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20/09/2019 www.accc.gov.au

Philippa Kelly CEO Large Format Retail Association

Contact officer: Kaitlin Hanrahan

Contact phone: 03 9290 1917

AA1000450

By email: pkelly@lfra.com.au

Dear Ms Kelly

Our ref:

The Large Format Retail Association (LFRA) - application for authorisation AA1000450 —draft determination & interim authorisation

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by the LFRA on 6 August 2019.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant authorisation for 11 years.

The ACCC has also decided to grant interim authorisation for the LFRA and its members to engage in the initial stages of the Proposed Conduct.

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination and summary of its reasons for granting interim authorisation is attached and also available on the ACCC's public register.

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 **11 October 2019**.

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 **4 October 2019**.

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 <u>Guidelines for excluding information from the public register</u>.

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
6 August 2019	Lodgement of application
13 August 2019	Public consultation process begins.
3 September 2019	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
20 September 2019	Draft determination and interim authorisation granted.
October 2019	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
November 2019	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 Kaitlin Hanrahan on 03 9290 1917.

Yours sincerely

David Hatfield Director

Adjudication Branch

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