



Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission

Our Ref: A30243
Contact Officer: Ilona Balint
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7 June 2006

Ms Alison Meares
Partner
Addisons Lawyers
GPO Box 1433
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Ms Meares

**Re: Association of Australian Bookmaking Companies Inc. Application for
authorisation A30243 - draft determination**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by the Association of Australian Bookmaking Companies Inc. on 29 March 2006.

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination is attached. For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant the authorisation 5 years.

Interim authorisation

On 26 April 2006 the ACCC granted partial interim authorisation the proposed arrangements. Interim authorisation will continue to protect the proposed arrangements from action under the *Trade Practices Act 1974* until the date the ACCC's final determination comes into effect or until the ACCC decides to revoke interim authorisation.

Next steps

Once the ACCC issues a draft determination, the Applicants or any interested party may request that the ACCC convene a 'pre-decision conference'. A pre-decision conference provides the opportunity for interested parties to make oral submissions in relation to the draft determination. Under the *Trade Practices Act 1974*, the ACCC must set a date within 14 days of which any pre-decision conference must be requested.

Accordingly, if you wish the ACCC to hold a pre-decision conference in relation to the draft determination, you must notify the ACCC in writing by **cob Friday 23 June 2006**. Conferences are conducted informally, without the participation of legal or other professional advisers.



Alternatively, you are also invited to make a written submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination. Written submissions should be lodged by **cob Friday 30 June 2006** at the following address:

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

Submissions can also be lodged by e-mail to adjudication@acc.gov.au or by facsimile on 02 6243 1211.

Any submission you make will be placed on the ACCC's Public Register. You may request that information you provide in a submission to the ACCC be treated as confidential and not placed on the Public Register. Information excluded from the Public Register for reasons of confidentiality will still be considered by the ACCC when reaching its decision. Guidelines for seeking confidentiality are attached for your information.

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made should a pre-determination conference be called, and will then release a final determination in relation to these applications.

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 Ilona Balint on (02) 6243 1113.

Yours sincerely



Susan Philp
Director
Adjudication Branch