



23 Marcus Clarke Street  
Canberra ACT 2601

GPO Box 3131  
Canberra ACT 2601

tel: (02) 6243 1111

fax: (02) 6243 1199

adjudication@acc.gov.au

www.accc.gov.au

Our ref: 58822  
Contact officer: Elizabeth Batten  
Contact phone: (02) 6243 1359

7 June 2016

By email

Dear Sir/Madam

### **Council Solutions & Ors application for authorisation A91520 — Further revised timetable**

I refer to previous correspondence concerning the above application for authorisation lodged by Council Solutions & Ors. The purpose of this letter is to provide an update on the public consultation process and to provide you with a further revised indicative timetable.

By way of update, on 30 May 2016 Council Solutions requested an extension of time to provide a written submission to the ACCC. In its request, Council Solutions noted that it has recently met with a number of interested parties to further discuss and understand their concerns. Council Solutions has requested additional time to provide its written submission in order to meaningfully consider the feedback provided at those meetings, and to discuss the feedback further with the Participating Councils. Council Solutions also indicated that it will consider the benefit of undertaking any further engagement during this period.

Council Solutions will now provide its written submission in response to oral and written submissions by **30 June 2016**. Interested parties will then be invited to make any comments on any new information or arguments provided to the ACCC as part of Council Solutions' written submission.

Notwithstanding the extension of time for Council Solutions to provide its written submission, it remains our expectation that a final determination will be issued well before December 2016. A revised indicative timetable, including steps in the process that have occurred to date, is set out below for your information.

<b>30 November 2015</b>	Lodgement of application and supporting submission
<b>3 December 2015</b>	Public consultation process begins
<b>18 December 2015</b>	Closing date for public submissions from interested parties ( <i>First opportunity for interested parties to provide written submissions</i> )
<b>19 January 2016</b>	Applicant responds to issues raised in public consultation process

<b>11 February 2016</b>	ACCC issues draft determination and ACCC decision regarding interim authorisation
<b>26 February 2016</b>	Closing date for interested parties to request that the ACCC convene a pre-decision conference
<b>11 March 2016</b>	Closing date for public submissions on the draft determination (extended from 26 February 2016) <i>(Second opportunity to provide written submissions)</i>
<b>21 March 2016</b>	Pre-decision conference held in Adelaide <i>(Opportunity for Applicant and interested parties to make oral submissions on the draft determination)</i>
<b>4 April 2016</b>	Closing date for written submissions following the pre-decision conference <i>(Third opportunity for interested parties to provide written submissions)</i>
<b>29 April 2016</b>	Six month statutory timeframe to make a final determination extended from 2 July 2016 until 23 December 2016
<b>30 June 2016</b>	Applicant to respond to issues raised in public consultation process (extended from 18 April 2016 and 30 May 2016)
<b>July 2016</b>	Consultation with interested parties in relation to information and issues raised in Council Solutions' written submission <i>(Fourth opportunity for interested parties to provide written submissions)</i>
<b>August / September 2016</b>	ACCC issues final determination

A copy of this timetable has been provided to the applicant. Please note that this timetable is subject to Council Solutions providing a written submission by 30 June and any further consultation that the ACCC may need to undertake.

I trust this information is of assistance. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Elizabeth Batten on (02) 6243 1359.

This letter will be made available on the ACCC public register.

Yours sincerely



Baethan Mullen  
Acting General Manager  
Adjudication Branch