



**Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission**

GPO Box 3131
Canberra ACT 2601

23 Marcus Clarke Street
Canberra ACT 2601

tel: (02) 6243 1111
fax: (02) 6243 1199

www.accc.gov.au

Our Ref: C2009/1885
Contact Officer: Erin Donohue
Contact Phone: (02) 6243 1291

24 February 2010

Mr Daniel Morgan
Lawyer
Will Edwards Lawyers
PO Box 1288
Launceston TAS 7250

Dear Mr Morgan

**The Tasmanian Farmers & Graziers Association application for re-authorisation
A91197 - draft determination**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by the Tasmanian Farmers & Graziers Association on 13 November 2009.

Draft determination

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination is attached. For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to re-authorise the collective bargaining arrangements, subject to a condition, for five years.

Next steps

Once the ACCC issues a draft determination, the Applicants or any interested party may request that the ACCC convene a 'pre-decision conference'. A pre-decision conference provides the opportunity for interested parties to make oral submissions in relation to the draft determination. Conferences are conducted informally and while legal or professional advisers are able to attend they are not entitled to participate in the discussion.

If you wish the ACCC to hold a pre-decision conference in relation to the draft determination, you must notify the ACCC in writing by **12 March 2010**.

Alternatively, you are invited to make a written submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination. Submissions should be lodged by **12 March 2010**.

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made should a pre-decision conference be called, and will then release a final determination in relation to these applications.

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

Timetable

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

13 November 2009	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
16 November 2009	Public consultation process begins.
4 December 2009	ACCC grants interim authorisation.
24 February 2010	Draft determination issued
12 March 2010	Deadline to request a conference and for providing further written submissions.
March/April 2010	Conference if requested. Final determination.

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 Erin Donohue on (02) 6243 1291.

Yours sincerely



Dr Richard Chadwick
General Manager
Adjudication Branch