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Our ref: AA1000613 Contact officer: Connie Wu Contact phone: (08) 9325 0637

25 August 2022

By email

Dear Interested Party

Australian Bedding Stewardship Council application for authorisation AA1000613 – draft determination

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by the Australian Bedding Stewardship Council (**ABSC**) on 26 May 2022.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant conditional authorisation to enable the ABSC, its members and participants in the 'Recycle My Mattress' Product Stewardship Scheme to establish and operate the Scheme for 5 years. The proposed conditions of authorisation relate to annual reporting and independent review of the Scheme's operation against its objectives and targets.

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination is attached and also available on the ACCC's <u>authorisations public register.</u>

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 **15 September 2022**. Submissions should be emailed to exemptions@accc.gov.au with the subject "AA1000613 – Australian Bedding Stewardship Council – submission". If you prefer to make an oral submission, please contact Connie Wu 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 <u>Guidelines for excluding information from the public register</u>.

Optional pre-decision conference

In some cases the applicant or an interested party requests that the ACCC convene a predecision 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 **15 September 2022** by email to exemptions@accc.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
26 May 2022	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
31 May 2022	Public consultation process begins.
18 June 2022	Closing date for submissions on application.
July-August 2022	Applicant responds to issues raised in public consultation process and ACCC questions.
25 August 2022	Draft determination.
15 September 2022	Submissions due on draft determination including any request for conference if called.
September/October 2022	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 Connie Wu on (08) 9325 0637.

Yours sincerely

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David Hatfield

Competition Exemptions