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16/05/2018.

To Whom it May Concern,

I write in support of the Homeworker Code Committee's application {AA1000418}.

The Ark Clothing Co. Pty. Ltd. has been accredited with Ethical Clothing Australia (ECA) since 2012.

We value this accreditation program because it ensures our local accredited manufacturers provide the same level of employment conditions to their employees as we do at The Ark. This is in line with a minimum salary expectation and entitlements enjoyed by our own employees.

It is important that we have independent, third-party accreditation that allows us to demonstrate our compliance with the relevant workplace laws in Australia. We value our employees and the support that is provided through the accreditation program. Further, this program allows us to demonstrate that our products are Australian made.

The Ark has been operating for over twenty years and throughout this entire time, have been manufacturing 100% of the brand in Australia. Local manufacturing is a very important part of our beliefs and who we are, equally shared by our employees and customers, excited by the knowledge that we are playing our part in keeping jobs in Australia. We employ over 80 people directly and provide employment opportunity, through our local manufacturers, for many, many more and the ability to manufacture locally is central to our business model.

We have great comfort in knowing the ECA are providing the framework and follow-up to ensure the accredited makers with whom we choose to work, are all providing fair work conditions for their employees, as set out in workplace law in this country.

Please do not hesitate in contacting me for more information.

Yours sincerely, David McPherson. Director, The Ark Clothing Co.