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Our ref: AA1000612 Contact officer: Alex Cicchini Contact phone: (03) 9910 9552

23/05/2022

By email

Dear Madam or Sir

## Albury City Council & Ors - application for revocation of authorisation AA1000596 and substitution of AA1000612 – interested party consultation

On 16 May 2022, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) received an application for re-authorisation from Albury City Council, Wodonga City Council, Indigo Shire Council, Greater Hume Council, Federation Council, Leeton Shire Council, Berrigan Shire Council and Edward River Council (the **Applicants**) (revocation and substitution). 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 re-authorisation<sup>1</sup> under the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth). Re-authorisation would give it legal protection from competition laws to continue to collectively tender and contract for waste and recycling collection, transport, sorting, and processing services. The Applicants are seeking re-authorisation until 30 June 2034. A full copy of the application for re-authorisation is available on the ACCC's <u>authorisations public</u> register.

## Interim authorisation

The Applicants have also requested interim authorisation to allow them to engage in the conduct prior to the ACCC's final determination in relation to the substantive application for authorisation.

## Making a submission

The ACCC invites you to make a submission on the application for re-authorisation and the request 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 wish to make a submission on the application for re-authorisation and the request for interim authorisation, please lodge your submission by **1 June 2022**. Submissions should be emailed to <a href="mailto:exemptions@accc.gov.au">exemptions@accc.gov.au</a> with the subject "AA1000612 – Albury City Council & Ors – submission". If you prefer to make an oral submission, please contact Alex Cicchini via the details at the end of this letter.

Submissions **will** be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion. Please see the ACCC's publication <u>Guidelines for excluding information from the public register</u>.

<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>

## **Timetable**

The ACCC will continue to progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An updated indicative timetable is set out below for your information.

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
16 May 2022	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
23 May 2022	Public consultation begins
1 June 2022	Closing date for submissions from interested parties
June 2022	Draft determination
June 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 wish to discuss any aspect of this matter please do not hesitate to contact Alex Cicchini on (03) 9910 9552 or <a href="mailto:exemptions@accc.gov.au">exemptions@accc.gov.au</a>.

Yours sincerely

Darrell Channing

Director

Competition Exemptions