

## Media Release

9 August, 2019

### VCGLR probity investigation into Melco purchase of Crown

(Quotes attributable to Catherine Myers, CEO, VCGLR)

The Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR) was notified earlier this year that Consolidated Press Holdings Pty Limited has entered into a share sale agreement to sell down part of its shareholding (19.99 per cent) in Crown Resorts Limited to Melco Resorts and Entertainment Limited (Melco).

The VCGLR will shortly commence its detailed probity assessment and investigation of the suitability of Melco and its associates to become associates of the Victorian casino operator under Victorian legislation.

Under the (Victorian) *Casino Control Act 1991* (the Act), the Commission must be satisfied that the casino operator and its associates are suitable to conduct a casino business. In circumstances where a person is becoming an associate of the casino operator, the Commission must inquire into the change to determine whether it is satisfied that the person is a suitable person to be associated with the management of the casino (in this case, Melco Resorts and Entertainment Ltd and its associates) are persons of good repute, having regard to character, honesty and integrity and other matters. If it is not so satisfied, the Commission must take such actions as it considers appropriate.

There is no time limit set out in the Act for the Commission to undertake its inquiries.

In addition to its own probity investigation, the VCGLR will work closely with its counterparts in NSW and WA in relation to the purchase and suitability of Melco, and will assist where necessary, the NSW Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority as it conducts its own inquiry under the powers set out by NSW legislation.

The legislative requirements that govern gaming licensees, including casino operators, are independent between state government jurisdictions and as such may differ. The VCGLR's powers are set under the following Victorian legislations:

- *Gambling Regulation Act 2003*
- *Casino Control Act 1991*
- *Casino (Management Agreement) Act 1993*
- *Gambling Regulation (Pre-commitment and Loyalty Scheme) Regulations 2014*
- *Gambling Regulations 2015*
- *Gambling Regulation (Premium Customer) Regulations 2011*
- *Casino Control (Fees) Regulations 2015*

#### Additional information

If the VCGLR is not satisfied about the suitability of Melco and its associates, the VCGLR will take such actions as it considers appropriate. Please see section 28 of the Act.

Previous media release: [Consolidated Press Holdings Pty Ltd sale of Crown Resorts](#)

#### Media contact:

**Brooke Wilson – 0428 334 504**

**Manager, Strategic Communications**

**[www.vcglr.vic.gov.au](http://www.vcglr.vic.gov.au)**