



Our ref: AA1000477
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29 April 2020

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Jeff Rogut
CEO
Australasian Association of Convenience Stores

By email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Rogut,

Coles Group Limited - application authorisation AA1000477 – ACCC decision regarding request for inclusion in interim authorisation

I refer to the Australasian Association of Convenience Stores' (**AACS**) request on 20 April 2020 for protection of the interim authorisation granted on 26 March 2020 to Coles Group Limited and other specified grocery retailers (the **Interim Authorisation**).

In accordance with paragraph 25 of the Interim Authorisation, the ACCC has decided to approve AACS' request for the protection of the Interim Authorisation on the condition that the protection is limited to discussions held or arrangements made during a meeting of the Supermarkets Taskforce, the Food Supply working group or one of the Taskforce's other working groups, or in any directly related side-meetings to continue discussions from or implement arrangements agreed during Taskforce or working group meetings.

Duration of interim authorisation

The conditional interim authorisation will remain in effect until the ACCC makes a final determination regarding the application for authorisation made by Coles Group Ltd, or revokes the Interim Authorisation. Coles Group Limited has requested authorisation for six months from the date of the ACCC's final determination.

Reconsideration of interim authorisation

The ACCC may review a decision on interim authorisation at any time, including in response to feedback raised following interim authorisation. The ACCC's decision in relation to the interim authorisation should not be taken to be indicative of whether or not the final authorisation will be granted.

We have updated the ACCC's public register to include AACS on the list of entities granted interim authorisation.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Will Sommers on (03) 9910 9444.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'DMcCracken-Hewson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Daniel McCracken-Hewson
A/g General Manager
Adjudication Branch