



Our ref: AA1000427
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9/11/2018

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Peta Rutherford
CEO
Rural Doctors Association of Australia

By email: ceo@rdaa.com.au

Dear Ms Rutherford

Rural Doctors Association of Australia Limited (RDAA) application for re-authorisation AA1000427—draft determination & interim authorisation

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for re-authorisation lodged by the RDAA on 31 July 2018.

Draft determination

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination and summary of its reasons is attached.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant re-authorisation for five years. However, in light of the fact that collective bargaining under RDAA's current authorisation appears to have been operating well and no interested parties have raised concerns about the proposed new aspects of the authorisation, the ACCC also invites submissions on whether it would be appropriate to grant re-authorisation for a longer period of 10 years.

The ACCC has also decided to grant interim authorisation to enable the existing negotiations with the various state-wide entities to continue while the ACCC is considering the substantive application.

Next steps

Once the ACCC issues a draft determination, the Applicant or any interested party may make a written submission and/or request that the ACCC convene a 'pre-decision conference'.

If you wish to make a submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination, please lodge your submission by **30 November 2018**.

A pre-decision conference provides the opportunity for interested parties to make oral submissions in relation to the draft determination. Conferences are conducted informally and while legal or professional advisers are able to attend they are not entitled to participate in the discussion.

If you wish the ACCC to hold a pre-decision conference in relation to the draft determination you must notify the ACCC in writing by **23 November 2018**.

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made should a pre-decision conference be called, and will then release a final determination in relation to these applications.

Submissions will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion. Please see the ACCC's publication [Guidelines for excluding information from the public register](#).

Timetable

The ACCC will continue to progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An updated indicative timetable is set out below for your information.

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
31 July 2018	Lodgement of application
10 August 2018	Public consultation process begins.
31 August 2018	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
September 2018	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process.
9 November 2018	Draft determination and interim authorisation granted.
December 2018	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
December 2018	Final Determination

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter please do not hesitate to contact Luke Griffin on 02 6243 1114.

Yours sincerely



Gavin Jones
Director
Adjudication