

14 October 2005

Mr Jason Byrne
A/g Assistant Director
Adjudication Branch
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission
PO Box 1199
DICKSON ACT 2602

Email: adjudication@accc.gov.au

Dear Jason,

Re: application for authorisation lodged by the Federation of Australian Wool Organisations (FAWO) – Interested party consultation

I wish to acknowledge the ACCC's letter of 27 September 2005, seeking AWI's opinion on the two authorisations sought by FAWO.

FAWO has sought two authorisations; an interim authorisation, to commence immediate implementation of the collection of the proposed levy of \$1.50 per bale, to be added to the post-sale service charge paid by buyers of Australian wool at the point of sale, and an authorisation to collect the subject levy.

In the time available, AWI does not intend to make a detailed submission to the ACCC on the application by FAWO for the subject authorisations.

AWI has over 30,000 shareholders, all of whom are Australian wool growers. AWI has not had an opportunity to solicit the views of its stakeholders in relation to the subject application of FAWO.

The AWI Board of Directors, an elected committee of shareholders, has considered the subject application of FAWO for two authorisations and has voted by majority to support it.

Accordingly, the Company, subject to legal compliance by FAWO, fully supports and encourages, without objection or qualification, the application by FAWO for the two authorisations referred to in the ACCC letter of 27 September 2005. The granting of the subject authorisations by the ACCC and the collection of the contemplated levy by FAWO, is anticipated to be of significant benefit to all Australian wool growers.

Thank you for consulting with AWI on this matter.



Dr Len Stephens
Chief Executive Officer