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Our ref: AA1000610 Contact officer: Tom Lyle Contact phone: (03) 9290 1879

3/05/2022

**Dear Interested Party** 

# Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Group (GVWRRG) and North East Waste and Resource Recovery Group (NEWRRG) application for authorisation AA1000610 - interested party consultation

On 21 April 2022, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) received an application from Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Group (GVWRRG) and North East Waste and Resource Recovery Group (NEWRRG) (the Applicants) on behalf of themselves and 18 councils and alpine resort management boards located in regional areas for revocation of AA1000453 and substitution of a new authorisation. This letter is to invite you to comment. You are welcome to pass this letter on to others who may wish to make submissions.

The Applicants are seeking authorisation under the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (Cth). Authorisation would provide legal protection from competition laws to jointly conduct tender processes for, and negotiate contractual terms in relation to, waste and resource recovery services (the **Proposed Conduct**).

The Applicants are seeking authorisation for 20 years. A full copy of the application for authorisation is available on the ACCC's authorisations public register.

### Interim authorisation

The Applicants have also requested interim authorisation<sup>2</sup> to allow them to commence initial procurement processes, namely, the calling of request for tenders for specific domestic kerbside waste and resource recovery services.

## Making a submission

The ACCC invites you to make a submission on the application for authorisation. In making your submission, please provide information, evidence and views about the likely public benefits, effects on competition and any other public detriment that you consider will result from the proposed conduct.

If you intend to provide a submission in relation to **interim authorisation**, please do so by 5:00PM AEST on Tuesday 10 May 2022. Extensions are not normally granted for submissions on interim authorisation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For information about Authorisations, please see <a href="https://www.accc.gov.au/business/exemptions/authorisation">https://www.accc.gov.au/business/exemptions/authorisation</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For information about interim authorisation, please see the ACCC's Guidelines for Authorisations of Conduct (non-merger).

If you intend to provide a submission in relation to the **substantive application**, please do so by **5:00PM AEST** on **Tuesday 24 May 2022**. If you wish to request an extension, please contact us on the details below as early as possible. Submissions after the due date (or after any extension granted) may not be taken into account.

Please email your submission to <a href="mailto:exemptions@accc.gov.au">exemptions@accc.gov.au</a>, with the subject 'AA1000608 – GVWRRG and NEWRRG – submission'. Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Tom Lyle via the details at the end of this letter.

Your submission **will** be placed on the ACCC's <u>authorisations public register on the internet</u> unless you have made a request (with reasons) for us to exclude part or all of the submission from the public register. (see <u>Guidelines for Excluding Information from the Public Register for more information on how to make a request and how we assess requests).</u>

### **Timetable**

The ACCC will progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An indicative timetable is set out below for your information, and an up to date version (including any changes) will be posted on the public register.

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
21 April 2022	Lodgement of application.
3 May 2022	Public consultation process begins.
10 May 2022	Closing date for submissions on interim authorisation.
May 2022	ACCC decision on interim decision.
31 May 2022	Closing date for submissions on substantive authorisation.
June 2022	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process.
June 2022	Draft determination.
June/July 2022	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
July 2022	Final determination.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you have any questions or wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Tom Lyle on (08) 9290 1879 or exemptions@accc.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Darrell Channing Director

Competition Exemptions

### **List of Interested Parties consulted**

Aushredding

Benalla Rural City Council

**Biomix Compost** 

Cardia Bioplastics

Cleanaway

Hanson (Wollert Landfill)

Jacksons Earthmoving

JJ Richards & Sons Pty Ltd

J&K Tree Recycling

Mandalay Technologies

Mastec

Nationwide Oil/ Nationwide Waste Services

Newtecpoly

Plastic Forests

Scipher Technologies

SIMS Metal

TGI Air

Thomos Cash for Scrap

Tyre Cycle

Veolia Waste Management

VIP Packaging

Visy

Western Composting Technology

VM Waste Management

4Site Australia

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

**Environment Protection Authority** 

Sustainability Victoria

Australian Council of Recycling

Australian Organics Recycling Association

Australian Packing Covenant Organisation

Victorian Waste Management Association

Waste Contractors and Recyclers Association

Waste Management and Resource Recovery Association of Australia

Waste Management Association of Australia

Suez Recycling and Recovery

JJ Richards & Sons Pty Ltd

Remondis Australia Pty Ltd

Solo Resource and Recovery