



Australian Society of Anaesthetists Ltd

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* Our ref: 230108 4505TPL

23 January 2008

Ms Isabelle Arnaud
Director
Adjudication Branch
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
GPO Box 3131
Canberra
ACT 2601

Dear Isabelle

Application for Authorisation A91078 By the Rural Doctors Association of Australia (RDAA) Limited - Comments by the Australian Society of Anaesthetists (ASA)

Reference:

A. ACCC A91078 dated 17 Dec 07

I am replying on behalf of the ASA after reviewing the Application for Authorisation by the RDAA.

The ASA supports the principle expressed by the RDAA's proposal for a centralised professional body to negotiate terms and conditions for rural Visiting Medical Officers. The ASA notes that the Authorisation is initially intended for non specialists. The ASA understands that the majority of RDAA members are non specialists.

The ACCC may wish to note that the ASA in conjunction with the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists has made a separate submission to the Federal Government for funding to provide a Rural Anaesthesia Recruitment Service. The RDAA in conjunction with other medical colleges has also made a separate submission for a similar locum service. Both of these submissions are aimed at encouraging and better managing medical practitioner services in rural Australia.

The ASA would like to be kept informed on the progress of the application of the draft and final determination stages. The ASA nominated contact is Mrs Grainne Mullen at gmullen@fed.asa.org.au and may be contacted on 02 9327 4022

Yours sincerely,

Peter Lawrence
Executive Director

* Please quote our reference in all correspondence.