



Our ref: AA1000450  
Contact officer: Kaitlin Hanrahan  
Contact phone: 03 9290 1917

23 Marcus Clarke Street  
Canberra ACT 2601  
GPO Box 3131  
Canberra ACT 2601  
tel: (02) 6243 1111  
[adjudication@accc.gov.au](mailto:adjudication@accc.gov.au)  
[www.accc.gov.au](http://www.accc.gov.au)

20/09/2019

Dear Madam/Sir

### **The Large Format Retail Association (LFRA) - application for authorisation AA1000450 —draft determination & interim authorisation**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by the LFRA on 6 August 2019.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant authorisation for 11 years.

The LFRA is seeking authorisation (including interim authorisation) to enable the Participating Members to collectively invite tenders from, negotiate with, and engage in joint operation and administration activities and decisions involving, electricity suppliers, on the basis of their aggregated electricity demand (the Proposed Conduct).

The ACCC has also decided to grant interim authorisation for the LFRA and its members to engage in the initial stages of the Proposed Conduct.

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination and summary of its reasons for granting interim authorisation is attached and also available on the ACCC's [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 **11 October 2019**. Submissions should be emailed to [adjudication@accc.gov.au](mailto:adjudication@accc.gov.au) with the subject "AA1000450 – LFRA – submission". If you prefer to make an oral submission, please contact Kaitlin Hanrahan 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 **4 October 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
<b>6 August 2019</b>	Lodgement of application
<b>13 August 2019</b>	Public consultation process begins.
<b>3 September 2019</b>	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
<b>20 September 2019</b>	Draft determination and interim authorisation granted.
<b>October 2019</b>	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
<b>November 2019</b>	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 Kaitlin Hanrahan on 03 9290 1917.

Yours sincerely



David Hatfield  
Director  
Adjudication