



Australian Government



Australian
**Small Business and
Family Enterprise**
Ombudsman

8 April 2016

Ms Lyn Camilleri
Director Adjudication
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
GPO Box 3131
CANBERRA ACT 2601

By email: adjudication@acc.gov.au
Lyn.Camilleri@acc.gov.au


Dear Ms Camilleri

A91520 – Council Solutions & Ors – submission

I am writing to you in respect of the South Australian Council Solutions' Application for Authorisation of a Combined Waste Tender Process (A91520) and in strong support of the submission by the South Australian Small Business Commissioner (dated 1 March 2016).

I have been approached by a number of concerned waste management businesses given the application's potential serious impact on the ability of small business to compete for government business. I am particularly concerned that authorisation of a potential cartel operation by member councils could wipe out local industry given the scope of the authorisation and its potential 17 year application (although a shorter period would still likely have a serious impact on small business).

The role of my office includes advocating for small business and family enterprise and ensuring that government policies take into account the needs of small business and family enterprise. It is important that careful consideration be given to the extent of public benefit for the application and that this consideration also has a focus on the impact on local small businesses and the ongoing price impact for ratepayers.

I would be delighted to expand on any of these issues and accordingly please feel free to contact me on my direct telephone number 02 6263 1555.

Yours sincerely



Kate Carnell AO
Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman

T 1300 650 460 E info@asbfeo.gov.au
www.asbfeo.gov.au

Office of the Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman
GPO Box 1791, Canberra City ACT 2601