

16 January 2007

Mr John Laughlin Transport & Prices Oversight Branch Australian Competition and Consumer Commission GPO Box 520 Melbourne VIC 3001

By e-mail: john.laughlin@accc.gov.au

Dear Mr Laughlin

COPYRIGHT LICENSING AND COLLECTING SOCIETIES: A GUIDE FOR LICENSEES

I write in response to Margaret Arblaster's letter of 13 December 2006, addressed to Dennis Winchester of the Hotel Motel and Accommodation Association (HMAA), regarding the ACCC's draft guide providing general information to users of copyright material on their rights and obligations under the *Copyright Act 1968*.

Mr Winchester is no longer with HMAA and I provide this response on behalf of HMAA's national membership. This membership incorporates a range of accommodation establishments including 5, 4 and 3 star hotels, resorts, motels, motor inns, serviced and holiday apartments, bed and breakfasts, guesthouses, backpackers and time share establishments in cities, metropolitan, regional and rural Australia. Licensing for the public performance of music is of interest to a proportion of this membership.

HMAA has taken the opportunity to view the draft guide and found it to be useful, informative, and relatively easy to follow. As such, we believe that it will be a useful tool in achieving greater understanding (especially amongst small business proprietors) of the somewhat complex copyright licensing system. Additionally, HMAA strongly supports the proposed production of a summary version of the guide.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information regarding HMAA's position.

Yours sincerely

Peter Olah

National Affairs Manager

Hotel Motel & Accommodation Association