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**Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission**

10 September 2015

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Canberra ACT 2601

23 Marcus Clarke Street
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Madam/ Sir

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The Australian Paint Manufacturers' Federation and others – A91504 – 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 Australian Paint Manufacturers' Federation, Paint Stewardship Limited and certain paint manufacturers and wholesalers on 1 July 2015.

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.

The Australian Paint Manufacturers' Federation seeks authorisation on behalf of itself, Paint Stewardship Limited and certain paint manufacturers/importers to impose a levy of up to 15 cents per litre (plus GST) on the supply of certain architectural and decorative paint and woodcare products. The levy is part of a National Paint Product Stewardship Scheme, which aims to provide a nationally co-ordinated approach to the collection and proper disposal of A&D paints.

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 until 1 June 2021.

Next steps

Once the ACCC issues a draft determination, the Applicant or any 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 **2 October 2015**. Submissions should be emailed to adjudication@acc.gov.au with the subject "A91504 – Australian Paint Manufacturers' Federation – 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 about this draft determination, you must notify the ACCC in writing by **2 October 2015**.

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.

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.

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
1 July 2015	Lodgement of applications A91495 and A91496 and supporting submission.
15 July 2015	Public consultation process begins.
7 August 2015	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
9 September 2015	Draft determination.
September/October 2015	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
October/November 2015	Final determination.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please contact Lyn Camilleri on (03) 9290 1973 or through adjudication@acc.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Dr Richard Chadwick
General Manager
Adjudication