
From: Deane Russell [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 8 April 2024 11:05 AM
To: Supermarkets
Cc: Phillippa Russell
Subject: Late submission into ACCC supermarket inquiry

Good morning. I am a Director of the Belconnen Way Hotel in Hawker Canberra. I wish to make a late submission request.

We have owned and operated this family hotel for 52 years. It is solely owned by Mrs Yula Russell, now 97 years old, who purchased the land and built the building and has been hands on since then. She continues to be involved every day in its operation with the local community, sporting clubs and tourism industry. All our employees are long term local residents.

Woolworths propose to purchase ACT Government owned public road and car park to build a large new supermarket which entails a massive wall for a new loading dock which will block off our hotel to the adjacent Hawker shopping centre.

This will have a major negative impact on our turnover, we estimate at 30%, and prevent the ability of our guest directly accessing the shopping centre.

There has only been one consultation meeting at which they were seeking our permission to permanently close one of access driveways to a public road, which they seek to purchase.

Our point is that we have little or no influence on their market domination for the shopping centre.

It appears there has been a major dialogue with the ACT Government, in which we have not been involved despite their position completely dominating our business operations which will severely affect our guests' access to the shopping centre.

If you require further information please contact me

I am including our other Director/lawyer into this email.

Deane Russell
Director
Belconnen Way Hotel
[REDACTED]