



Our ref: AA1000673
Contact officer: Hannah Craig
Contact phone: (03) 9977 1875

Land of the Ngunnawal people
23 Marcus Clarke Street
Canberra ACT 2601
GPO Box 3131
Canberra ACT 2601
Tel 02 6243 1111
exemptions@acc.gov.au
www.acc.gov.au

18 July 2024

Dear Interested Party

Re: Coles Group on behalf of itself and participating supermarkets application for revocation of authorisation AA1000627 and substitution of AA1000673 – interim authorisation decision

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has decided to grant interim authorisation in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by Coles on 24 June 2024. Authorisation will allow Coles, Woolworths and ALDI to continue the processing of soft plastics stockpiles and their instore soft plastics collections pilot program while the ACCC considers the substantive application.

Interim authorisation protects the arrangements for which authorisation is sought from legal action under the relevant provisions of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* while the ACCC considers and evaluates the merits of the application.

A copy of the ACCC's interim authorisation decision is attached and also available on the [ACCC's public register](#).

Next steps

For your information, the next step in the process is for the ACCC to release a draft determination which will take account of any submissions from the applicant and interested parties and will indicate the ACCC's preliminary views on the merits of the application. The ACCC will give both the applicant and interested parties the opportunity to provide a further submission on the draft determination before the ACCC issues its final decision.

As noted in the attached decision, the ACCC may review its decision on interim authorisation at any time. In this regard the ACCC will reconsider this decision at the time of issuing its draft determination. The ACCC's decision in relation to interim authorisation should not be taken to be indicative of whether or not final authorisation will be granted by the ACCC.

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 Hannah Craig on (03) 9977 1875.

Yours sincerely



Naomi Menon
Director
Competition Exemptions