

22 January 2020

Australian Competition and
Consumer Commission
GPO Box 3131
Canberra ACT 2601

Email: adjudication@accc.gov.au



Dear Sir/Madam

Re: authorisation application from the Australian Engineered Advisory Group (AESAG).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the authorisation application lodged by the Australian Engineered Stone Advisory Group (AESAG).

Lung Foundation Australia (LFA) represents a nation-wide network of patients, their families and carers, and clinicians; individuals committed to ensuring Australians enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical health and mental health and wellbeing.

LFA support the comments made by our colleagues at the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand and echo the concerns raised by the Queensland Office of Industrial Relations, particularly the concerns that the accreditation standards proposed by the AESAG are well below the minimum standards set by the nation-leading Queensland Code for managing respirable crystalline silica dust exposure.

LFA support strong, nationally consistent, and independently enforceable, workplace laws that protect workers from unnecessary workplace harm and apply to workers regardless of the size of the employer. In this regard, we look forward to any recommendations made later this year by the National Dust Diseases Taskforce, and we encourage all parties including the AESAG to participate in these consultations with a view to creating collaborative solutions that prevent deadly dust diseases.

LFA does not support the current application by AESAG as it will ultimately undermine best-practice safe work practices and put the health of workers at risk.

Yours sincerely,



Mark Brooke
Chief Executive Officer

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