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www.kpmg.com.au

26 February 2025

#### **Circular to Creditors**

Dear Sir/Madam

#### Beston Global Food Company Limited (In Liquidation) ("BGFC") ACN 603 023 383 Beston Pure Dairies Pty Ltd (In Liquidation) ("BPD") ACN 606 417 994 (the Companies)

We refer to our Voluntary Administrators' Report to Creditors dated 13 February 2025 (the Report).

At the meeting of creditors held on Friday, 21 February 2025, creditors resolved that the Companies be wound up under Section 439C(c) of the Corporations Act 2001 and James Dampney, Gayle Dickerson, David Kidman and I were appointed Liquidators of the Companies.

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with information about the liquidation of the Companies and your rights as a creditor. In this regard, we enclose the following documents:

Annexure	Document	Description
А	Short Guide to the Creditors' Portal	Refer to section 7 of this letter
В	Information sheet - creditor rights in liquidation	Refer to section 8 of this letter

#### 1 Declaration of independence, relevant relationships and indemnities

A copy of our Declaration of Independence, Relevant Relationships and Indemnities (**DIRRI**) was provided to creditors with our first circular dated 23 September 2024 during the Voluntary Administration. There have been no changes to the information disclosed in that DIRRI since it was provided to creditors.

#### 2 Trading

At this stage, the Liquidators intend to continue the orderly wind down of the Companies and the realisation of the Companies' assets.

All instructions and authorities for purchasing in place during the Voluntary Administration will remain effective and in place until further notice.

If there are any outstanding or unfulfilled orders placed by the Companies during the Voluntary Administration period, including those under which there are goods in transit, please contact the KPMG team via email at beston@kpmg.com.au.

If you are currently a customer of the Companies and also a creditor, please note that any goods supplied to you after the date of our appointment must be paid for by you. You cannot set off an amount due to the Liquidators, for goods or services supplied after our appointment, against a pre-appointment account owed to you by the Companies.

#### 3 Property used but not owned by the Companies

We have written separately to known lease and hire purchase creditors regarding such assets. Please contact beston@kpmg.com.au if you have not received our letter.

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#### 4 Legal proceedings

The appointment of Liquidators stays a proceeding in a court against the Companies. You cannot commence or continue a proceeding against the Companies without the Liquidators' written consent or the leave of the Court.

#### 5 Employees

We have written separately to employees regarding our appointment.

#### 6 Investigations

The directors of the Companies have prepared a Report on Company Activities and Property (**ROCAP**) which sets out details of the respective company's business, property, affairs and financial circumstances as at the date of our appointment as Voluntary Administrators. A copy of the ROCAP has been lodged with the Australian Securities & Investments Commission (**ASIC**) and we commented on the ROCAP in the Report.

An investigation of the Companies' affairs has commenced. Creditors who have any information which would assist our investigation are requested to write to us setting out full particulars. Specifically, please provide details on the following issues:

- Any demands, writs, judgments or other legal action taken by you against the Companies.
- Copies of correspondence sent to and received from the Companies regarding unpaid accounts.
- Advice when trading first commenced with the Companies.

#### 7 Estimated outcome for creditors

You may be aware that creditors are entitled to claim for a dividend in the liquidation for debts owed by the Companies at the date of external administration.

At this stage, it is uncertain what dividend, if any, might be paid to the Companies creditors. Accordingly, we do not intend formally fixing a day on or before which creditors must submit particulars of their debts or claims. However, we are using an online platform to communicate with creditors and manage creditor claims (**the Creditors' Portal**).

Creditors may register and submit a formal proof of debt form electronically via the Creditors' Portal at the following link <u>https://creditors.accountants/</u>. Creditors can find further guidance on how to register, submit and manage a claim at **Annexure A**.

Creditors who have already lodged a Proof of Debt form electronically via the Creditors' Portal during the Voluntary Administration are **not required** to lodge another Proof of Debt.

