



Our ref: AA1000667 Contact officer: Miriam Kolacz Contact phone: 03 9658 6476

16 April 2024

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**Dear Interested Party** 

## Southern Waste Solutions – application for authorisation AA1000667 – interested party consultation

On 4 April 2024, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) received an application for authorisation from Copping Refuse Disposal Site Joint Authority trading as Southern Waste Solutions (**SWS**). This letter is to invite you to comment. You are welcome to pass this letter on to others who may wish to make submissions.

SWS is seeking authorisation<sup>1</sup> under the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth) for a proposed project to design, build and operate a contained organic waste facility in Copping, Tasmania. Authorisation is sought on behalf of itself and the City of Clarence, Sorrell Council, Tasman Council and Kingborough Council as members of SWS and on behalf of the successful contractor determined as a result of the proposed request for tender process.

SWS is seeking authorisation for:

- undertaking a request for tender process to appoint a contractor to design, build and operate an organics processing facility in Copping, Tasmania
- negotiating and entering into a contract with the successful contractor for the design, building and operation of the organics processing facility, and
- the operation of the facility.

Authorisation is sought for a period of 26 years.

A full copy of the application for authorisation is available on the ACCC's <u>authorisations</u> <u>public register</u>.

## Interim authorisation

SWS has also requested interim authorisation to conduct the request tender process prior to the ACCC's final determination on the substantive application for authorisation. Interim authorisation is not sought to enter into any contracts resulting from the process, which is conditional on final authorisation being granted.

<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>

## Making a submission

The ACCC invites you to make a submission on the application for authorisation, including for interim 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, please do so by 7 May 2024.

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.

Submissions should be lodged via the web form accessible on the public register page for this matter. Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Miriam Kolacz 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
4 April 2024	Lodgement of application.
16 April 2024	Public consultation process begins.
7 May 2024	Closing date for submissions.
August 2024	Interim and Draft determination.
September 2024	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
October 2024	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 Miriam Kolacz on (03) 9658 6476 or <a href="mailto:exemptions@accc.gov.au">exemptions@accc.gov.au</a>.

Yours sincerely

Naomi Menon Director

**Competition Exemptions** 

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