



**MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY .
THE MIDWEST, WHEATBELT .
LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**



Ref: 8-00219

Mr S Gregson
A/General Manager
Adjudication Branch
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
PO Box 1199
DICKSON ACT 2602

VIA FACSIMILIE: 02 6243 1122

Dear Sir/Madam

**APPLICATIONS FOR AUTHORISATIONS A90961 AND A90962 LODGED BY
DAIRY WESTERN AUSTRALIA LTD (DAIRY WA)**

I have given my support to the Western Australian dairy industry in this matter. Milk prices paid to Western Australian producers is significantly lower post deregulation and frequently do not cover costs of production. These low prices have resulted in a reduction in producer numbers and, more recently, a reduction in total output. Continual erosion of the production sector will have adverse consequences for the whole industry in Western Australia.

A submission regarding the application will be provided to you by 15 April 2005 as requested by Mr Brian Cassidy.

Yours sincerely

Kim Chance MLC
MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

05 APR 2005