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20 January, 2004

The General Manager
Adjudication Branch
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission
PO Box 1199
DICKSON ACT 2602

Dear Sir or Madam,

Ref: Application for authorisation lodged by the Clay, Brick & Paver Institute for itself and on behalf of the Concrete Masonry Association of Australia.

I apologise for the late response but have only today returned from annual leave and received your letter.

We thoroughly support the application for authorisation and will support the CMAA in trying to make the scheme a success.

We have become aware of an increasing shortage of skilled trades people in our industry. Young people are not being attracted to the trades and the current work force is ageing.

Consequently consumers face the potential of a lower quality product, higher rates and delays in construction.

All competitors in our industry would be encouraged to participate and we see no reason why there would be any detriment to competition as both the industry and consumers should benefit.

Yours sincerely,



MALCOLM POINTON
General Manager
Pioneer Building Products (Qld) Pty Ltd

