

18 July 2011

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

Dear Dr Chadwick,

I am writing to support NSW Farmers submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination in respect of the application for authorisation A91263 lodged by ADF.

ADF appreciates the work of the ACCC in clarifying Condition 1 of the draft authorisation and understands that Condition 1 does not prevent relevant industry associations from providing general advice, training and assistance to dairy farmer members. ADF also notes that Condition 1 does not prevent collective bargaining groups from obtaining legal or other professional advice. ADF further notes, as mentioned in the NSW Farmers submission and the ACCC draft authorisation, that legal advisors are subject to their own professional obligations which limit the sharing of confidential information.

ADF believes that to provide greater clarification, security and comfort to collective bargaining groups that it is worthwhile amending Condition 1 further as suggested by NSW Dairy Farmers to explicitly exempt registered legal practices who have their own professional standards that restrict the sharing of information between collective bargaining groups.

ADF would also like to take this opportunity to thank you, and your staff, for your assistance throughout the authorisation process, it has been greatly appreciated.

If you require further information on this matter please do not hesitate to contact me on (03) 8621 4200.

Yours sincerely,



Natalie Collard
Chief Executive Officer