



**Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission**

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Our Ref: C2008/483
Contact Officer: Shane Chisholm
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2 April 2008

Dear Sir/Madam

**Insurance Council of Australia application for authorisation A91086
- interested party consultation**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has received an application for authorisation from the Insurance Council of Australia. The ACCC invites you to comment on the application. Attached is a summary of the authorisation process including how to make a submission to the ACCC.

The Insurance Council of Australia is seeking authorisation for an “agreement between members (both present and future) of the Insurance Council of Australia Limited to voluntarily adopt a common definition of ‘flood’ for the purposes of provision of flood insurance services to the community.”

A full copy of the application for authorisation is attached to this letter.

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 the Insurance Council of Australia’s application for authorisation, please do so by **18 April 2008**.

Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Shane Chisholm on (02) 6243 1252 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.

20 March 2008	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
2 April 2008	Public consultation process begins.
18 April 2008	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
April 2008	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process.
May 2008	Draft determination.
May-June 2008	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
June-July 2008	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 you are able to, 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 Shane Chisholm on (02) 6243 1252.

Yours sincerely



David Hatfield
Acting General Manager
Adjudication Branch

The above letter was sent to the following interested parties

- Australian Securities and Investments Commission
Choice
- Department of the Treasury – Financial Literacy Foundation
Department of the Treasury
- Insurance Ombudsman Service
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
National Insurance Brokers Association
Consumers' Association of Western Australia
- Attorney General's Department – Emergency Management Australia
Insurance Reform Campaign
NSW Office of Fair Trading
Department of Consumer and Employment Protection
- Consumer Affairs Victoria
Office of Consumer and Business Affairs
Department of Justice and Attorney-General
Consumer Affairs and Fair Trading
Department of Justice
Department of Justice and Community Safety - Office of Regulatory Services