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Dear Madam or Sir

Melbourne Renewable Energy Project 2 – application for authorisation AA1000455 – draft determination & interim authorisation

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has today issued a draft determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by RMIT and others on 24 October 2019.

Authorisation is sought for a proposed joint energy purchasing group to pool their demand and collectively tender for an electricity supply agreement.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant authorisation for 15 years.

The ACCC has also decided to grant interim authorisation to enable the group to conduct the joint tender, but not enter into contracts, while the ACCC is considering the substantive application.

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 [authorisations 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'.

Making a submission

If you wish to make a submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination, please lodge your submission by 5 December 2019. Submissions should be emailed to adjudication@acc.gov.au with the subject "AA1000455 – Melbourne Renewable Energy Project 2 – submission". If you prefer to make an oral submission, please contact Tanya Hobbs via the details at the end of this letter.

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made at a pre-decision conference (should one be called - see below), and will then release a final determination in relation to this application.

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](#).

Optional pre-decision conference

In some cases the applicant or an interested party requests that the ACCC convene a pre-decision conference in relation to its draft determination. If a conference is called it will be open to the applicant and interested parties to attend and 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 5 December 2019 by email to adjudication@acc.gov.au.

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
24 October 2019	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
28 October 2019	Public consultation process begins.
21 November 2019	Interim Authorisation and Draft Determination decision.
November/December 2019	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
December 2019/ January 2020	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 Tanya Hobbs on 02 6243 1029.

Yours sincerely



Gavin Jones
Director
Adjudication