of the loans are secured by residential mortgages and insured with lenders mortgage insurance.

Wide Bay does not actively participate in unsecured commercial loans or personal loans and has never been involved in 'sub-prime' or 'low-doc' lending.

The Company's wholly owned captive mortgage insurer has had a reduced result for the period with a higher provisioning for possible claims, delivering an after tax surplus for the six months of \$612,006. Provisioning for possible future claims are assessed quarterly by an external actuary based on the outstanding arrears in the loan book and reflects their estimate as at 31 December 2008. With the current economic situation it is expected that there will be a greater number of claims than in the past, however the Company continues to anticipate a strong result.

With the integration of MPBS, Wide Bay has carefully analysed the operations of the 45 branches throughout Queensland. In Cairns and Townsville, where we were unhappy with the locations of the branches, the Company is now in the process of repositioning them to stronger locations and in the case of Townsville, reducing the number of branches to two.

Wide Bay continues to maintain its "BBB-" credit rating with Standard and Poors.

While wholesale funding costs have increased substantially over recent periods, the Company has been able to maintain its margins and the management forecasts anticipate a further steady growth for 2008/2009.

In respect of funding, initiatives are in place with warehousing facilities, a repurchase facility has been established with the Reserve Bank of Australia and the Company has experienced steady growth in retail deposits.

The Rights Issue in December was well received and resulted in an issue of a further 1,265,996 shares. The Board has resolved to pay a 30 cent dividend on 23 March 2009, which will also be payable on the shares issued under the Rights Issue.

The Directors have also resolved to increase the discount for shares issued under the Company's Dividend Reinvestment Plan. The discount will be increased from 2.5 per cent to 7.5 per cent and will apply to future dividends until further notice.

2009 is clearly going to be a difficult year, where the focus will be on tight credit quality and containment of costs, particularly wholesale funding and with areas such as arrears. The recent reductions in the official interest rates enabled us to pass on the bulk of these reductions, which has and will continue to assist the management of any arrears, which develop through the current economic difficulties.

On behalf of the Board, we extend our appreciation to the Management team, to all of our staff, customers and shareholders for your continued support.



John Pressler OAM
Chairman



Ron Hancock AM
Managing Director

Phone 07 4150 4001 or Mobile 0408 781 154
Email rhancock@widebayaust.com.au

Dear Shareholder

Despite difficult economic times and market turbulence, we are extremely pleased to report another profitable half-year for Wide Bay Australia Ltd.

A summary of our 2008/09 half-year results is contained in the attached announcement which has been released to the Australian Securities Exchange.

Our Half Year Report will be distributed in the near future to those shareholders who have opted to receive same. A copy will also be available on our website under Company Reports.

We are pleased to advise that we have declared an interim fully franked dividend for 2008/09 of \$0.30 cents per share - payable on 23 March 2009.

Your Directors have also resolved to increase the discount for shares issued under our Dividend Reinvestment Plan ('the Plan'). The discount will be increased from 2.5 per cent to 7.5 per cent and this discount will apply to this interim and future dividends until further notice.

As a Partial or non-Participant in the Plan, you may now wish to take advantage of this increased discount and reconsider your level of participation in our Plan - a convenient way of increasing your shareholding in Wide Bay Australia Ltd.

You can increase your participation or choose to participate by completing the attached Application Form.

Shares issued under the Plan rank equally with existing shares. They are allotted free of brokerage and credits continue to be available in respect of franking. Participation is optional - you may join, modify your participation or leave the Plan at any time.

The actual discount amount is determined on the weighted average ex-dividend market price in the five trading days immediately following the Record Date (or if there has been no trading during this time at the average market price calculated on the last 5 sales). The Record Date is the date used to identify those shares traded and registered prior to ex-dividend.

Should you wish to participate in respect of this 2008/09 interim dividend, please do so at your earliest convenience as **applications received after the Record Date of 11 March 2009 will not qualify.**

Full Terms & Conditions of the Plan are available on our website www.widebayaust.com.au under Shareholder Information or by contacting our Share Registry – Computershare Investor Services.

