



Our ref: AA1000503
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Dear Madam or Sir

Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group - application for re-authorisation AA1000503 —draft determination

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for re-authorisation lodged by Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group (**MWRRG**) on 21 April 2020.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant authorisation to MWRRG and 13 metropolitan Melbourne councils to collectively tender for organics procurement services through the South Eastern Organics Group (**SEOG**) until 10 July 2032. This proposed authorisation would be subject to the condition that any of the four additional councils which seek to be added to the SEOG on a contingency basis by this most recent authorisation application will be limited to using SEOG contracts for three years.

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination is attached and also available on the ACCC's [authorisations public register](#).

Next steps

Once the ACCC issues a draft determination, the Applicant or any interested party may make a written submission and/or request that the ACCC convene a 'pre-decision conference'.

Making a submission

If you wish to make a submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination, please lodge your submission by **29 January 2021**. Submissions should be emailed to exemptions@acc.gov.au with the subject "AA1000503 – Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group – submission". If you prefer to make an oral submission, please contact Tanya Hobbs via the details at the end of this letter.

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made at a pre-decision conference (should one be called - see below), and will then release a final determination in relation to this application.

Submissions will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion. Please see the ACCC's publication [Guidelines for excluding information from the public register](#).

Optional pre-decision conference

In some cases the applicant or an interested party requests that the ACCC convene a pre-decision conference in relation to its draft determination. If a conference is called it will be

open to the applicant and interested parties to attend and make oral submissions in relation to the draft determination. Conferences are conducted informally and while legal or professional advisers are able to attend they are not entitled to participate in the discussion.

If you wish the ACCC to hold a pre-decision conference in relation to the draft determination you must notify the ACCC in writing by **29 January 2021** by email to exemptions@acc.gov.au.

Timetable

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

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
21 April 2020	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
28 April 2020	Public consultation process begins.
18 December 2020	Draft determination
January 2021	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
February 2021	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 Tanya Hobbs on 02 6243 1029.

Yours sincerely



Darrell Channing
Director
Competition Exemptions