

2.08 Reports by Independent Auditing Firm and Board of Statutory Auditors

2.08.01 Independent auditing firm



AUDITORS' REPORT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLES 14 AND 16 OF LEGISLATIVE DECREE N° 39 OF 27 JANUARY 2010

To the Shareholders of
HERA SpA

- 1 We have audited the consolidated financial statements of HERA SpA and its subsidiaries (jointly the "HERA Group") as of and for the year ended 31 December 2013 which comprise the statement of financial position, the income statement, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity, the statement of cash flows and the related explanatory notes. The directors of HERA SpA are responsible for the preparation of these consolidated financial statements in compliance with the International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union, as well as with the regulations issued to implement article 9 of Legislative Decree n° 38/2005. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.
- 2 We conducted our audit in accordance with the auditing standards and criteria recommended by Consob, the Italian Commission for listed Companies and the Stock Exchange. Those standards and criteria require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain the necessary assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement and, taken as a whole, are presented fairly. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the directors. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The consolidated financial statements present, for comparative purposes, the data of the prior year. As disclosed in the explanatory notes, the directors restated certain comparative amounts of the prior year's consolidated financial statements, which we audited and on which we reported on 8 April 2013. We have examined the restatement methods of the comparative information and the related disclosures for the purpose of our audit of the consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended 31 December 2013.

- 3 In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements of the HERA Group as of and for the year ended 31 December 2013 comply with the International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union, as well as with the regulations issued to implement article 9 of Legislative Decree n° 38/2005; accordingly, they have been prepared clearly and give a true and fair view of the financial position, the result of operations and the cash flows of the HERA Group for the period then ended.

PricewaterhouseCoopers SpA

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- 4 The directors of HERA SpA are responsible for the preparation of a report on operations in compliance with the applicable laws and regulations. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the consistency of the report on operations and of the specific section on corporate governance and ownership structure, solely with reference to the information referred to in paragraph 1, letters c), d), f), l), m), and paragraph 2, letter b), of article 123-bis of Legislative Decree n° 58/98, with the consolidated financial statements, as required by law. For this purpose, we have performed the procedures required under Italian Auditing Standard n° 001 issued by the Italian Accounting Profession (Consiglio Nazionale dei Dottori Commercialisti e degli Esperti Contabili) and recommended by Consob. In our opinion, the report on operations and the information referred to in paragraph 1, letters c), d), f), l), m) and paragraph 2, letter b), of article 123-bis of Legislative Decree n° 58/98 presented in the specific section of the aforementioned report are consistent with the consolidated financial statements of HERA SpA as of 31 December 2013.

Bologna, 8 April 2013

PricewaterhouseCoopers SpA

Signed by
Edoardo Orlandoni
(Partner)

This report has been translated from the original, which was issued in accordance with Italian legislation, solely for the convenience of international readers. We have not examined the translation of the financial statements referred to this report.