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Our ref: AA1000446
Contact officer: Louisa Wilson
Contact phone: 03 9290 1474

28/08/2019

Interested Party

By email

Dear Sir/Madam

Business Events Sydney Ltd – application for authorisation AA1000446 – draft determination

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by Business Events Sydney Ltd on 1 July 2019.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant authorisation for 20 years to enable Business Events Sydney Ltd, to give effect to a common set of minimum terms that would be offered to event organisers and delegates of international events where the events have more than 2000 delegates and are expected to use ten or more of the members' hotels for accommodation. The minimum terms comprise room release and cancellation policies, free room concessions, force majeure policies, lowest rate guarantees, and quote validity policies.

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination and summary of its reasons is attached and also available on the ACCC's [authorisations public register](#).

Next steps

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

Making a submission

If you wish to make a submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination, please lodge your submission by **12 September 2019**. Submissions should be emailed to adjudication@acc.gov.au with the subject "AA1000446 – Business Events Sydney Ltd – submission". If you prefer to make an oral submission, please contact Louisa Wilson via the details at the end of this letter.

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made should a pre-decision conference be called (see below), and will then release a final determination in relation to this application.

Submissions will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion. Please see the ACCC's publication [Guidelines for excluding information from the public register](#).

Optional pre-decision conference

In some cases the applicant or an interested party requests that the ACCC convene a pre-decision conference in relation to the draft determination. If a conference is called in this matter it will be open to the applicant and interested parties to attend and 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 you wish the ACCC to hold a pre-decision conference in relation to the draft determination you must notify the ACCC in writing by **12 September 2019**.

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
1 July 2019	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
8 July 2019	Public consultation process begins.
28 August 2019	Draft determination issued
12 September 2019	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
September 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 Louisa Wilson on 03 9290 1474.

Yours sincerely



Susie Black
Director (A/g)
Adjudication Branch