



Our ref: 60424  
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4 August 2016

Dear Interested party

**Port of Townsville Limited & Far North Queensland Ports Corporation Limited A91545  
- interim authorisation**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) has decided to grant interim authorisation in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by Port of Townsville Limited on behalf of itself and Far North Queensland Ports Corporation Limited (the **Applicants**) on 8 July 2016.

A copy of the ACCC's decision is attached.

Interim authorisation protects the arrangements for which authorisation is sought from legal action under the relevant provisions of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* while the ACCC considers and evaluates the merits of the application.

**Next steps**

The next step in the process is for the ACCC to release a draft determination which will take account of any submissions from the Applicants and interested parties and will indicate the ACCC's preliminary views on the merits of the application. The ACCC will give the Applicants and interested parties the opportunity to provide a further submission on the draft determination before the ACCC issues its final decision.

As noted in the attached decision, the ACCC may review its decision on interim authorisation at any time. The ACCC will reconsider its decision to grant interim authorisation at the time of issuing its draft determination. The ACCC's decision to grant interim authorisation should not be taken to be indicative of whether or not final authorisation will be granted by the ACCC.

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 Kabita Prasad on (02) 6243 1187.

Yours sincerely

Darrell Channing  
Director  
Adjudication Branch