



**CLAY BRICK AND PAVER
ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA**

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6 January 2004

Mr Tim Grimwade
General Manager
Adjudication Branch
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission
PO Box 199
Dickson ACT 2602

Dear Mr Grimwade

Application for revocation and substitution lodged by the Victorian Brick and Blocklaying Training Foundation on behalf of the Clay Brick & Paver Association of Victoria (A90738)

The Clay Brick & Paver Association of Victoria acknowledges your letter dated 5 December 2003 relating to the above Application.

The Association wishes to advise that it agrees with the public benefits detailed by the Victorian Brick & Blocklaying Training Foundation Ltd in that there is a shortage of skilled bricklayers and that the levy arrangements facilitate an increase in apprenticeship bricklaying numbers.

Increased numbers of skilled bricklayers will also ensure better quality assurance for consumers and for the building industry generally. To date, the Foundation has demonstrated that the introduction of the levy arrangement can result in an increase in the numbers of bricklayer apprentices and that such objective will continue to be achieved together with a commensurate improvement in the skill base of bricklaying.

The Association is not aware of any detriment to competition and/or the public caused by the levy arrangements. The implementation of the levy arrangement has not created any difficulties or concerns for the building and brick manufacturing industry and the transition process has not resulted in any dislocation to the market. To the contrary, the levy arrangement has been lauded by the building industry as a commendable initiative in the best interests of the industry.

The Clay Brick & Paver Association fully supports the above Application.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Association.

Yours sincerely

AW
Brian Murphy
President
Clay Brick & Paver Association of Victoria

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CONSUMER COMMISSION
CANBERRA
8 JAN 2004