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31 October 2016

Eddie Scuderi
Partner
Corrs Chambers Westgarth

By email: eddie.scuderi@corrs.com.au
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Dear Mr Scuderi

Cairns Regional Council & Ors – application for authorisation A91544 —draft determination

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by Cairns Regional Council, Douglas Shire Council and Mareeba Shire Council (the **Councils**) on 28 June 2016.

For the reasons set out in the draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant authorisation for twelve years to allow the Councils to conduct a joint procurement process for waste collection services. A copy of the ACCC's draft determination is attached.

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 **14 November 2016**.

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 **14 November 2016**.

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.

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
31 October 2016	Draft determination.
October/November	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
November/December 2016	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 Theo Kelly on (02) 6243 1179 or adjudication@acc.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Darrell Channing
Director
Adjudication Branch