



**Australian  
Competition &  
Consumer  
Commission**

Our Ref: C2008/628  
Contact Officer: Sharon Clancy  
Contact Phone: (02) 6243 1217

29 April 2008

*This letter, with enclosures,  
was posted to the  
attached list of  
interested parties.*

*SC*

*30/4/08 .*

GPO Box 3131  
Canberra ACT 2601  
23 Marcus Clarke Street  
Canberra ACT 2601  
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www.accc.gov.au

Dear

**Application for authorisation A91088 lodged by the Australian Medical Association (NSW) Limited – interested party consultation**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has received an application for authorisation from the Australian Medical Association (NSW) Limited (AMA NSW). The ACCC invites you to comment on the application. Please find enclosed a summary of the authorisation process including how to make a submission to the ACCC.

The AMA NSW seeks authorisation to collectively negotiate with NSW Health and public health organisations in New South Wales the terms and conditions (including but not limited to remuneration) of visiting medical officer (VMO) contracts in the New South Wales public hospital system.

A copy of the application for authorisation is enclosed. It is also available on the ACCC's website <[www.accc.gov.au](http://www.accc.gov.au)>.

**Request for submissions**

The ACCC invites you to make a submission on the likely public benefits and effect on competition, or any other public detriment, from the proposed arrangements. If you intend to provide a submission in relation to AMA NSW's application for authorisation, please do so by **23 May 2008**.

Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Sharon Clancy on (02) 6243 1217 to organise a suitable time.

Submissions, including oral submissions, will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion (guidelines are attached).

## Timetable

The ACCC will progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An indicative timetable is set out below for your information.

<b>22 April 2008</b>	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
<b>29 April 2008</b>	Public consultation process begins.
<b>23 May 2008</b>	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
<b>June 2008</b>	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process.
<b>June / July 2008</b>	Draft determination.
<b>July / August 2008</b>	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
<b>August / September 2008</b>	Final determination.

Please advise if you do not wish to make a submission at this time, but would like to be informed of the progress of the application at the draft and final determination stages. If possible, please provide a nominated contact email address for future correspondence.

You can also forward this letter to any other party who may wish to make a submission to the ACCC regarding the application.

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 Sharon Clancy on (02) 6243 1217 or me on (02) 6243 1323.

Yours sincerely

Joanne Palisi  
Director  
Adjudication Branch

## **Application for authorisation A91088 lodged by AMA NSW**

### **List of interested parties - 29 April 2008**

ACT Health

Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine

Australian Consumer Association

Australian General Practice Network

Australian Healthcare & Hospitals Association

Australian Medical Association

Australian Medical Association (ACT)

Australian Medical Association (NT)

Australian Medical Association (QLD)

Australian Medical Association (SA)

Australian Medical Association (TAS)

Australian Medical Association (VIC)

Australian Medical Association (WA)

Australian Private Hospital Association

Australian Rural and Remote Workforce Agencies Group

Australian Rural Health Education Network

Australian Society of Anaesthetists

Catholic Health Australia

Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing

Consumer Health Forum

Department of Health (New South Wales)

Department of Health (South Australia)

Department of Health (Western Australia)

Department of Health and Community Services (Northern Territory)

Department of Health and Human Services (Tasmania)

Department of Human Services (Victoria)

Health Consumers of Rural and Remote Australia

National Rural Health Alliance

Queensland Health

Royal Australasian College of Physicians

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners

Rural Doctors Association of Australia

Rural Doctors Association of NSW