

**Gosain, Seema**


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**From:** Greiss, Rami  
**Sent:** Friday, 27 September 2013 2:05 PM  
**To:** 'Ridgeway, Stephen (AU)'  
**Cc:** Jones, David; Buik, Jessica  
**Subject:** RE: Verve and Synergy [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Thanks for the clarification Stephen, the ACCC will be writing to you shortly.  
Regards  
Rami

**Rami Greiss**  
General Manager | Merger Investigations Branch  
**Australian Competition & Consumer Commission**  
3 Marcus Clarke Street Canberra 2601  
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**From:** Ridgeway, Stephen (AU) [<mailto:Stephen.Ridgeway@au.kwm.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, 27 September 2013 12:51 PM  
**To:** Greiss, Rami  
**Cc:** Jones, David; Buik, Jessica  
**Subject:** RE: Verve and Synergy [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Confidential communication

Dear Rami

Thank you for your email. We look forward to the ACCC's letter outlining its position.

As advised in our recent telephone conversation, the development of the legislation which will provide for the cessation of Synergy as a statutory corporation and the vesting of its retail functions in Verve is in its final stages. At this stage, it is expected that the legislation will be tabled in Parliament in October.

With regard to the media report referred to in your email, my instructions are that the Minister was merely presenting thoughts on possible future developments and objectives and that these comments did not represent any announcement of decided government policy.

Kind regards

**Stephen Ridgeway | Partner**  
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**From:** Greiss, Rami [<mailto:Rami.Greiss@acc.gov.au>]  
**Sent:** Monday, 23 September 2013 2:11 PM

**To:** Ridgeway, Stephen (AU)  
**Cc:** Jones, David; Buik, Jessica  
**Subject:** Verve and Synergy [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear Stephen,


Further to your recent discussions with Rami Greiss, I confirm the ACCC will shortly be writing to the Government of Western Australia outlining its position in relation to the proposal to merge Verve and Synergy.

I note that on the weekend it was reported that the Minister, Dr Mike Nahan, "announced the utilities, Verve and Synergy, would merge and then split into separate entities before being sold off in five years time"  
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2013-09-23/cci-wants-clarity-on-electricity-privatisation-plans/4974358?section=wa>.  
The ACCC would like to better understand the Government's proposed course prior to finalising and sending its letter. Can you please provide further detail as to the Government's current position, how it differs from the position as at the time of our meeting in Sydney, and your submission as to any consequences for competition from this change in position.

Kind regards

**Rami Greiss**  
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