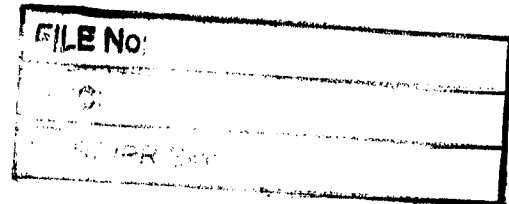


**CLAY BRICK AND PAVER  
ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND**

375 Wickham Terrace  
Brisbane Qld 4000  
ABN No: 46 244 849 904  
Phone: (07) 3842 2223  
Fax: (07) 3832 3195

14<sup>th</sup> May 2009



Mr Darrell Channing  
Director  
Adjudication  
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission  
GPO Box 3131  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Darrell,

Please accept this letter in reply to your correspondence dated 17 April 2009 titled "Australian Brick and Blocklaying Training Foundation Ltd (ABBTF) application for revocation and substitution A91133 – interested part consultation".

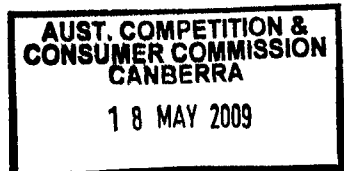
This response is in support of the ABBTF application as outlined.

The following is written as a representation of the view held by the Clay Brick and Paver Association of Queensland (CBPAQ).

The Clay Brick and Paver Association of Queensland view the existing "Brick Levy" and its ultimate use as fundamental to the future of our industry. The availability and growth of a Bricklaying trade is critical to the building industry within Queensland as we attempt to ensure the delivery of housing affordability, the use of thermal efficient products, efficient construction timelines (trade availability) and attractive streetscapes. The specific use of the existing "Brick Levy" has assisted the delivery of Bricklayers to the Queensland building industry with the appropriate skills to deliver on each of these items.

As requested in the correspondence referred to above, the public benefits supporting the ABBTF application, whilst not limited to, can be further summarised as:

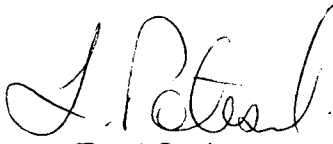
- The recent "National Bricklaying Apprenticeship Status Report" cites an aging workforce. A clear and measurable avenue to address this issue is the continual introduction of new apprentices to the Bricklaying industry. The utilisation of the "Brick Levy" has a direct influence on this outcome.
- Apprenticeship numbers within QLD have increased from 86 in 2003 to 515 as of December 2008. Clear evidence the allocation of funds collected has again had a direct influence on the health of our industry. It is critical this trend continues.



- As you would be aware the existing levy applies to purchases made by "Mums and Dads" and is not just limited to builders or developers. The CBPAQ has no record of any objection to the levy from this market throughout its existence.
- Through its endeavours the ABBTF has assisted and supported seven new trade training providers. This has directly reduced the travel required by apprentices to attend off the job training, ultimately reducing the cost for training providers that was previously experienced.
- The "Brick Levy" has assisted over 400 employers both directly and through Group Training Companies. This unprecedented support to employers has been delivered by incentives to "take on" apprentices and further support for apprentices to attend training and receive further training resources.
- The support of School Based Construction Programs has assisted over 5000 students consider bricklaying as a career. Many of these programs were operated in regional centres who would not have had such an opportunity unless the ABBTF provided such programs,

I trust this response represents the position of the Clay Brick and Paver Association of Queensland clearly without over complicating the matter. In the instance any item within this document, or from other responses received, requires clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,



pp Trent Cosh  
President

Clay Brick and Paver Association of Queensland