



Community Employment Options Inc

equal access

24th April, 2008

David Hatfield
A/g General Manager
Adjudication Branch
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
GPO Box 3131
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Sir

**Applications for Authorisation by Job Futures Ltd
A91084, A91085, 25th March 2008**

I am writing in support of Job Futures applications for Authorisation and Interim Authorisation.

Community Employment Options Inc. is a not-for-profit, community business established in Rockhampton in 1990. We provide an integrated, high quality range of employment, training and educational services to job seekers, employees and employers.

We draw on the skills and experiences gained from thousands of successful job placements in small medium and large business and over eighty (80) staff including specialist employment consultants who can advise on the best employment solution for your situation.

Our unique model of assessment, job matching and after-placement support ensures that the needs of the job seeker and the employer are met.

Community Employment Options Inc has been a member of Job Futures since June, 2006.

The market for Government funded employment services is extremely competitive. The contractual and performance management arrangements that operate in the sector are complex and changing. Since its creation in 1998, it has become harder for small-medium size organisations to enter and retain a place in the market – particularly in Job Network.

Yet these organisations play an important role in ensuring that services for disadvantaged people meet the specific needs of local communities.

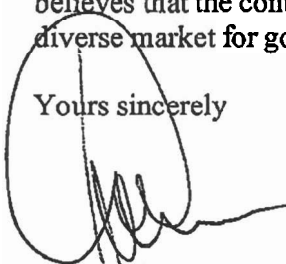
My organisation delivers a range of local programs and services to our community, which are important to community well being including; Disability Employment Network, Job Placement Employment and Training, Skilling Queensland, National Disability Co-ordination Officer Program, Get Set For Work and Coastal Recovery, a local collaborative landfill venture with our local Council as the host employer. We are able to link these initiatives with our employment programs, delivered as part of Job Futures.

As a national provider, Job Futures is able to tender for and deliver programs that are nation or Statewide. This enables organisations like mine to participate in delivery of these programs where otherwise we would not be able to do so. For example we deliver the Green Corps program – which engages 17-20 year olds in environmental projects – under sub contract to Job Futures in our community. Job Futures Ltd is contracted to deliver this across NSW, ACT, NT and Queensland.

Job Futures unique collaborative arrangement enables organisations like Community Employment Options Inc to deliver quality services while retaining their local focus and identity. We are able to access resources through Job Futures (like on line reporting tools, training and support) which, as a lone provider, we could not.

Community Employment Options Inc supports this application for authorisation and believes that the continued operation of the Job Futures model contributes to a more diverse market for government funded employment services.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Callaghan', is written over a circular stamp or seal. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Peter Callaghan
Chief Executive Officer
Community Employment Options Inc