Should you have queries in regard to the operation of the Plan please contact our Share Registry, Computershare Investor Services Call Centre on 1300 552 270 (domestic callers) +61 3 9415 4000 (overseas callers) or write to GPO Box 2975, Melbourne, VIC, 3001

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ron Hancock', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ron Hancock
Managing Director

RELEASE TO THE AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES EXCHANGE LIMITED
23 February 2009

Wide Bay Australia Ltd (WBB) reports strong six months

The Board of Directors of Wide Bay Australia Ltd (Wide Bay) are pleased to advise that although the last six months has provided a difficult economic environment, it has been a successful trading period for the Company.

The past six months have seen the culmination of the acquisition of Mackay Permanent Building Society Ltd (MPBS), the full integration of their operations and the implementation and extraction of the anticipated synergies.

The Company has experienced strong growth in profit for the period with an after tax profit of \$9.585 million – an increase of 16.5% compared to the corresponding period of 2007/2008.

The Cost to Income ratio increased to 58.1% for the period, as compared with 55.3%, affected to some extent by higher funding costs. Lending for the Half was down as expected at \$209 million compared to \$266 million for the previous corresponding period, resulting in a slight increase in the outstanding loan book. Lending demand continues to be steady and with the advent of lower interest rates and the introduction of the increased First Home Owners Grant, the Company expects a steady performance for the remainder of this financial year.

The bad and doubtful debt expense for the period shows a credit of \$40,887 as a result of adjustments to previous provisioning. This reflects strong lending activities, where the bulk of the loans are secured by residential mortgages and insured with lenders mortgage insurance.

Wide Bay does not actively participate in unsecured commercial loans or personal loans and has never been involved in 'sub-prime' or 'low-doc' lending.

The Company's wholly owned captive mortgage insurer has had a reduced result for the period with a higher provisioning for possible claims, delivering an after tax surplus for the six months of \$612,006. Provisioning for possible future claims are assessed quarterly by an external actuary based on the outstanding arrears in the loan book and reflects their estimate as at 31 December 2008. With the current economic situation it is expected that there will be a greater number of claims than in the past, however the Company continues to anticipate a strong result.

With the integration of MPBS, Wide Bay has carefully analysed the operations of the 45 branches throughout Queensland. In Cairns and Townsville, where we were unhappy with the locations of the branches, the Company is now in the process of repositioning them to stronger locations and in the case of Townsville, reducing the number of branches to two.

Wide Bay continues to maintain its "BBB-" credit rating with Standard and Poors.

While wholesale funding costs have increased substantially over recent periods, the Company has been able to maintain its margins and the management forecasts anticipate a further steady growth for 2008/2009.

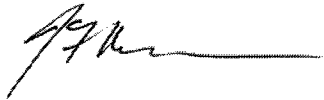
In respect of funding, initiatives are in place with warehousing facilities, a repurchase facility has been established with the Reserve Bank of Australia and the Company has experienced steady growth in retail deposits.

The Rights Issue in December was well received and resulted in an issue of a further 1,265,996 shares. The Board has resolved to pay a 30 cent dividend on 23 March 2009, which will also be payable on the shares issued under the Rights Issue.

The Directors have also resolved to increase the discount for shares issued under the Company's Dividend Reinvestment Plan. The discount will be increased from 2.5 per cent to 7.5 per cent and will apply to future dividends until further notice.

2009 is clearly going to be a difficult year, where the focus will be on tight credit quality and containment of costs, particularly wholesale funding and with areas such as arrears. The recent reductions in the official interest rates enabled us to pass on the bulk of these reductions, which has and will continue to assist the management of any arrears, which develop through the current economic difficulties.

On behalf of the Board, we extend our appreciation to the Management team, to all of our staff, customers and shareholders for your continued support.



John Pressler OAM
Chairman



Ron Hancock AM
Managing Director

Phone 07 4150 4001 or Mobile 0408 781 154
Email rhancock@widebayaust.com.au