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www.acc.gov.au

By email

Dear Interested Party

City of Greater Geelong - application for authorisation AA1000649 – 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 City of Greater Geelong, on behalf of itself and Surf Coast Shire Council, Golden Plains Shire Council, Borough of Queenscliffe, Wyndham City Council and Colac Otway Shire (together, the **Participating Councils**) on 1 September 2023.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant authorisation for 7 years.

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination is attached and also available on the ACCC's [authorisations public register](#).

Interim authorisation

The ACCC has also granted interim authorisation to enable the Participating Councils to undertake the procurement processes (but not to give effect to any contracts).

Interim authorisation protects the arrangements for which authorisation is sought from legal action under the relevant provisions of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* while the ACCC considers the substantive application. Interim authorisation remains in place until it is revoked or on the date the ACCC's final determination enters into effect.

Next steps

Once the ACCC issues a draft determination, the Participating Councils 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 do so by **30 November 2023**. Submissions should be lodged via the web form accessible on the public register page for this matter. Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Naomi Lizak 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 **30 November 2023** by email to exemptions@acc.gov.au.

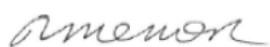
Timetable

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
1 September 2023	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
16 November 2023	ACCC decision regarding interim authorisation and draft determination.
30 November 2023	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
14 December 2023	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process.
January 2024	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 Naomi Lizak on (03) 9290 1493.

Yours sincerely



Naomi Menon
Director
Competition Exemptions