



**Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission**

PO Box 1199
Dickson ACT 2602
470 Northbourne Ave
Dickson ACT 2602
ph (02) 6243 1111
fax (02) 6243 1199
www.accc.gov.au

Our Ref: C2005/1252
Contact Officer: Michael Green
Contact Phone: 03 9290 1960

18 August 2005

Ms Helena Spyrou
Project Officer
Homeworkers Code of Practice Committee
359 Exhibition Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Dear Ms Spyrou

**Re: Homeworkers Code of Practice Committee Inc. applications for re-authorisation -
request for interim authorisation**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has decided to grant interim authorisation in respect of the applications for re-authorisation lodged by the Homeworkers Code of Practice Committee Inc. (the HWCPC) on 25 July 2005.

Interim authorisation protects the arrangements for which authorisation is sought from legal action under the relevant provisions of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (the TPA) while the ACCC considers and evaluates the merits of the application.

Summary of considerations

The ACCC has considered the request for interim authorisation and has decided to grant interim authorisation until it issues a determination in this matter (unless circumstances warrant revocation or amendment of the interim authorisation at an earlier stage).

In assessing the request for interim authorisation the ACCC considered that there is likely to be little, if any, public detriment in allowing the arrangements to proceed in the short term given that it is likely to have the effect of maintaining the status quo.

Please be advised that the ACCC's decision in relation to interim authorisation should not be taken to be indicative of whether or not final authorisation will be granted by the ACCC.

I note that the HWCPC has lodged its application for revocation and substitution only a short time prior to the expiration date for the current authorisation. Please note that in light of the statutory processes the ACCC is required to undertake in assessing applications for



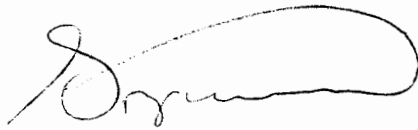
revocation and substitution, it considers it appropriate for applicants to lodge applications at least six months prior the expiration of the authorisation.

Next steps

For your information, the next step in the process is for the ACCC to release a draft determination which will take account of any submissions from the HWCPC and interested parties and will indicate the ACCC's preliminary views on the merits of the application. The ACCC will provide both HWCPC and interested parties with the opportunity to provide a further submission on the draft determination before the ACCC issues its final decision.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Michael Green on 03 9290 1960.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Gregson', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Scott Gregson
A/g General Manager
Adjudication Branch