
TECHNICAL

Direct Taxation

TAX INCENTIVE FOR EAST COAST ECONOMIC REGION (ECER) – STAMP DUTY EXEMPTION ON TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY / LEASE OF LAND OR BUILDING

[Stamp Duty \(Exemption\) \(No. 2\) Order 2016 \[P.U. \(A\) 164/2016\]](#)

The above Order was gazetted on 13 June 2016. It is deemed to have come into operation on 13 June 2008.

The salient points in the Order are summarized below:

Definition (Paragraph 2)

The meaning of the following word is found in paragraph 2:

Word	Meaning
Qualifying activity (QA)	A QA is an activity as set out in column (3) of the Schedule in relation to the sector as set out in column (2) which – (a) is carried on in the East coast Economic Region* (ECER); and (b) is approved by the Minister * ECER has the same meaning assigned to it in the ECER Development Council Act 2008.

Exemption (paragraph 3)

Any instrument chargeable with ad valorem duty for transfer of the real property or lease of land or building, used for the purposes of carrying on a QA is exempted from stamp duty (SD).

To qualify for the exemption –

- the instrument must be executed on or after 13 June 2008 but not later than 31 December 2020;
- the person who is liable to pay SD pursuant to S33 of the Stamp Act 1949 must produce a letter from the ECER Development Council confirming that the instrument in respect of which exemption is granted, is for the purpose of carrying on a QA.

The [Schedule](#) in this Order lists the sectors and the qualifying activities (related to each respective sector) which are referred to in subparagraph 3(1) under this Order.

Members may read the Order in full at the official website of the [Attorney-General's Chambers](#).

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