



Dr Richard Chadwick
General Manager - Adjudication Branch
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
GPO BOX 3131
CANBERRA ACT 2601

FILE No:
DOC:
MARS/PRISM:

Dear Dr Chadwick

AGSAFE LIMITED APPLICATION FOR REVOCATION AND SUBSTITUTION OF AUTHORISATIONS – INTERESTED PARTY CONSULTATION

I refer to your letter of 1 June 2010 inviting the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) to comment on the application for revocation and substitution of authorisations from Agsafe Limited (Agsafe).

DEC has no objections to the Agsafe application for revocation of its existing authorisations and substitution of new authorisations in respect of its Code of Conduct.

DEC supported the present authorisation (CE28/07 19 February 2007) and, therefore, DEC has no objection to Agsafe's request for an interim authorisation to continue to enforce the Agsafe Code of Conduct, until the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission makes a final decision on whether to grant Agsafe's application for revocation and substitution.

DEC has had input into some of the various training manuals published by Agsafe which form part of the Agsafe Accreditation and Training Program. DEC considers that such industry programs aid in the safe handling of chemicals and, therefore, an improved environmental outcome with regard to chemical storage and use.

With regard to the request for submissions, it is difficult to comment on the points raised without access to any independent evidence or specific research carried out by DEC officers. It should be noted, however, that DEC supports programs which encourage adherence to procedures that are designed to enhance safety, public health and desirable environmental outcomes, providing there is no financial or business advantage to be gained by any sanctions imposed to enforce the implementation of such programs.

Should you have any further queries in relation to this matter, please contact Doug Hide, Senior Environmental Officer, on (08) 6467 5273 or email doug.hide@dec.wa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Robert Atkins
ACTING DIRECTOR GENERAL

21 June 2010