#### 8 Creditor rights

Enclosed at **Annexure B** is an information sheet setting out your rights as a creditor in the liquidation of the Companies, including:

- Making reasonable requests for a meeting or information
- Giving directions to the Liquidator
- Appointing a reviewing Liquidator or replacing the Liquidator

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#### 9 Liquidators' remuneration and fee estimate

In accordance with the Initial Remuneration Notice (**IRN**) provided to creditors during the Voluntary Administration, the Liquidators' remuneration will also be fixed on the basis of time spent by the Liquidators and the Liquidators' staff of an appropriate level having regard to the nature and complexity of the work, and calculated by reference to the hourly rates set out in that IRN.

We estimate fees for the liquidation of the respective companies' affairs at \$25,000 for Beston Global Food Company Limited and \$480,000 for Beston Pure Dairies Pty Ltd, plus applicable GST, for the period from 21 February 2025 to 30 June 2025. Full details of the calculation and composition of the Liquidators' estimated remuneration was provided in our Remuneration Approval Request dated 13 February 2025. Our estimated remuneration for the liquidation for each of the Companies was approved by creditors at the concurrent meeting of creditors held on 21 February 2025.

It should be noted that if, during the liquidation, any unanticipated issues arise, it may be necessary to revisit the fee estimate. If we become aware that our costs will exceed this amount we will advise creditors accordingly.

An information sheet concerning approval of remuneration in external administrations can be obtained from ASIC at www.asic.gov.au.

#### 10 Next steps

Our next steps in relation to the liquidation were discussed in the Report and broadly include the following immediate tasks:

- The completion of the orderly wind down of the Companies;
- Realising the remaining assets of the Companies;
- Attending to the payment of a dividend to priority employee creditors of BPD by 30 June 2025, if not earlier;
- Continuing our investigations into the affairs of the Companies; and
- Reporting to ASIC.

We will write to you within 3 months from the date of our appointment to provide an update on our investigations and provide a general update on the liquidation.

#### 11 Further information

For further information concerning the liquidation process and KPMG, you may wish to visit our website at www.kpmg.com.au. In addition, you can access general information about external administrations and insolvency from ARITA's website at www.arita.com.au.

Questions regarding the liquidation should be directed to beston@kpmg.com.au.

Yours faithfully Beston Global Food Company Limited Beston Pure Dairies Pty Ltd

**TD Mableson** Joint and Several Liquidator

#### Annexure A

#### Beston Global Food Company Limited (In Liquidation) ACN 603 023 383 Beston Pure Dairies Pty Ltd (In Liquidation) ACN 606 417 994 (the Companies)

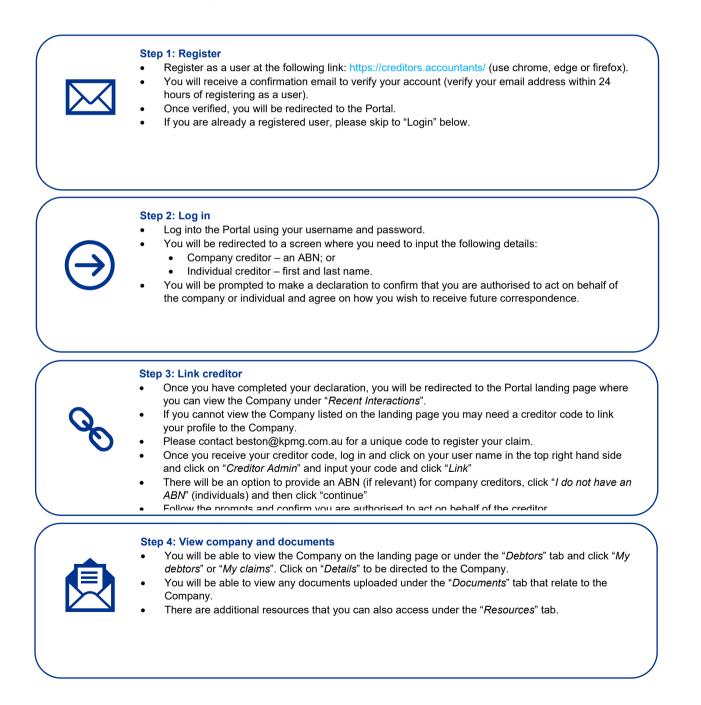
#### Short guide to the Creditors' Portal

We are using the Creditors' Portal as the primary tool for communicating with creditors and managing claims.

We have prepared this short guide to assist you as a creditor to understand the process that you must undertake to ensure you are appropriately registered as a creditor of the Companies.

