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15/12/2016

Dan Galligan Chief Executive Officer Canegrowers

Via email: tracey_turner@canegrowers.com; warren_males@canegrowers.com.au

Dear Mr Galligan

Queensland Cane Growers Organisation Ltd (Canegrowers) application for authorisation A91558 – draft determination

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a draft determination in respect of the applications for authorisation lodged by Canegrowers on 23 September 2016.

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 ten years.

Next steps

Canegrowers 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 **Monday**, **30 January 2017**.

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 **Friday**, **20 January 2017**.

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 <u>Guidelines for excluding information from the public register</u>.

Timetable

The ACCC will continue to progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An indicative timetable is set out below for your information.

23 September 2016	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
7 October 2016	Public consultation process begins.
28 October 2016	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
18 November 2016	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process.
15 December 2016	Draft determination.
January/February 2017	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
February/March 2017	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 Jaime Martin on (03) 9290 1477 (or <u>jaime.martin@accc.gov.au</u>) or myself on (02) 96243 1266 (or <u>david.hatfield@accc.gov.au</u>).

Yours sincerely

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David Hatfield Director Adjudication Branch