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13 July 2005  
6 Tammuz 5765

The General Manager  
A.C.C.C.  
P.O. Box 1199  
DICKSON A.C.T. 2602

Dear Sir,

Re: Exclusive Dealing Notification for The New South Wales Kashrut Authority Inc.

The Central Synagogue, Sydney, Australia, is the largest orthodox Synagogue in the Southern Hemisphere, with a membership of some 2,000 people.

Religious services are conducted three times daily throughout the weekdays and twice on the Sabbath.

In addition, the Synagogue is a venue which hosts various educational, social, cultural and young adult programmes on a regular basis. There is not a week that would pass during which the Synagogue is being utilized for a function.

We have been provided with a copy of the submission made to you by Mr David Knoll, President of the New South Wales Jewish Board of Deputies.

Communication between the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies and The Central Synagogue has been on-going, as we are most concerned at the Notification that has been lodged with you by the N.S.W. Kashrut Authority.

We wholeheartedly endorse and support the submission that has been lodged with you by the N.S.W. Jewish Board of Deputies, together with the 'June 2004 Report' conducted by them.

In addition, we respectfully wish to draw your attention to the following matters.

AUST. COMPETITION &  
CONSUMER COMMISSION  
CANBERRA  
15 JUL 2005

Jewish law provides for Rabbinical authority to be exercised by Rabbis sitting as “judges” in a Rabbinical Court. This is known as a “Beth Din”. If a Jewish individual or organization were to have a dispute, the matter could be heard and determined by the Beth Din.

We advise that the Board of the N.S.W. Kashrut Authority Inc. is constituted by the same Rabbis who are sitting members of the Rabbinical Court, or more commonly known as The Sydney Beth Din. A conclusion can no doubt be drawn from this situation.

The Kashrut Authority have suggested in their submission (3.4; 3.5) that “an enterprise may obtain kashrut certification from any other certification authority”. However, in N.S.W. there is no other certification authority, and we are perplexed by this suggestion made by the Kashrut Authority.

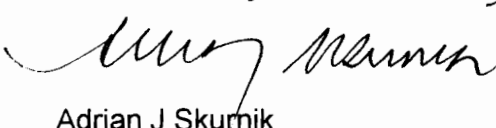
All functions in our Synagogue must be carried out to the highest level of *kashrut* (kosher). Our policy provides that every function must be adequately supervised by a kosher certified authority.

Functions attended outside of the Synagogue in public places and homes of our members, where a member of our Clergy is expected or invited to attend, must all be kosher, and have kosher certification, in order for the Clergy to attend.

As hereinbefore mentioned, The Central Synagogue together with the N.S.W. Jewish Board of Deputies and Presidents from other orthodox Synagogues in Sydney, have, and are engaging in on-going dialogue in order to resolve the Kashrut issue in Sydney, hopefully in cohesion with the N.S.W. Kashrut Authority Inc.

As President of the largest congregation in Australia today, it pains me, in respect of communal harmony, to write this letter to you, however I, together with my Board of Management, are unable to support the Notification lodged with you by the N.S.W. Kashrut Authority Inc. and seek reversal of same.

Yours sincerely,



Adrian J Skurnik  
President