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By email

Dear Madam or Sir

Muswellbrook & Upper Hunter Shire Councils application for authorisation A91598— final determination

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by Muswellbrook & Upper Hunter Shire Councils (the Councils) on 25 August 2017.

The Councils sought authorisation to enter into and give effect to an agreement to jointly invite tenders for the provision of a range of waste collection and processing services.

A copy of the ACCC's determination is attached, including a summary of its reasons. For the reasons set out in its determination, the ACCC has decided to grant authorisation until 28 December 2033.

Application for review

Pursuant to section 101 of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010*, a person dissatisfied with this determination may apply to the Australian Competition Tribunal for its review. An application for review must be made within 21 days of the date of this determination; that is, on or before 27 December 2017. If no application to review is lodged by this date, the ACCC's determination will come into force on 28 December 2017.

An application for review of the ACCC's determination should be lodged directly with the Australian Competition Tribunal. The Australian Competition Tribunal is a separate body from the ACCC and is located within the Federal Court of Australia.

For further information about the process involved in reviewing decisions in the Australian Competition Tribunal please refer to the tribunal's website located at <http://www.competitiontribunal.gov.au/>.

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 Hannah Ransom on (02) 6243 1255.

Yours sincerely

David Hatfield
Director
Adjudication