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File Ref: EDOC2018/246667

Mr Gavin Jones
Director of Adjudication Branch
Australian Competition & Consumer Competition
GPO Box 3131
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Jones

Re: Rural Doctors Association of Australia Limited (RDAA) application for re-authorisation AA1000427 – interested partly consultation on draft determination & interim authorisation

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the ACCC's draft determination which enables the RDAA to collectively negotiate on behalf of General Practitioners and Generalists Visiting Medical Officers (VMOs) in rural areas.

The Department of Health (DOH) has a very limited number of General Practitioners providing visiting medical services in rural areas and DOH negotiate their terms and conditions of employment with them. The DOH negotiates with the Australian Salaried Medical Officers' Federation the terms and conditions of employment of Medical Officers who are covered by the current Medical Officers NT Public Sector Enterprise Agreement.

The DOH employs some specialists on VMO contracts however their employment arrangements are undertaken without RDAA participation. As the RDAA in their submission to the ACCC is not intending to negotiate on behalf of medical specialists there would be no need to enter into any collective bargaining arrangements that the RDAA may wish to pursue under the terms of their submission to the ACCC.

The DOH has no issue with granting re-authorisation of the abovementioned determination for a longer period of 10 years.

If you have any further enquiries relating to this matter, please contact Ms Vicki Skopellos on 08 89 227010 or on email vasilia.skopellos@nt.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Dr Maggie Jamieson

5 Dec 2018