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Our Ref: C2006/1965 Contact Officer: Tina Pigliardo Contact Phone: (03) 9290 1481

14 February 2007

Dear

Application for reauthorisation of HVCS Regulations and Procedures lodged by Australian Payments Clearing Association Ltd (APCA) - final determination

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a determination granting authorisation in respect of the application for reauthorisation lodged by APCA on 20 October 2006.

APCA has sought reauthorisation for the High Value Clearing System (HVCS) Regulations 5.2(h) and 5.16 to 5.31 (inclusive) and clauses 5.1 and 5.2 of the HVCS Procedures (the relevant provisions). These provisions relate to suspension and termination of HVCS membership and the requirement that members join SWIFT and use the SWIFT Payment Delivery System (PDS) in clearing and settling payments.

Having considered the application and submissions from APCA and interested parties, the ACCC has decided to grant reauthorisation to the relevant provisions for five years. A copy of the ACCC's determination is <u>attached</u>. Copies of the determination are also available on the ACCC's website at www.accc.gov.au.

Application for review

Pursuant to section 101 of the *Trade Practices Act 1974*, a person dissatisfied with this determination may apply to the Australian Competition Tribunal for its review. An application for review must be made within 21 days of the date of this determination; that is, on or before 7 March 2007. If no application to review is lodged by this date, the ACCC's determination will come into force on 8 March 2007.



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 Tina Pigliardo on (03) 9290 1481.

Yours sincerely

Gavin Jones

Director

Adjudication Branch

List of interested parties
Australian Securities and Investment Commission
Reserve Bank of Australia
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd
Commonwealth Bank of Australia
Indue Empowering Financial Solutions