Please note, the email registered on the Creditors' Portal will receive all notifications including circulars and reports issued by the Liquidators.

Please refer to the following link for further guidance on how to register, submit and manage a claim: https://creditors.accountants/Help



#### Step 5: Submit a Formal Proof of Debt Form (POD)

- You will be able to view the Company on the landing page or under the "*Debtors*" tab and click "*My debtors*" or "*My claims*". Click on "*Details*" to be directed to the Company.
- Click on the "Proof of Debt" tab.
- Click on the "Submit" button and start completing the POD form.
  - Tick "*No*" to the question "*Is your proof of debt informal*". If you are an employee creditor, this will not be an option.
- Upload any supporting documentation for consideration.
- Press "Next" and "Submit".

Annexure B

# **Creditor Rights in Liquidations**

As a creditor, you have rights to request meetings and information or take certain actions:



# Right to request a meeting

In liquidations, no meetings of creditors are held automatically. However, creditors with claims of a certain value can request in writing that the liquidator hold a meeting of creditors.

A meeting may be requested in the first 20 business days in a creditors' voluntary liquidation by  $\ge 5\%$  of the value of the debts held by known creditors who are not a related entity of the company.

Otherwise, meetings can be requested at any other time or in a court liquidation by:

- > 10% but < 25% of the known value of creditors on the condition that those creditors provide security for the cost of holding the meeting
- ≥ 25% of the known value of creditors
- creditors by resolution, or
- a Committee of Inspection (this is a smaller group of creditors elected by, and to represent, all the creditors).

If a request complies with these requirements and is 'reasonable', the liquidator must hold a meeting of creditors as soon as reasonably practicable.

## **Right to request information**

Liquidators will communicate important information with creditors as required in a liquidation. In addition to the initial notice, you should receive, at a minimum, a report within the first three months on the likelihood of a dividend being paid.

Additionally, creditors have the right to request information at any time. A liquidator must provide a creditor with the requested information if their request is 'reasonable', the information is relevant to the liquidation, and the provision of the information would not cause the liquidator to breach their duties.

A liquidator must provide this information to a creditor within 5 business days of receiving the request, unless a longer period is agreed. If, due to the nature of the information requested, the liquidator requires more time to comply with the request, they can extend the period by notifying the creditor in writing.

#### Requests must be reasonable. They are not reasonable if:

Both meetings and information:

- (a) complying with the request would prejudice the interests of one or more creditors or a third party
- (b) there is not sufficient available property to comply with the request
- (c) the request is vexatious

Meeting requests only:

(d) a meeting of creditors dealing with the same matters has been held, or will be held within 15 business days

Information requests only:

- the information requested would be privileged from production in legal proceedings
- (f) disclosure would found an action for breach of confidence
- (g) the information has already been provided
- (h) the information is required to be provided under law within 20 business days of the request

If a request is not reasonable due to (b), (d), (g) or (h) above, the liquidator must comply with the request if the creditor meets the cost of complying with the request.

Otherwise, a liquidator must inform a creditor if their meeting or information request is not reasonable and the reason why.

# Right to give directions to liquidator

Creditors, by resolution, may give a liquidator directions in relation to a liquidation. A liquidator must have regard to these directions, but is not required to comply with the directions.

If a liquidator chooses not to comply with a direction given by a resolution of the creditors, they must document their reasons.

An individual creditor cannot provide a direction to a liquidator.

### Right to appoint a reviewing liquidator

Creditors, by resolution, may appoint a reviewing liquidator to review a liquidator's remuneration or a cost or expense incurred in a liquidation. The review is limited to:

- remuneration approved within the six months prior to the appointment of the reviewing liquidator, and
- expenses incurred in the 12 months prior to the appointment of the reviewing liquidator.

The cost of the reviewing liquidator is paid from the assets of the liquidation, in priority to creditor claims.

An individual creditor can appoint a reviewing liquidator with the liquidator's consent, however the cost of this reviewing liquidator must be met personally by the creditor making the appointment.

### **Right to replace liquidator**

Creditors, by resolution, have the right to remove a liquidator and appoint another registered liquidator.

For this to happen, there are certain requirements that must be complied with:

