



**Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission**

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Our Ref: 50670
Contact Officer: Tanya Hobbs
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11 February 2013

Dear Sir/Madam

Authorisation submitted by Queensland Newsagents Association - interested party consultation

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has received an application for authorisation from the Queensland Newsagents Association (QNF). The application is similar to the one made by QNF in June 2012, withdrawn in August 2012.

The ACCC invites you to comment on the application. A summary of the authorisation process including how to make a submission to the ACCC is available from the following link:

<http://www.accc.gov.au/content/index.phtml?itemId=776051>.

QNF is seeking authorisation to collectively bargain on behalf of its members with the Golden Casket Lotteries Corporation (Golden Casket), in relation to the distribution services that QNF members provide to Golden Casket.

A full copy of the application for authorisation is available on the ACCC's website www.accc.gov.au/AuthorisationsRegister. Alternatively, you can contact Tanya Hobbs on 02 6243 1029 to obtain a hard copy of the application and submission.

Interim authorisation

QNF has also requested interim authorisation to engage in the above conduct. The ACCC endeavours to deal with requests for interim authorisation quickly. In making an assessment as to whether it is appropriate to grant interim authorisation, the ACCC is not required to undertake a full assessment of the benefit and detriment likely to arise as a result of the proposed conduct. Nevertheless, submissions in relation to interim authorisation are invited in this matter.

The ACCC decides whether to grant interim authorisation on a case by case basis. Should an applicant request interim authorisation, the ACCC will usually consider a range of factors, including harm to the applicant and other parties if interim authorisation is or is not granted, possible benefit and detriment to the public, the urgency of the matter and whether the market would be able to return to substantially its pre-interim authorisation state if the ACCC should later deny authorisation.

Invitation to make a submission

The ACCC invites you to make a submission on the likely public benefits and effect on competition, or any other public detriment, from the proposed arrangements. If you intend to

provide a submission in relation to QNF's application for authorisation or interim authorisation, please do so by **15 February 2013**. I understand that the timeframe for making submissions is tight and if you have any issues in meeting the timeframe, please contact Tanya Hobbs on 02 6243 1029. If you would like to provide comments orally, you can contact Tanya Hobbs on 02 6243 1029 to organise a suitable time.

Submissions, including oral submissions, will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion (link to guidelines: <http://www.accc.gov.au/content/index.phtml/itemId/776053>).

Timetable

4 February 2013	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
11 February 2013	Public consultation process begins.
15 February 2013	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
19 February 2013	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process.
End February 2013	ACCC decision regarding interim authorisation and draft determination.
February/March 2013	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
April/May 2013	Final determination.

Please advise if you do not wish to make a submission at this time, but would like to be informed of the progress of the application at the draft and final determination stages. If you wish to be kept informed, and are able to do so, please provide a nominated contact email address for future correspondence.

You can also forward this letter to any other party who may wish to make a submission to the ACCC regarding the application.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. Should you have any queries in relation to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Tanya Hobbs on 02 6243 1029.

Yours sincerely



Dr Richard Chadwick
General Manager
Adjudication Branch

Interested Parties List

1. Golden Casket Corporation Limited
2. Lottery Agents Queensland
2. Queensland Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation
3. Australasian Association of Convenience Stores
4. Queensland Retail Traders & Shopkeepers Association