



**Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission**

Our Ref: 52885
Contact Officer: John Rouw
Contact Phone: (03) 9290 1402

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

12 March 2014

Dear Madam / Sir

Powercor Australia Ltd and others – application for authorisations A91939 to A91395 – draft determination

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by Powercor Australia Ltd and others on 15 November 2013.

Please see the ACCC's publication [Authorisation process - the basics](#) for a summary of the authorisation process and how to make a submission to the ACCC.

Powercor and Victoria's four other electricity distribution network companies, Citipower Pty, Jemena Electricity Network (Vic) Ltd, SPI Electricity Pty Ltd and United Energy Distribution Pty Ltd, are seeking authorisation to continue to require civil contractors to be accredited before being permitted to tender for or perform underground civil works on network electrical infrastructure, for either Victorian electricity distributors or third parties.

Authorisation applies to underground civil works on network electrical infrastructure only and does not apply to overhead construction works.

Draft determination

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination and summary of its reasons is attached.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant authorisation, for 10 years.

Next steps

Once the ACCC issues a draft determination, the Applicants or any other interested party may make a written submission and / or request that the ACCC convene a 'pre-decision conference'.

If you wish to make a submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination, please lodge your submission by **26 March 2014**. Submissions should be emailed to adjudication@acc.gov.au with the subject 'A91393-5 – Powercor – submission'.

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 **26 March 2014**.

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. Please see the ACCC's publication [Guidelines for excluding information from the public register](#).

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.

Date / indicative date	Stage in assessment process
15 November 2013	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
2 December 2013	Public consultation process begins.
12 March 2014	Draft determination.
26 March 2014	Deadline for interested parties to make submissions.
April / May 2014	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 John Rouw on (03) 9290 1402 or adjudication@acc.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Marie Dalins
Director
Adjudication Branch