



Mr Tim Grimwade  
The General Manager  
Adjudication Branch  
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission  
PO Box 1190  
DICKSON ACT 2602

24 December 2001

Dear Mr Grimwade,

**RE: APPLICATION FOR INTERIM AUTHORISATION FOR HEALTH  
PURCHASING VICTORIA FOR A90811 & A90812**

We wish to object to the <sup>proposed</sup> posed interim authorisation on the following basis:

1. The nursing agency industry is very difficult and sensitive due to the shortage of nurses and any decision will be consequential and have far reaching effects.
2. An interim authorisation will prejudice the outcome of the final decision and set a precedent.
3. The tender system proposed will be in restraint of trade and be damaging to smaller players-both smaller nursing agencies and hospitals.

For the above reasons we submit that due consideration should be given to protect all parties concerned including patients and ACC final approval should be sought. Stop-gap quick-fix interim authorisation will prejudice this process and the interim authorisation should not be granted.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth Schofield  
Director

