



Media release

2 July 2008 (MR 08 – 23)

Perpetual appoints receiver to Elderslie

Perpetual Trustees WA Limited (PTWA), a fully owned subsidiary of Perpetual Limited (Perpetual), today appointed Mr Gregory Hall and Mr Philip Carter of PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) as receivers to Elderslie Finance Corporation Limited (EFC).

PTWA made the appointment in its capacity as trustee for secured debenture holders of EFC under charges it holds over the assets and undertakings of EFC and a number of its subsidiary companies.

EFC issued a prospectus dated 28 February 2008 following the introduction of the Australian Securities and Investment Commission's (ASIC) guidelines to improve disclosure to retail investors in the debenture market and to trustees working on behalf of debenture holders. Based on information in the prospectus, PTWA appointed PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) as investigative accountants in April 2008 to make an assessment of the company's financial position.

In late May, PwC produced a report which suggested EFC was or would become insolvent unless EFC received a cash injection to meet its short-term liquidity requirements. In the event EFC was insolvent, the report also concluded there could be a deficiency in assets over liabilities and, as a result, a significant shortfall in the security position of secured debenture holders in EFC.

Prior to appointing a receiver, PTWA sought to form a view on the merits of a number of sale proposals, which would facilitate an injection of capital into EFC. A sale has not eventuated and PTWA ultimately deemed that EFC would be unable to meet its obligations to debenture holders under the terms of the debenture trust deed.

Mr Chris Green, Perpetual's General Manager Trust & Fund Services, said PTWA's primary objective was to act in the best interests of the debenture holders in EFC.

"We explored a series of options with EFC before making the decision to appoint a receiver," he said. "Unfortunately, a sale involving a significant cash injection did not eventuate and we ultimately had no option but to take enforcement action to protect the assets available to debenture holders against any further erosion."

PwC and Perpetual will send letters to debenture holders providing further information on Elderslie. PwC's note will also be available at www.pwcrecovery.com under 'Businesses under management', refer Elderslie Group.

For further enquiries, debenture holders should contact PwC on 1300 788 510 or via email efcl@au.pwc.com from Thursday 3 July. Further information on EFC is also available on www.perpetual.com.au/debentureholders.htm.

For further information, please contact:

Susan Morey

Head of Corporate Affairs and Investor Relations
Phone 61 2 9229 3936
Mobile 61 409 746 385
Email susan.morey@perpetual.com.au

Tim Scott

Manager Corporate Affairs and Investor Relations
Phone 61 2 9229 9491
Mobile 61 429 169 447
Email tim.scott@perpetual.com.au