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Our ref: 62953

Your reference: 217/15313/80182261

Contact officer: Simon Bell Contact phone: (02) 6243 1232

21 December 2017

Ms Linda Evans Partner Clayton Utz Level 15, 1 Bligh Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

By email: levans@claytonutz.com CC: pburton@claytonutz.com

Dear Ms Evans

## Western Australian and Northern Territory LNG Producers applications for authorisation AA1000396—Draft determination

The ACCC has issued a draft determination in respect of the applications for authorisation lodged on 12 September 2017.

## **Draft determination**

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination and summary of its reasons is attached.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant authorisation for five years.

## **Next steps**

Once the ACCC issues a draft determination, the Applicants or any interested party may make a written submission and/or request that the ACCC convene a 'pre-decision conference'.

If the Applicants wish to make a submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination, their submission should be lodged by close of business **19 January 2018.** 

A pre-decision conference provides the opportunity for the Applicants or interested parties to 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 the Applicants wish the ACCC to hold a pre-decision conference in relation to the draft determination, they must notify the ACCC in writing by close of business **19 January 2018**.

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made should a pre-decision conference be called, and will then release a final determination in relation to these applications.

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>.

## **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
12 September 2017	Lodgement of applications and supporting submission.
10 October 2017	Public consultation on the application begins.
21 December 2017	Draft determination.
January/February 2018	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
February/March 2018	Final determination.

This letter will be placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter please do not hesitate to contact Simon Bell on (02) 6243 1232.

Yours sincerely

Darrell Channing Director

Adjudication Branch

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