

21 January 2020

Attention: Louisa Wilson The ACCC 23 Marcus Clarke St Canberra ACT 2601

By email: adjudication@accc.gov.au

Australian Engineered Stone Advisory Group's (AESAG) application for authorisation AA100461 – interested party consultation

We refer to your letter of 5 December 2019 regarding the AESAG's application for authorisation.

The Insurance Council of Australia¹ (ICA) is the representative body for the general insurance industry in Australia. Our members provide a range of insurance products including public liability insurance. ICA members also act as underwriters and agents in a multiple workers compensation schemes in Australia.

In relation to the AESAG application, the ICA is not in a position to provide any comment on the effect the proposed arrangements will have on competition.

The ICA supports action taken by industry to reduce work health and safety risks and hazards. To this extent the ICA has no objection to the proposals for which the AESAG is seeking ACCC approval.

If you have any queries or if there is anything the ICA can provide further assistance on please contact Tom Lunn, Senior Policy Manager via email tlunn@insurancecouncil.com.au, or phone (02) 9253 5122.

Yours sincerely



Robert Whelan Executive Director & CEO

¹ The Insurance Council of Australia is the representative body of the general insurance industry in Australia. Our members represent approximately 95 percent of total premium income written by private sector general insurers. Insurance Council members, both insurers and reinsurers, are a significant part of the financial services system. September 2019 Australian Prudential Regulation Authority statistics show that the general insurance industry generates gross written premium of \$49.5 billion per annum and has total assets of \$128.3 billion. The industry employs approximately 60,000 people and on average pays out about \$155.1 million in claims each working day. Insurance Council members provide insurance products ranging from those usually purchased by individuals (such as home and contents insurance, travel insurance, motor vehicle insurance) to those purchased by small businesses and larger organisations (such as product and public liability insurance, professional indemnity insurance, commercial property, and directors and officers insurance).