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Dear Sir/Madam

Central Highlands Regional Council and Isaac Regional Council application for authorisation AA1000430—interested party consultation

On 28 September 2018, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) received an application for authorisation from Central Highlands Regional Council and Isaac Regional Council (the **Applicants**). The purpose of this letter is to invite you, as a potentially interested party, to comment on the application.

The Applicants are seeking authorisation¹ under the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (the **Act**). Authorisation would allow the Applicants to jointly procure waste collection services for domestic and commercial waste and recyclables (kerbside and bulk bin); public waste and recyclables; and waste located at Council facilities. They are seeking authorisation for a period of ten years.

A full copy of the application for authorisation, including some further clarification of the proposed conduct by the Applicants, is available on the ACCC's [authorisations public register](#).

Interim authorisation

The Applicants have requested interim authorisation to begin preparations for the collective tender process for waste collection services, including preparing and advertising tender documentation, evaluating responses, and negotiating and communicating with prospective bidders.

Request for submissions

The ACCC invites you to make a submission on the likely public benefits and effect on competition, or any other public detriment, you consider are likely to result from the conduct for which authorisation and interim authorisation is sought.

If you intend to provide a submission in relation to Central Highlands and Isaac Regional Councils' application for authorisation, please do so by 31 October 2018. The ACCC must take into account any submissions received by this date. Submissions received after this date may, but need not, be taken into account.

Written submissions should be emailed to adjudication@acc.gov.au with the subject 'AA1000430 – Central Highlands Regional Council and Isaac Regional Council – submission'.

¹ For information about Authorisations, please see <https://www.acc.gov.au/business/exemptions/authorisation>

Submissions, including particulars of oral submissions, will be placed on the ACCC's [authorisations public register](#) subject to any request for exclusion. Please see the ACCC's publication [Guidelines for Excluding Information from the Public Register](#).

Timetable

The ACCC will progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An indicative timetable is set out below for your information

28 September 2018	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
16 October 2018	Public consultation process begins.
October 2018	ACCC decision regarding interim authorisation.
31 October 2018	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
November 2018	Applicants respond to issues raised in the public consultation process.
November 2018	Draft determination. Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
December 2018 or January/February 2019	Final determination.

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 Sophie Mitchell on (03) 9290 1822 or adjudication@acc.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Michael Drake
Director
Adjudication

Interested Party List

Remondis Australia Pty Ltd

Cleanaway Waste Management Limited

JJ Richards & Sons Pty Ltd

Suez Resource Recovery

Toxfree

Veolia Australia & New Zealand

Waste Recycling Industry Queensland

Waste Management Association of Australia

Department of Environment and Science